



# THE OBSERVER

December 2002

Published by the New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers

## A Word From The President

*Bill Straub, P.E., NHSPE President*

### A LOOK AHEAD

The NH Society of Professional Engineers looks forward to a full and productive year. The program of NHSPE is full and challenging. As I describe and outline this year's program, I'll state the Mission of NHSPE, as recently reviewed and confirmed by the NHSPE Board of Directors:

*"The New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers (NHSPE) is the society of engineering professionals in New Hampshire that promotes the ethical and competent practice of engineering, advocates licensure, and enhances the image and well being of its members while implementing the program of the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) at the state level."*

Among the many events in NHSPE's program are:

- ◆ **MATHCOUNTS** — NHSPE organizes and implements this outstanding program of promoting

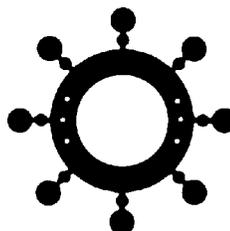
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## Ahoy!! New board at the helm

The new Board of Directors for the New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers was inducted at our **Summer meeting on board the M/V Heritage out of Portsmouth harbor** on May 29, 2002. After a brief concern with fog, the group of about 20 members and guests set out to explore Portsmouth Harbor and enjoy a pleasant evening of conversation, food and drink. A brief business meeting was held to induct the



newly elected members of the Board of Directors and say thank you to members who served last year. Board members this year include: William Straub, P.E. President; Matthew Purcell, P.E., Past President; Joseph Dusharme, President-Elect; Paul Schmidt, P.E., Vice President; David Eckman, P.E., Treasurer; Roch Laroche, P.E., State Director; and new to the Board Robert Couture, P.E. State Director; and Erin Darrow, E.I.T., Secretary.

## A Year in Review

*Matthew Purcell, P.E., NHSPE Past-President*

At the conclusion of 2001/2002 administrative year it is a good point to review our achievements and look forward so we can insure that our programs properly align the Vision for NHSPE and NSPE. Prior to each monthly NHSPE Board of Directors meetings I found it critical to confirm that the tasks we outlined met the organization's goals. You may recall reading NHSPE's Strategic Plan in a previous issue of *The Observer* but it is also outlined on our website [www.nhspe.org](http://www.nhspe.org). The following are just some of the accomplishments of your organization during the past year as they relate to NHSPE's goals:

### Maintain a workable and effective organizational structure

- Through the diligence of David Eckman NHSPE is now a legitimate and viable tax exempt organization, with special accounts established for MATHCOUNTS and Scholarship donations. This allows NHSPE to locally accept tax exempt contributions to these important programs (see additional information elsewhere in this issue).



- Revised and approved the Constitution and Bylaws such that they are compliant with NHSPE's strategic plan and the goals of NSPE.
- NHSPE started using a listserv to contact all members interested in

*[A Year in Review, continued on page 3]*



## From the Editor

There are many benefits to getting involved in a professional organization. I started my involvement in NHSPE as the editor of this newsletter and have since also participated on the Board of Directors as State Director and now Vice President. This has provided me many opportunities to give back to the engineering profession including contributing to various improvements within our profession. Through this newsletter, I have been able to communicate directly with our membership to keep you advised on various activities and programs at NHSPE.

Due to increased duties for myself as Vice President, NHSPE is currently looking for someone to take over as editor of The Observer. **If you are LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED**, this is a great opportunity for active participation in NHSPE. The editor of The Observer compiles articles on all NHSPE activities and therefore needs to have overall involvement with the organization. Since the newsletter layout and publishing is done through a professional graphics designer, the overall work requirements are limited and no special graphics skills are necessary. If you are interested, please call or e-mail me for additional information (431-6196; pschmidt@cmaengineers.com).

*Paul Schmidt, P.E.*

## Word From The President

*[Continued from page 1]*

math achievement in NH's schools.

♦ NHSPE Scholarship Program — NHSPE is in its 2nd year of a scholarship program. Meaningful scholarships are awarded to NH students entering the engineering profession.

♦ Participation in Regional and National NSPE Meetings — NHSPE sends representatives to regional and national NSPE meetings, to provide active participation in the national program of NSPE to better serve our local chapter.

♦ National Engineers' Week and Mall Display — NHSPE organizes the National Engineers' week events, including the ever successful banquet, and takes a lead role in the annual engineering display all week at the Steeplegate Mall.

♦ Membership Dinner Meetings — NHSPE sponsors several dinner meetings throughout the State during the year, with speakers of engineering interest; we join with other engineering organizations for many of these meetings. Our "New P.E. Dinner" in the spring welcomes newly licensed engineers, and includes a program of general interest to all engineers.

♦ Membership Outreach — Check out our website ([www.nhspe.org](http://www.nhspe.org)), and these editions of *The Observer* to review timely and topical information on your membership in NHSPE, and issues of importance to the profession.

♦ Legislative Monitoring and Action — NHSPE monitors state legislative and other governmental issues of interest to the profession, and provides appropriate input. The influence of NSPE in these issues is important, and of significance.

♦ Continuing Education Opportunities — A renewed focus this

*[From the President, continued on page 8]*



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## A Year in Review

[Continued from page 1]

receiving timely information and updates regarding educational opportunities and organization events.

- NHSPE also enlisted the talents and time of Michael Delloiacconno of SFC Engineering to update and maintain our website. It is important to us and the membership that our website presents the latest information and provides timely and critical information to our membership.

### Be involved in government affairs as they relate to professional issues

- John Alger, NHSPE's legislative liaison provided continual insight into current and pending legislation in Concord. NHSPE actively commented and monitored on numerable issues facing our legislature:

- ◆ HB 285 — Adoption of a State Building Code
- ◆ SB 378 — NHSPE opposed the Landscape Architect licensure bill that would allow Landscape Architects to perform many of the same tasks currently requiring engineering licensure with little or no technical education.
- ◆ HB1231 — NHSPE supported this bill, which urged and

supported the development of a "pre-engineering" curriculum in public secondary schools.

- In addition to legislative actions NHSPE is currently monitoring a judicial case which could potentially affect RSA 508:4-b which defines the statute of limitations for professional services.

### Promote professional development and education

- NHSPE organized several membership meetings throughout the past year including:
  - ◆ A site visit and presentation hosted by AES at the new Granite Ridge Power Plant was held in November. This meeting highlighted the planning, construction and permitting issues facing this new power generation plant.
  - ◆ Our January meeting emphasized the issues and concerns

related to utility security with respect to the 9/11 attack. This meeting featured notable experts from Maine and New Hampshire Emergency Management, Seabrook, Manchester Water Works, and Portsmouth Naval Shipyard.

### Promote the ethical practice of engineering

- Jointly with the New Hampshire Professional Engineering Board, NHSPE organized the New P.E. dinner and Ethics in Engineering Meeting. Dr Robert Tillman of Northeastern University led an extremely educational and important discussion on Ethics.
- NHSPE also acted on several cases of non engineers performing and advertising engineering services in New Hampshire.

[A Year in Review, continued on page 8]

### THE OBSERVER

*The Observer* is published quarterly by the New Hampshire Society of Professional Engineers for its members. Its purpose is to inform members of NHSPE activities and related topics.

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## MATHCOUNTS 20th Year



The 20th year of the MATHCOUNTS Program is in full swing with school registrations now underway.

Presently the State Competition is scheduled for March 8, 2003, at Plymouth State. March 15th is the snow date, if needed.

At this time we have approximately 10 schools formally registered for the competition, with registrations increasing at the normal rate for this time of year.

My sincere thanks to Bob Baskerville for again hosting our evening of packing of the school kits, and also thanks to the New Hampshire Dept. of Education for their provision of mailing labels and for the shipping of the school kits. The assistance of

Ben Pratt and Gregg Comstock in the packing of the kits is also noted. Without their help it would have been a much longer evening.

Your continued backing of this important mathematics competition for 6th, 7th and 8th grade students will insure the program's success.

*Lee F. Carroll, P.E.*

*NH State MATHCOUNTS Coordinator*

## LEGISLATION



For a short period in September the current members of the General Court were allowed to submit items intended for legislation in the next (spring 2003) session. A total of 282 such items called "LSR's" were submitted to the legislative

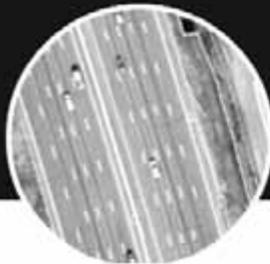
lawyers for drafting into bills. That was a higher number than expected by the legislative staff which portends another onslaught of new bills once the election is over, starting November 18. As usual the subjects ranged over a wide gamut. For example, 27 relate to education and education taxes. And of course there are several concerned with re-districting the General Court. The State P.E. Board has asked for a bill regarding re-instatement of licenses to practice architecture (LSR 94) which Representative Goulet will sponsor and I will co-sponsor. Titles of all the LSR's can be found on the New Hampshire website under legislation. Of course all bills are subject to the sponsor getting re-elected!

*John R. M. Alger, P.E.*

*NHSPE Legislation Committee Chair*

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## NHSPE's Scholarship Program

Congratulations go out to Ross W. Bennett who is this year's (2002) recipient of the NHSPE State Scholarship for \$1,000. Ross is a graduate of John Stark Regional High School and is currently attending UNH with an eye towards a career in Environmental Engineering. Ross was one of 14 candidates for this year's award and was selected based on his demonstrated academic excellence as well as numerous personal achievements and community involvement. Please join us in wishing him the best of luck in his future endeavors.

As some of you may recall, the NHSPE State Scholarship Program was resurrected in 2001 and was funded primarily from donations made by

NHSPE members. In 2002 we were able to expand the program through some generous contributions that were made by several local Engineering firms as well as through other fundraising activities such as raffles at the E-Week Banquet. This is an important program that is intended to provide financial assistance to one or more students (NH resident) who is already, or plans on attending an ABET-EAC accredited college/university for studies in the field of engineering. The general intent of the scholarship program is to encourage growth and career development at the state level for engineering professions.

**State Scholarship applications for the coming year (2003) will be accepted between March 1st and April 15th, 2003 and awarded in May of 2003.** Downloadable applications can be found on our website ([nhspe.org](http://nhspe.org)) along with other eligibility criteria.

### **Contributing Firms**

The following NH firms have contributed to the success of this year's scholarship program:

Contribution Levels:

- Gold (Over \$500)
- Silver (\$250 to \$500):

**Jaworski Geotech, Inc.**

**John Turner Consulting, Inc.**

- Bronze (Under \$250):

**Maynard & Paquette**

**Engineering Association**

*Thank you for your support!*

If you care to make a tax-deductible donation towards this important program, checks can be made out to "NHSPE State Scholarship" and mailed to:

NHSPE, State Scholarship Program  
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## NHOEM Reservist's Corps

The New Hampshire Office of Emergency Management (NEOEM) is developing a new volunteer "Reservist's Corps" in an effort to respond quickly to major disasters such as the September 11, 2001 tragedies. The Reservist's Corps will initially be made up of structural engineers who possess a significant amount of skill and years of experience concerning building structures. The NHOEM has identified structures, such as police stations, fire stations, and ambulance garages, school buildings and hospitals as critical facilities that would need immediate assessment and reactivation in the event of a major disaster. Reservist Corps members would be called on the scene to evaluate building safety and "tag" the building for re-entry, restricted entry or no entry.

Several meetings have been held since March 2002 with

attendees from engineering societies, consulting firms, state agencies and the NHOEM staff and consultant/planner.

Recently, ACEC-NH agreed to assume a leadership role in managing mailings, scheduling training and maintaining a training funds account on behalf of the NHOEM Reservists Corps. This should lead the way to a broader outreach and provide specialty training to skilled professionals interested in sharing their expertise.



For more information go to the ACEC-NH website ([www.ACEC-NH.org](http://www.ACEC-NH.org)) or contact the New Hampshire Office of Emergency Management.

## Discussion on Possible Changes to Licensure Requirements

NHSPE is currently following possible changes to the Model Law which are in the early planning stages. NHSPE and NH P.E. Board member Craig Musselman, P.E. has been invited to be the keynote luncheon speaker at the annual winter meeting of NSPE in San Francisco in January. He was invited because of his involvement with NCEES in a task force considering changes to the Model Law, and with ASCE in the initiative to require

additional engineering education as a prerequisite for licensure. Craig indicated that he's more accustomed to eating lunch than speaking at one.

We look forward to hearing more on this important topic in the future.



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## NH QBS Coalition Updates Website

[www.nhbqs.org](http://www.nhbqs.org)

The New Hampshire Qualifications Based Selection (QBS) Coalition launched their updated website in September 2002. The updated website includes informative documents for town and municipal officials to use in developing requests for professional services using the QBS process. The website provides several forms describing step-by-step procedures from writing a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to sample questions used during the interview selection process. All forms are available to users in MS Word format.



Other pages of interest on the QBS website include a user comment section, recent examples of well written RFQ's used by NH communities, a space for listing NH communities who have adopted the QBS process, as well as links to QBS supporters.

The QBS Coalition was founded in 1994 by a coalition of professional engineering, surveying and architectural society representatives who promote the practice of fair, equitable selection of design professionals by prospective customers.

## NHSPE MATHCOUNTS and Scholarship Programs Tax-Exempt

Over the past year, NHSPE established the NHSPE Educational Fund Inc. which is registered as a non-profit tax exempt organization, to support the MATHCOUNTS and Scholarship programs. Previously, tax exempt donations had to be managed through the national organization, which added an extra layer of administrative effort.



**Donations can be made to the "NHSPE MATHCOUNTS Fund" or the "NHSPE Scholarship Fund" which are fully tax deductible.**

MATHCOUNTS is a nationwide math competition of 7th

and 8th grade students sponsored by NSPE. In New Hampshire the participation rate is approximately 30 percent on the eligible schools, having included up to 62 schools in the past. The NH program is sponsored by NHSPE and your support of this excellent educational program in your community would be greatly appreciated.

NHSPE issues Scholarships to first year engineering students that are residents of New Hampshire. The recipients are selected from evaluation of applications by the NHSPE Scholarship committee. Your support of this excellent educational support program would be greatly appreciated as well.

*David E. Eckman, P.E.  
NHSPE Treasurer*

## Lee Carroll Joins P.E. Board

Lee Carroll, P.E. has been appointed to the New Hampshire Board of Licensure for Professional Engineers. Lee is an electrical engineer with his own private practice in Gorham, NH. Lee was President of NHSPE in 1999/2000 and has headed the NHSPE MATHCOUNTS program for many years. Lee replaces Tyler Carlisle, P.E., also an electrical engineer, whose term recently ended after 10 years of service on the Board.



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## A Year in Review

[Continued from page 3]

### Maintain on-going effective relationships with other engineering organizations in the state.

- Several of our meetings were held jointly with other organizations. The AES presentation in November was held jointly with ASCE and the January Utility Security meeting was held with SAME.

- NHSPE also spearheaded the Joint Engineering Committee, which met in November to develop guidelines and policy for the selection of the Annual Young Engineer and Engineer of the Year Awards.

- NHSPE coordinated and sponsored another successful National Engineers Week Banquet at the Center of New Hampshire in Manchester. Robert Skogland, "The Humble Farmer" provided humorous and insightful witticisms into the life of a Maine farmer. Strengthen the public image of professional engineers in the state.

- Through the great efforts of Roch LaRoche NHSPE organized the Engineers Week Mall display at the Steeplegate Mall in Concord. The highlight of the event was the attendance of over 300 kids who competed in a ZOOM into Engineering event. Mike Mozer and Erin Darrow of ASCE did a

great job of making the event sizzle as many kids left elated with huge smiles!

- NHSPE continues to strongly support the MATHCOUNTS program and congratulates Daniel Hopkins, Richmond School in Hanover; Travers Rhodes, Crossroads Academy in Lyme; Sara Campbell, Cooperative Middle School in Stratham; and Zachary Blatt, McKelvie Middle School in Bedford as the MATHCOUNTS competitors who competed in the national competition held in Chicago.

- NHSPE awarded a \$1000 scholarship to Ross Bennett, who is currently attending UNH. This year we plan to double the scholarship award from the previous year due to the strong efforts of Roch LaRoche and the support of the membership.

### Provide a membership level which enhances NHSPE's viability as an organization

- Bucking the trend in many professional organizations, NSPE and NHSPE increased its membership during the past year. Much of this due to the NSPE

Membership Initiative - Recruitment, Retention, Reclamation.

- In December, members of the Board met with Annette Petrick of Petrick Outsourcing Group. Working with NHSPE and VTSPE a Membership marketing plan was developed to assist us in growing our organization. NHSPE is currently revising the plan to create a program that will work for our organization.

As I look back it seems as though we achieved a lot but there is so much more to accomplish. I wish to extend my many thanks to all those who have strived to make NHSPE a great organization and who volunteered countless hours and provided their expertise and services to the membership. I especially

want to extend a special thanks to Holy Gallagher and Judy Houston who are stepping down from active participation on the Board after many years of service and dedication. It has been a sincere privilege and honor to serve this organization and I look forward to continue contributing to NHSPE and NSPE for many years to come.

*I wish to extend my many thanks to all those who have strived to make NHSPE a great organization and who volunteered countless hours and provided their expertise and services to the membership.*

## Word From The President

[Continued from page 2]

year includes creating specific opportunities for continuing education, meeting the requirements in the NH Rules. Look for NHSPE sponsored education opportunities.

These are some of the activities that are a benefit to you as a member of NHSPE. We have an active and growing membership, which provides a base of strength, interest, and resources to the organization. Please look to NHSPE as a resource for your professional life, and be involved!

NHSPE's Board of Directors is a strong, diversified group of individuals active in various aspects of the engineering profession. Refer to the listing of Board members in this issue of *The Observer*, or on our website, and feel free to contact any board member with input or questions of any kind. I can say that the dedication and enthusiasm of the Board in promoting the professional practice of engineering is impressive as it is inspiring, as I partic-

ipate in our monthly meetings, and the flurry of e-mails and phone calls between meetings. Everyone brings a unique strength and perspective to the organization. We all can be appreciative of these contributions. Many thanks to past President, Matt Purcell, for his enthusiastic efforts and leadership over the past year.

Enjoy your membership in NHSPE, and draw on the many strengths the organization can provide!

*We have an active and growing membership, which provides a base of strength, interest, and resources to the organization.*

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### December 4

**Dinner Meeting and Presentation**  
**"The Kingsbury Hall Project —**  
**Building for Engineering at UNH"**  
Oak Room, Huddleston Hall  
UNH Campus, Durham, NH

### February 15-20

**Engineering Mall Display**  
Steeplegate Mall, Concord, NH

### February 16-22

**Engineers Week**

### February 20

**Engineers Banquet and Exhibition**  
Center of New Hampshire,  
Holiday Inn, Manchester, NH

### March 8

**MATHCOUNTS State Competition**  
Plymouth State College

### March 1 — April 25

**Applications for NHSPE**  
**Scholarships Due**

Please contact National with address corrections at 1-888-285-6773 or change on-line at [www.nhspe.org](http://www.nhspe.org).