



# NYSATE

## Section 10 Newsletter

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this year as the company that approved the classes for CEU's this year only did it for the conference and I am unable to use the classes without paying a hefty fee to have them re-approved. So I'm working on other avenues to get classes. Please be patient and I will be in touch. I am sorry for the inconvenience.

## Engineer of the Year Luncheon

By Margaret Conklin

Judith Peter's lunch was held on March 20 at the Five Star Banquet Restaurant in Long Island City with about 50 friends and family enjoying the event. The only thing better than the food (which was outstanding) was Judith's friends and family, who gave warm testimony to Judith's accomplishments! Her daughter Tashila summed it up, "My mother is always taking us places on the weekends. We never stay at home. She always wants us to be involved in everything." Judith was also honored at the Annual Conference held in Ellicottville, NY on June 4.

## Training

By Margaret Conklin

Training is not going as well as I had hoped. Each year I get classes from the Annual Conference. Unfortunately, I am unable to do that

## Conference 2009

By Mike Geiger

The 69<sup>th</sup> Annual NYSATE Conference was held in the beginning of June at the Holiday Valley Resort in Ellicottville. For those of you who don't know where Ellicottville is, well, it is about as far away from the New York metro area as you can get and still be in New York.

The Conference kicked off with the traditional golf tournament held on Tuesday June 2. Our team changed slightly this year, but our results did not. Karen Taylor and Jim Beckerich golfed with me and we were joined by Carolyn Kelly from Hornell. We were able to hang on for most of the round, but three bogies on the last three holes pushed us to four over for the tournament.

Golf was followed by an ice-breaker held on the grounds of the resort. It was a great time to catch up with our coworkers from around the state. While



Ellicottville is far away in Western New York, it is very scenic. It doubles as a ski mountain in the winter and the lift to the top of the mountain was open for people to ride to the top.

The technical sessions concentrated on the theme of the conference, *Going Green on the Transportation Scene*. Most of the topics dealt with some aspect of going green including sustainable design, climate change, wind farms, green transportation, green parking lots, etc.

The Engineer of the Year dinner was well done, even if Section 10's EOY, Judith Peter, didn't win. Other social events were available throughout the week to allow attendees to rest after a hard day of sessions.

The Regional Director's Event was \$100,000 Pyramid. Regional Directors were paired up and competed for their favorite charity. Brian Rowback, representing Main Office and myself won the top prize. \$275 was donated to each of our favorite charities; Huntington Hospital and to the ASPCA in Albany.

Next year the conference will be hosted by Section 11, the Main Office.

## Memorial Garden Clean-Up

As a prelude to Workers Memorial Day, several NYSATE members spent two days in the Memorial Garden located outside the cafeteria at the State Office Building in Hauppauge. Thanks to Vince Cocca, Margaret Conklin, Meg Danielson, Sonia Eddins, Rich Gass, Vince McCants, Jennifer

Napoli, Marvin Obler, Priscilla Ortiz, Vicky Puzio, Liz Seus, Karen Taylor and her mom, and Jessica Wellcome for the hard work.

## NYSATE Section 10 Scholarships

By Nancy O'Connell and Bill Thornewell

Every year NYSATE Section 10 solicits applications for our Members/Dependent Scholarship Program. **Member** college scholarships are given out to NYSATE Section 10 members for the upcoming scholastic year to be used by the recipient at an accredited school for Engineering or Transportation related studies. To qualify you must be a member (active, affiliate, associate, or adjunct) of NYSATE in this local section. Such member shall be in good standing and have an unbroken membership for a period of two years preceding the application for scholarship, and keep their membership paid up during the tenure of the scholarship.

**Dependent** scholarships are available for children/wards of qualified members of NYSATE (qualifications as indicated above) in this local section for High School Seniors or Graduates under the age of 25 enrolled in an accredited college for the Fall 2009 semester.

We are happy to announce that Section 10 awarded 14 Dependent Scholarships totaling over \$3,000. Selection was based on scholastic achievements, community involvement, and other merits. Congratulations and best wishes from NYSATE to all of the 2009 Scholarship winners. This year we did not receive any Member Scholarship Applications.

A special congratulations to our **Bragg Scholarship\*** winner, Daniel Muchnich This scholarship is given to a student pursuing a career in Engineering. If there is no Engineering student, it is selected by random drawing of all eligible scholarship applicants. It was established in honor of Fredrick E. Bragg, a former NYSATE member in Section 2 (Utica). At the time of Fred's death in 1982 at the young age of 45, the State Board of Directors was setting up the Scholarship Program. Because Fred championed the cause, the highest honor was named for him. Each year, each Section

of NYSATE gives out the Frederick E. Bragg Memorial Scholarship Award in memory of a great man who cared so much about the future...our children!

### **2009 NYSATE Dependent Scholarship Recipients:**

Musa Amadeus  
Vincent Audinot  
Herbert Glass  
Harold Gonzales  
Sean Hoffman  
Daniel Mann  
Juliann Martin  
Daniel Muchnich  
Kevin Murphy  
Rammiya Nallainathan  
Timothy Peters  
Randall Reissig  
Robert Rose  
Emilio Sosa

## **Bring Your Future To Work**

On April 24, NYSDOT once again celebrated "Bring Your Future to Work". Both Regions 10 and 11 had over 10 children attend. This year's program was focused on what we do at DOT and to teach the children safety on the road when they are in their parents vehicle or on their bicycle.

Region 11 held "Are You Smarter Than a Traffic Engineer"; while Region 10 showed the children how we plan roads and keep them maintained.

NYSATE was happy to donate funding for snacks. We believe this is an important program to help promote engineering and other transportation related fields.

## **Engineer-of-the-Year Nominations**

Well it's that time of the year again! We need your nominations for Engineer of the Year! So many of you have asked what the requirements are to be nominated for Engineer of the Year (EOY) that I thought I would give you the rules for the NYSATE EOY:

1. Must be an active member of the Association for a minimum of five (5) years.
2. Candidates shall be judged on his/her merit. There shall be no discrimination according to the pay grade or job description.
3. Candidates must display a degree of professionalism in his/her career and possess certain engineering abilities/knowledge in the field of Transportation Engineering.
4. Candidates should be an enthusiastic member of the association, and a person who has promoted the welfare and progress of the organization.
5. Candidates should be actively involved in his/her community.

**So do you know of someone who fits these qualifications? Nominate them for 2010 Engineer of the Year! Send nominations to Margaret Conklin via e-mail or PO Box 5801, Hauppauge NY 11788; by August 17, 2009!**

## **Gossip Corner**

Congratulations to Ruchi Shah, daughter of Pragna Shah, she along with her four team mates from Sachem High North were Suffolk County Champions of the Long Island Envirothon . This is an annual event in which 23 schools competed from Suffolk County. The team answered questions about wildlife, forestry, soils, aquatics, and biodiversity along with giving an oral presentation to a panel of judges. Ruchi and her team mates then went to a state competition and competed against 54 county champions. They placed third in the oral presentation, tied for first in aquatics and placed sixth overall.

**If you have any news you would like to share with our members, please let Margaret Conklin know.**