



NYSATE

Section 10 Newsletter

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Statewide EOY - Gary Gentile

At the 67th Annual Conference held in Binghamton, Gary Gentile was named the Statewide Engineer of The Year. The 11 Section EOY's all compete for the coveted title of Statewide EOY and this is the third time Section 10 has had a statewide EOY. Congratulations Gary; we are very proud of you!!



Gary accepting the EOY Award from NYSATE President Paul Evans



Gary's acceptance speech

CEU's

Section 10 has been holding Continuing Education Unit (CEU) classes for many months. Professional Engineers in New York State are required to receive 36 CEU's for each registration period (36 months). While there are exceptions for certain DOT positions, many of our members are required to take the CEU classes to keep their professional registration.

NYSATE has been notified that the Department of Transportation's Ethics Committee is reviewing NYSATE's procedures for CEU training and as of this time the classes have been suspended. We are not allowed to hold a class with a vendor who is not on the Department's approved list. We are allowed to hold classes off State property outside of working

hours. We regret this inconvenience and NYSATE is working with the Department to resolve these issues.

2008 Engineer of the Year

So you asked what is required to be the Engineer of the Year? So many of you have asked "What are the requirements to be nominated for Engineer of the Year" that I thought I would give you the rules for the NYSATE EOY.

The Candidate:

1. Must be an active member of the Association, as defined by the State Constitution (Article III, Section 2) for a minimum of five years. No State Director or Section President may be considered until two years after he or she has left office. Further, any and all Section's chosen EOY elected to either of these two offices prior to the Annual Conference will not be eligible for Statewide EOY competition. Life Members are eligible for the first two years immediately following retirement. The two year eligibility for retiring State Directors and Section Presidents begins when the two year waiting period for eligibility is over.

2. Shall be judged on his/her merit. There shall be no discrimination according to the pay grade or job description.

3. Must display a degree of professionalism in his/her career and possess certain engineering abilities/knowledge in the field of Transportation Engineering.

4. Should be an enthusiastic member of the association, and a person who has promoted the

welfare and progress of the organization.

5. Should be actively involved in his/her community.

Please note, these requirements do not say anyone must hold a PE license in order to be considered. A PE does not make a person an engineer, their accomplishments make them an engineer!

After looking it up in Webster's Dictionary, here is what the definition of an engineer is: 1. A person who makes engines. 2. A person skilled or occupied in some branch of engineering (a mechanical engineer). 3. a) A person who operates or supervises the operation of engines or technical equipment (a locomotive engineer, radio engineer). b) A specialist in planning and directing operations in some technical field. 4. A skillful or clever manager. 5. A member of that branch of the army concerned with engineering problems, as the construction and demolition of bridges, roads, etc. - vt. 1. To plan, construct, or manage as an engineer. 2. To plan and direct skillfully; superintend; guide (a measure, action, etc.)

So, do you know of someone who fits these qualifications? Nominate them for the 2008 Engineer of the Year! Send nominations to Margaret Conklin via e-mail or to P.O. Box 5801, Hauppauge, NY 11788 by September 12, 2007.

Retirements

Two of our members in Region 10 will be retiring next month. Gary Gentile, Statewide Engineer of the Year, will have his retirement luncheon at the Riverview on September 21. For information call Vicky Puzio at (631) 952-6674 or Margaret Conklin at (631) 952-6929.

George Knips retirement luncheon will be at the Watermill Inn on September 28. For information call Ronnie Wilgeroth at (631) 952-6189 or Jim Scruggs at (631) 952-7950.

Conference 2007

NYSATE's 67th Annual Conference was held in Binghamton from May 15 to May 18. The theme of the conference was The Evolution of Transportation. 16 Section 10 members took the scenic drive up to Binghamton for the Conference. The members included Pat Audinot, Pat Brower, Margaret Conklin, Tom Dankowski, Mike Geiger, Gary Gentile, Tony Hart, Adam Levine, Andrew Maresca, Nancy O'Connell, Janine Parks, Eileen Peters, Bill Pike, Jeff Silverberg, Karen Taylor, and Bill Thornewell.

The Conference started with the annual golf tournament held at Traditions at the Glen Resort and Conference Center. The temperature was in the 90's for this event and thankfully there were plenty of beverages to keep the golfers hydrated. Due to the success of our Region's team last year, we kept the lineup intact. Karen Taylor and Mike Geiger from Region 10 paired with Jim Beckerich (Section 5) and Pat Williams (FRA Consultants). While our



Mike putts while Karen and Pat get a read

team made more birdies than last year, we also had more bogies and shot about the same as last year.

Following the golf was the conference ice breaker held at the golf course. By then the temperature was down to a more acceptable level and everyone was able to enjoy the social atmosphere and get back in touch with friends from the other sections as well as view a collection of antique cars. This seems to be a common theme as the ice breaker in Buffalo last year also had a collection of antique cars.

The technical sessions were varied and very informative. I started with a history of New York State bridges, which has more prominence now following the disaster in Minnesota. That was followed up with the Interstate Highway System: Developments and Consequences. Other sessions I attended included The Perpetual Crisis of Financing, Route 20 over Skaneateles Creek Winter Bridge Replacement; The Historic Preservation Process for DOT Projects; Balancing Infrastructure, Stormwaters, and the Environment; and Hydrometeorological Products and Services for

Engineers.

There were many other social opportunities to interact with fellow NYSATE members and the many consultants who attend. The highlight was the Engineer of the Year Dinner held on Thursday night. Gary Gentile was one of the three finalists for Statewide Engineer of The Year. All of Section 10 was thrilled when the announcement was made that Gary was indeed the Statewide EOY. Much celebrating followed.

Next year the conference is being hosted by Section 8 at the Hudson Valley Resort and Spa from May 27 to 30, 2008. Look for more information this Winter.

By Michael Geiger

Elections

It's election time! We need to fill four Local Board of Directors positions and the President and Secretary/Treasurer. If you are interested in running for any of these positions please contact Michael Geiger at (631) 752-7707 x6111 or by e-mail. Come on and get involved, we need new people with new ideas! And you are just the person to do it! So call or e-mail now!