



## FLASHPOINT NEWSLETTER

PHILADELPHIA-DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE CHAPTER

VOLUME 25, ISSUE 6

FEBRUARY 2019

# FEBRUARY MEETING INFO

DATE: TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2019

COST:

TIME:

\$30.00 FOR DINNER AND PROGRAM

FELLOWSHIP-5:30PM

DINNER-6:00PM

PLEASE RSVP BY 12 NOON ON FRIDAY,  
FEBRUARY 8, 2019.

LOCATION:

OLIVER FIRE PROTECTION AND SECURITY

420 FEHELEY DRIVE

KING OF PRUSSIA, PA 19406

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING  
THE MEETING, PLEASE RSVP TO THE  
LINK BELOW!

<https://goo.gl/forms/YbXRH8OzNPjaU8cX2>

### MEETING INFO:

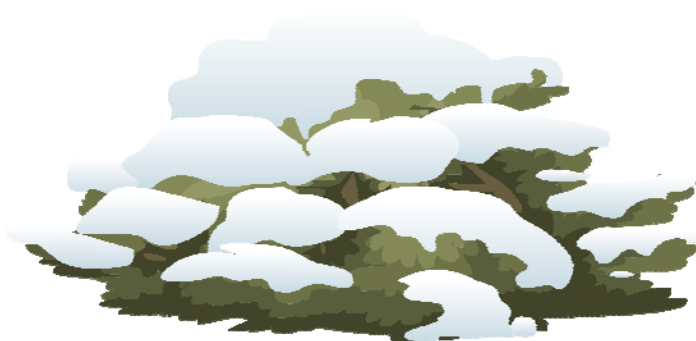
This months meeting will be on the advantages of Micelle Encapsulator Technology. A suppression option to offer for things like 3-dimensional fuel fire, class D metals, lithium ion batteries, and rack storage.

### Special points of interest:

- **TRADE SHOW IS COMING UP!  
MAKE SURE YOU REGISTER  
SOON!**

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# PRESIDENT'S SPARK

I would like to express a special thanks to everyone who brought a friend to our January meeting. It was one of the larger attended meetings in some time. I attribute this to the special effort to encourage greater attendance, and also to our speaker, Brent Wunderlich from FM Global. Since there is no need to limit extending invitations to our meetings to a single month, please feel free to invite a colleague to this month's meeting.

February 17-23 is National Engineers Week. Locally, our Chapter is a sponsor of the Delaware Valley Engineer's Week activities. This sponsorship contributes directly to the promotion of the engineering discipline and also promotes the SFPE in our region. This is extremely important as we seek to encourage engineering as a career path, in general, and to identify fire protection engineering as a vibrant, distinct engineering discipline among our peers.

If you have the time, please consider making an effort this month to reach out to friends, family, local schools, or other organizations to promote the engineering discipline, and specifically fire protection engineering and its affiliates. While every job has its unique daily challenges, ours is a rewarding career path that will always be in need of dedicated professionals. Let's not keep this a secret – share your experiences with others. It might foster an interest in the field for a young person, and also may allow you to appreciate your chosen profession more than you currently think.

Yours in fire safety,

Jeff LaSalle



Philadelphia  
Engineering Foundation  
*Promoting Engineering's Future*



# 2019

## DELAWARE VALLEY ENGINEERS WEEK

### FEBRUARY 14-23, 2019

\*\*\* NEW EVENT FORMAT \*\*\*

JOIN US FOR THIS YEAR'S EVENTS

#### 2019 DELAWARE VALLEY ENGINEER OF THE YEAR

**JOHN J. PEIRCE, JR., PE**

With over 45 years of design-build, civil, geo-structural, and construction engineering experience, **John Peirce** is well-equipped to provide to his clients a wide range of engineering services needed for their building, highway, bridge, and marine projects. Besides being a founder, owner, and officer of Peirce Engineering, Inc., his responsibilities include engineering design of various types of structures for both his contractor clients and for other engineering firms, including temporary and permanent earth retaining walls, soil and rock anchors, bearing piles, micropiles, drilled shafts, underpinning, soil nail walls, bridges, and sheet pile bulkheads and cofferdams. His combination of construction and engineering experience has enabled him to provide his clients with several thousand, safe, successful, and economical designs. In addition to his design duties, he is responsible for mentoring and training the firm's engineers and for providing quality control and review for all of its engineering work.

John graduated from Drexel University in 1973 with a Bachelor's Degree in Soil Mechanics and Construction Management. As an undergraduate, he was a member of Drexel's first-ever concrete canoe team which utilized recycled, crushed glass as the concrete mix's aggregate. In 1978, he earned his Masters Degree in Geotechnical Engineering from Drexel. He is a licensed professional engineer in five states and a licensed professional land surveyor (retired) in Pennsylvania.

After working at positions with a contractor and a consultant, John co-founded Peirce Engineering, Inc. in 1992. He has been an integral part of numerous local projects as well as efforts in New York and New Jersey, primarily performing construction and geo-structural engineering for contractors that did not have in-house engineering capability and/or expertise, and has assisted clients in the performance of other types of work which they had previously assigned to specialty contractors.

Over the years, John has prepared technical papers and presented technical sessions to various State Departments of Transportation and to technical and industry groups. He is co-author of Chapter 7, Earth Retaining Structures, in *Handbook of Temporary Structures in Construction*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 2012, McGraw-Hill. He was awarded U.S. Patent No. 4,911,582 for repair or improvement of retaining walls using post tensioned tieback anchors. In 2016, he became an Adjunct Professor at Villanova University's College of Civil and Environmental Engineering where he developed and teaches the graduate-level course, Foundation Engineering.



#### 2019 DELAWARE VALLEY YOUNG ENGINEER OF THE YEAR **ELEANOR F. SMALL, PhD**

**Eleanor Small** is a Principal Scientist with Johnson & Johnson Consumer, Inc., with the firm's Consumer Wound Care Product Development, supporting J&J's iconic brands with a \$500-million-dollar portfolio. She is a global technical lead responsible for development, claims support, scale up, and launch of new products. She also leads one of the department's early stage research platforms focusing on infection prevention. She leads global cross functional teams responsible for product creation, guiding marketing concepts, designing and executing in vitro, clinical, and consumer studies, as well as managing design controls for class 1 and class 2 medical devices. She started her career at the firm six years ago as a post-doctoral scientist supporting new product development, and was responsible for the formulation, claims support, and global launch of its first peroxide-free whitening mouthwash.

After earning her Bachelors of Science Degree in chemical and biomolecular engineering from the Johns Hopkins University in 2006, Ellie completed her doctorate at Drexel University in 2012, also in chemical and biological engineering. Her doctoral work focused on mapping release kinetics of ultrasound aided drug delivery to the phase behavior of lipid-based drug carrying particles. During her graduate studies she was twice awarded an NSF GK-12 fellowship. The fellowship paired her with Philadelphia public high school teachers to enhance STEM curricula through the development and teaching of hands-on activities to drive student engagement of classroom topics.

STEM education is a passion for Ellie. Upon starting at J&J, she joined the Women In Science and Engineering (WISE) employee group, bringing her experience from the GK-12 Fellowship in STEM curricula development. The vision of WISE is to inspire 6th to 9th grade students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. She has helped to grow WISE, doubling the leadership team members by establishing a leadership model based on key partnerships as pillars. She firmly believes education does not end at graduation, which is why she has been actively involved with multiple professional societies including the Delaware Valley Engineers Week and the International Society of Pharmaceutical Engineers, where she currently serves as the Delaware Valley Chapter's Executive Vice President.

One of Ellie's favorite mentoring moments is reminding that the secret to success is building great and supporting partnerships. Her number one supporter and main partner is her college sweetheart and husband, David, who is also a chemical engineer. If you cannot find these two side by side on their computers, or debating the best way to trouble shoot a process challenge, they are probably on the dance floor, pursuing their common hobby of ballroom dance.



The Philadelphia Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers selected John as its 2002 Philadelphia Civil Engineer of the Year, its highest honor. He is a Life Member and Fellow of ASCE. In 2011, he was elected as a Diplomate of the Academy of Geo-Professionals. He is a Life Member, Past President (1999-2000) and Board Member of the Delaware Valley Section of the American Society of Highway Engineers. As a Fellow and Member of the Eng-Tips Round Table, he is an advisor to engineering forums management on site operations and proposed programming enhancements for this international, on-line, engineering resource. He is a member of The Moles, a highly recognized association of individuals engaged in heavy construction, as well as the International Association of Foundation Drilling, the American Railway Engineering and Maintenance-of-Way Association, the Pile Driving Contractors Association, and the Ports of Philadelphia Maritime Association.

John and his firm have supported charitable organizations such as Small Steps in Speech (founded in honor of a family friend, Green Beret Medic Staff Sgt. Marc Small, who lost his life in action in Afghanistan), the Norristown Hospitality Center, and Father Chuck's Challenge. When not at work, he spends his time sailing his boat, *Knot at Work*, on the Chesapeake Bay with his wife, Beth. When they are not sailing, their six grandchildren keep him very busy – and young!

CELEBRATING INNOVATION AND ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS

## ENGINEERS WEEK OPENING CEREMONY THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14

**DoubleTree Philadelphia Hotel**  
237 S. Broad Street (at Locust Street), Center City  
5:00 PM Networking/Awards and Affiliates Showcase  
6:00 PM Dinner  
Awards Following Dinner

2019 Engineers Week in the Delaware Valley kicks off with the Opening Ceremony dinner in the spacious and elegant Symphony Ballroom at the DoubleTree Hotel.

Formal festivities will begin with networking, featuring a cash bar, at 5:00 PM. Recipients of various Engineers Week awards and scholarships and sponsoring affiliate societies will be on hand with display boards during the networking session to showcase their honors and groups.

2019 Delaware Valley Engineer of the Year **John Peirce** will be formally introduced at the Opening Ceremony. Mr. Peirce and the 2019 Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year, **Eleanor Small**, will make brief remarks and kick off the celebration of Engineers Week in the Delaware Valley.

In addition to the Engineer of the Year and Young Engineer of the Year, we will recognize other recipients of Engineers Week honors:

- Outstanding Service to Engineering Award
- Engineers Week Scholarships
- Student Paper Competition winners
- Outstanding High School Students
- Delaware Valley Science Fairs Award winners
- Outstanding High School Teachers Award recipients

Individual and project award recipients honored in the past year by the various engineering and technical societies in the Delaware Valley will be cited in the event PowerPoint and program.

**Price - \$80 for reservations received on or before February 6** (\$60 for government agency employees and students). *Prices increase for reservations made on February 7 and after.*

Tables of 10 are available at \$750. Please indicate each attendee's name and meal choice when making reservations.

An affiliate society sponsorship rate is also available. Please see the website for more information and details on this.

Meal selections are available as follows:

- Wild salmon with grilled asparagus, jasmine rice and brown garlic scallions
- Crispy airline chicken breast with maple mustard, brandied cherries, pommes puree and spicy broccoli crowns
- Creamy butternut squash risotto (vegetarian)

*Discount parking is available in the hotel garage. Validation will be available at the registration table at the event. Please note the garage is a CASH ONLY facility.*

## YOUNG ENGINEERS SOCIAL TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

**Ladder 15**  
1528 Sansom Street, Center City  
6:00 PM to 9:00 PM

This event is geared specifically to young engineers (both in age and at heart) to socialize, catch up, network and enjoy finger foods and drinks in an informal setting in a former working firehouse.

As part of the evening's festivities, **Eleanor Small**, the 2019 Delaware Valley Young Engineer of the Year, will be recognized and make brief remarks.

**Price - \$36 for reservations received on or before February 6** (\$25 for government agency employees and students). *Prices increase for reservations made on February 7 and after.*



Philadelphia  
Engineering Foundation  
*Promoting Engineering's Future*

FOR RESERVATIONS:

### OPENING CEREMONY

[www.engrclub.org/  
registerDVEW](http://www.engrclub.org/registerDVEW)

or scan the QR code at right



### YOUNG ENGINEERS SOCIAL

[www.engrclub.org/  
registerYES](http://www.engrclub.org/registerYES)

or scan the QR code at right



As a reminder, reservations are due for each event by February 6. Prices will increase for reservations made on February 7 and after and will be on a space-available basis.

Payment can be made electronically as part of the registration process or separately by check. Please make checks payable to **Engineers' Club of Philadelphia**

Checks can be brought to the event or mailed in advance. Mail should be directed to  
Engineers' Club of Philadelphia  
PO Box 38561  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

If you have any questions on this or require additional information, please contact us at [engineersclubofphiladelphia@gmail.com](mailto:engineersclubofphiladelphia@gmail.com).

Payment will be expected for all reservations regardless of attendance.

Please visit [www.engrclub.org](http://www.engrclub.org) and select the DVEW tab for more information on award recipients, events, directions and parking.

Please provide names for all attendees at least two days prior to the event. Pre-printed name tags will be available at the event registration tables.

Please keep in mind that certain levels of contributions to Engineers Week include complimentary event ticket(s). More information is provided on the Engineers Week Sponsorship brochure, available at [www.engrclub.org](http://www.engrclub.org). Contributions to Engineers Week are accepted, encouraged and appreciated.





**ENGINEERS' CLUB OF PHILADELPHIA**  
*The Engineering and Technical Center of the Delaware Valley*

PO Box 38561  
Philadelphia, PA 19104

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January 18, 2019

Jeffrey LaSalle  
Society of Fire Protection Engineers, Philadelphia-Delaware Valley  
Via e-mail

Dear Mr. LaSalle,

On behalf of the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Committee and the Board of Directors of the Engineers' Club of Philadelphia, we THANK YOU for SFPE's generous contribution of \$500 in support of Engineers Week 2019! Our two scheduled events will allow us the opportunity to thank each of our sponsors, and we have received great feedback on the activities planned this year and in years past that comprise this special week. Our list of Engineers Week supporters adds a few new names every year, and we look forward to continuing to grow and enhance all that we do to celebrate and bring attention to the important contributions engineers make to the community every day.

The success of Engineers Week relies significantly on the generous sponsors such as you and your firm. We also rely upon the energy and volunteerism from many individuals in the region who aid in planning and carrying out the many Engineers Week programs, events, and activities in the Philadelphia area.

Please note that your level of support qualifies you for one complimentary ticket to one of the E Week events (E Week Opening Ceremony on February 14, Young Engineers Social on February 19). More information is provided on these on our website ([www.engrclub.org](http://www.engrclub.org)). Please contact us at [engineersclubofphiladelphia@gmail.com](mailto:engineersclubofphiladelphia@gmail.com) to confirm which event you will be attending.

Again, we thank you for your contribution to this event, and appreciate all that you and others from your firm do to celebrate all types of engineers, and to help promote engineering to our youth for the future of our profession. We hope to see you at the Engineers Week Opening Ceremony on Valentine's Day!

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Holliday, P.E.  
*President, Engineers' Club of Philadelphia*

Megan Syrnick Clayton, P.E.  
*DVEW Co-Chair – EWeek 2019*

Casey A. Moore, P.E.  
*Fund Development Director – EWeek 2019*

Robert M. Wright, P.E.  
*DVEW Co-Chair – EWeek 2019*



***Save The Date!***  
***Spring Seminar & Trade Show***  
***April 11, 2019***



*Location:*

**DoubleTree by Hilton**  
**Philadelphia – Valley Forge**  
301 West DeKalb Pike  
King of Prussia, PA 19406



*The Spring Seminar and Trade Show Committee is proud to announce that the planning of the 2019 Seminar and Trade Show is underway. Please mark the date above on your calendar so you can join us for another year of informative speakers and displays by over 30 vendors.*

*Like in past years, there will be a total of 12 presentations provided throughout the day. Attendees will have the opportunity to choose which topics they are interested in and attend up to 6 sessions during the seminar.*

*CEU credits will be offered.*

*Please look for further information on our website:*

*[www.sfpephiladelphia.org](http://www.sfpephiladelphia.org)*



# February 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6 NEW JERSEY ASCET MEETING	7	8	9
10	11	12 PHILADELPHIA- DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE	13	14 VALENTINES DAY	15	16
17	18	19 BERKS COUNTY ASCET MEETING	20 DELAWARE ASCET MEETING	21	22	23
24	25	26 PHILADELPHIA ASCET MEETING	27	28		

FEBRUARY 6: NEW JERSEY ASCET MEETING

FEBRUARY 12: PHIALDELPHIA-DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE MEETING

FEBRUARY 14: VALETINES DAY

FEBRUARY 19: BERKS COUNTY ASCET MEETING

FEBRUARY 20: DELAWARE ASCET MEETING

FEBRUARY 26: PHILADELPHIA ASCET MEETING



**Society of Fire  
Protection  
Engineers**

We're on the web at  
[www.sfpephiladelphia.org](http://www.sfpephiladelphia.org)

**PHILA-DELAWARE VALLEY SFPE**

209 Mechanic St.  
Doylestown, PA 18901

PHONE: (215) 345-8066  
FAX: (215) 345-9357  
[dslatcher@OliverFPS.com](mailto:dslatcher@OliverFPS.com)

**MISSION STATEMENT**

*The Philadelphia/Delaware Valley Chapter purpose is to advance the science and practice of fire protection engineering and its allied fields, to maintain a high ethical standard among its members and to foster fire protection engineering education.*

*Recognition of fire protection engineering as a discrete engineering discipline is a prime goal. Engineering disciplines exist because there is a special body of knowledge based on the fundamentals of mathematics, physics, chemistry, engineering science and economics.*