



Secretary's Report of activities in the year 2008

Our chapter has made significant achievements during this year in spite of the teething problems due to the reconstitution of the chapter board. We have not only maintained the tempo but also added many new events in this year. This achievement is mainly due to very good participation and support by the Scarborough Chapter members. We are glad that PEO and the Government of Ontario are also recognizing our achievements.

Major Events

- Chapter AGM and Talk on Afghanistan War – Jan 19, 2008. Major Corneliu Chisu presented his personal experience in Afghanistan as part of the Canadian forces. AGM organized by Raju Chander and Tom Fernandes. Over 50 members and guests attended the event.
- Career fair organized by Hon. Margaret Best – Feb 9, 2008. Our chapter participated by providing relevant information on engineering profession. Many students interacted and were benefited by the information provided.
- A Technical Talk on Wind Power – Feb 12, 2008 – Our former secretary Saeed Khan presented an interested review on Wind Power. About 30 members and guest attended.
- Bridge Building Competition 2008 - February 23, 2008. This is the 5th successful year of this major event! The occasion was graced by the presence of Hon. Margaret Best, Hon. Bas Balkissoon, Patrick McNeil, Senior Vice President, OPG and Michael R.A. Fielding, President/CEO, StrataFLEX. About 60 teams participated and there were over 250 spectators. Around 25 professional engineers volunteered for this event.
- Career Fair – Woburn Collegiate. March 18, 2008. Volunteer support by Jason Ettore. Many attended.
- Web Design Workshop - March 27, 2008. Candace Carter of Back2Front explained web design aspects. About 30 members participated. Raju Chander and Samer Zabana provided the assistance.



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- Kannada Sangha Mathletics – Co-sponsored by PEO Mississauga and Scarborough Chapters, March 29, 2008. The community and the children very well received this event. This helped us in transcending the boundaries of Scarborough. About 40 children contested in this event and were watched by over 150 parents and teachers. Youth members of Kannada Sangha hosted this event. Our current chair Raju Chander conducted the event. Our volunteers Vyjayanthi and Perani provided all the technical support and assistance.
- PEO Licensing Seminar. April 26, 2008. Neighborhood Link Support Services organized this seminar for the benefit of new immigrant engineers who are interested in obtaining engineering license. Our past Chair Rane Mahalingam, Councillor Dr.Santosh Gupta and Chapter Executive N.Asogan presented different aspects of licensing. About 28 new immigrants were benefited by this event.
- PEO York Mathletics - May 3, 2008. This was hosted by York Chapter and supported by Scarborough Chapter. Our current Chair Raju Chander conducted the event. Our volunteers Vyjayanthi and Perani provided all the technical support and assistance. About 60 children participated in the competition, which was watched by over 250 parents and guests.
- License Certificate Presentation Ceremony - Spring, May 28,2008. This bi-annual event was co-ordinated by Ken Chiu. Hon. Margaret Best graced the occasion. Terry Karaim, Director, Ontario Power Generation presented a technical talk on “Future of Nuclear Industry”. Thirty one engineers obtained their license and about 75 guests participated. The Chapter also recognised Denis Carlos and Rane Mahalingam for their volunteer services with a plaque and a certificate.
- Hands on Web Design Workshop, July 15,22 – 2008. Former Chair of our chapter and current Councillor of East Central Region Denis Carlos conducted this workshop and showed the participants how a web page is created in the Internet. More than 25 computers were networked in the auditorium for hands-on experience. About 30 members benefited by this workshop. Vyjayanthi, Asogan and Mei provided the volunteer assistance.
- Technical Visit to Shri. Swaminarayan Temple, July 25, 2008. The tour to the temple exhibited the architectural marvel. Over 30 engineers and guests appreciated the gigantic structure that has been built without the use of standard structural materials like concrete, iron and steel, wood etc. Piyush Patel coordinated the visit.



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- PEO Licensing Seminar, August 10, 2008. Chinese Professional Association of Canada (CPAC) organized this seminar for the benefit of new immigrant engineers who are interested in obtaining engineering license. Our past Chair Rane Mahalingam, Councillor Dr. Santosh Gupta and Chapter Executive N.Asogan presented different aspects of licensing. About 50 new immigrants were benefited by this event.
- Seminar on Nuclear Power and Wind Turbine with a visit to Wind Turbine, Sep 23, 2008, our current chair Raju Chander conducted this event by presenting a seminar on CANDU technology and the emergence of wind power. About 34 engineers and their guests participated in this event.
- R C Harris Water Treatment Plant Visit, September 26, 2008, our past chair Rane Mahalingam hosted this event. About 22 engineers and their guest visited this historic water treatment plant that provides the drinking water to city of Toronto and neighbouring municipalities.
- Financial Planning. October 9, 2008. Our current chapter executive Piyush Patel co-ordinated this event. George Rosatti of RBC Dominion Securities gave a good glimpse of various aspects of financial management.
- Tour of ThyssenKrupp Elevator Plant, October 29, 2008. Mississauga and Scarborough Chapters jointly hosted this event, which was co-ordinated by our current secretary Jim Wang. About 25 engineers and guests of Scarborough chapter were benefited by this tour.
- License Certificate Presentation Ceremony - Fall 2008, November 24, 2008. This bi-annual event was co-ordinated by Ken Chiu. Hon. David Zimmer graced the occasion. Indra Prashad, Manager, Ministry of Environment presented a technical talk on “The future of engineering in water industry”. About 30 engineers obtained their license and 75 guests participated.
- Kwame Jhonson assisted PEO Brampton Chapter by participating as a judge for Bridge Building Competition. Tom Fernandes also assisted PEO North Toronto Chapter by participating as a judge for Photography Competition on Environment. Tom Fernandes assisted Skills Canada-Ontario by participating as a judge for Cardboard Boat Building Competition.
- Government Liaison Programme (GLP) – One of the major programme initiated by PEO was supported our chapter. Our GLP members attended many events with important political dignitaries.



Important Ongoing Activities

- An attempt is being made to provide engineering experience to chapter volunteers by performing engineering work required for the chapter under the supervision of licensed engineers. Raju Chander, Ken Chiu and Ranee Mahalingam are coordinating this activity.
- Athletics is being promoted as an event at Province Level. PEO Scarborough chapter will also support other chapters to conduct the chapter level competitions. Raju Chander is coordinating.
- Mentoring sub-committee is formed to investigate whether this activity can be initiated in Scarborough chapter. Vaj Banday is coordinating this activity.
- Scarborough Chapter has been helping foreign trained engineers by collaborating with other community organizations called ACCES and Chinese Professional Association, Canada. The services have now been extended to two other organizations called Neighbourhood Link Support Services and COSTI.
- University Entrance Scholarship Program - Scarborough Chapter has initiated two scholarships of \$500.00 each for school students living in Scarborough area to students who are admitted to an engineering program. Ranee Mahalingam, Samer Zabana and Ken Chiu are coordinating this activity.

Significant Achievements

- Citizenship Award to Ranee Mahalingam by Ontario Professional Engineers Awards for her contributions to public service.
- Ontario Volunteer Service Awards to Ron Nicholson by Government of Ontario for volunteering in PEO for more than 20 years.

Jim Wang, Secretary, PEO Scarborough Chapter