

Major Events

AGM - Annual General meeting was held on 31 Jan 2009. Board of directors for 2009 were appointed. 60 members and guests participated. AGM was followed by a presentation on Fuel Cell technology by Janaki Balakrishnan, M.A.Sc.; P.Eng.

Licensing Seminars – Chapter volunteers assisted community organizations to hold seminars to Internationally Trained Engineers (ITE) on the P.Eng. Licensing process and guideline on writing their experience record was presented.

On 7 Feb, seminar hosted by COSTI - volunteers Rane Mahalingam, M.Eng., P.Eng., and Asogan Naryanayanpillai, P.Eng. lead the seminar and 14 participants benefited

The Chinese Professional Association Canada (CPAC) hosted a seminar on 7 March 09. Dr Santosh Gupta, Ph.D., P.Eng and Rane Mahalingam M.Eng., P.Eng, lead the seminar and over 60 ITE's participated. During this year, CPAC organized 2 more seminars – one in May and another in November.

Popsicle Stick Bridge Building Contest (BBC): 6th annual Bridge building contest was held on 28 Feb at Scarborough Civic Center, Council Chambers. 47 teams of school children – total of 94 children in grades 3 to 8 participated. Highlight of the event was a bridge made of popsicle sticks and white glue weighing under 250 grams could resist a load of about 256 kg before breaking, which was a great improvement over the previous years. Winners were presented with Gift cards totalling over \$ 1000. Special dignitaries for this great event were Registrar & CEO of PEO – Kim Allen, CEO of OSPE – Angela Shama, VP of OPG – Stephanie Powers in addition to the Vice President and Councillors of PEO.

Chapter assisted Brampton Chapter in conducting bridge building contest by way of lending the chapter load testing machine and volunteers for the event.

Career Fairs: On 28th Feb, chapter participated in the Career fair at Centennial College organized by Hon Margaret Best Minister for Health services. Chapter representatives focussed on encouraging youth to take up engineering as a career by distributing handouts, video projection of engineering marvels and activities.

Financial Seminars: Conducted two Financial seminars focussing on management of one's finances during economic downturn, planning for retirement etc,

Certificate Presentations – Conducted 2 presentations of Professional Engineer Licence Certificate at Q-ssis Banquet Hall. On May 26, 09 - 24 newly licensed engineers received their certificates; out of this 4 were active volunteers including 2 of them serving in this board.

The second certificate presentation was on Dec 1, 2009, where 55 newly licensed engineers were presented with their certificates.

Mathletics Competition: Chapter conducted several events of Mathletics competition – designed to create a passion for application of mathematics in engineering and daily life. First was in May 09 at Visions of Science Network for Learning (VoSNL), in partnership with National Society of Black Engineers - Toronto Alumni Extension. This event was one of the most popular presentations in the arena.

In Nov 2009, we conducted Chapter level contest. Our Chapter also assisted Grand River, Mississauga and York chapters to conduct their contest at Chapter level.

The Scarborough Chapter played a lead role and worked hard to propagate the concept to other chapters in Ontario and to start a contest at Provincial level. As a result several chapters conducted a round at chapter level and winners at the Chapter level participated in a Province level.

On Nov 28, 2009 the first Province level Mathletics was conducted by our Chapter with special funding from PEO. Four chapters from Ontario – Grand River, Mississauga, Scarborough and York Chapters participated. The VIP's of this event were two Ministers of Ontario Government namely Hon. Brad Duguid and Hon. Margaret Best who gave away the prizes to the winners.

Another event named MathBall was conducted on Dec 5, 2009, in collaboration with National Society of Black Engineers and Josiah Lynch Community Organization. This event was for boys and girls in the 11 to 13 age group which combined Mathletics and Basketball game. Synergy of physical and mental activity was judged in this competition.

Mathletics competition demonstration was also presented at Chapter Leader Conference on Nov 21, 2009. Over 40 professional engineers attended this session.

Scholarships to University entrants: PEO initiated a scholarship program for University entrants who take up engineering studies and Scarborough Chapter participated in this program. We contacted the schools, invited applications, scrutinized and selected the candidates. The scholarship was awarded to two students – 1 Male, 1 Female, each \$ 500. In addition to this chapter board extended the scholarship to 10 more students out of chapter funds earned through chapter activities like advertisements in the BBC souvenir, and not through PEO allocations.

Chapter also financially assisted a group of school children who will be participating in an international contest, to be held in Singapore, to build Formula 1 model cars.

Visit to places of Engineering interest: A visit to a Fuel Cell Plant operated by Enbridge was arranged in May 09. 31 members and volunteers visited this interesting site.

Another visit was in Sep 2009 was arranged to wind powered generator at Pickering along with a seminar on wind and nuclear power generation.

Visit to school – The Chapter Education Coordinator, Kwame Johnson, visited a school in Scarborough to conduct an engineering activity to encourage engineering to young children. Children in the 2nd to 4th grades were given a task to build towers out of marshmallows, while learning the concepts of strength of structures, stability etc.

Volunteer Training – Scarborough Chapter initiated a Volunteer Training Program, under which the chapter received: 10 computers and 4 monitors from PEO; 4 Monitors from PEO Chapter Manager Matthew Ng and 3 monitors from Councillor Denis Carlos.

A “Hands – On” training on use of Excel for Accounting was conducted for the active volunteers of the chapter by the Chapter Vice Chair Madusuthanan, P.Eng. The training focussed on “Accounting for Chapter Finances and generating reports to suit the needs of the chapter. Willdale/Thornhill and Toronto East Chapter members and Councillors of the chapter also attended this training session.

Training room with networked computers was offered by Marketplace Ministries Computer Center, Midland Avenue, Scarborough.

Other Seminars: Chapter conducted seminars on Scientific Research and Experimental Development, Intellectual Property Basics for Engineers, TETRA Society for assistive engineering and on Astrology is Scientific etc.

Collaboration with other chapters – Chapter supported and participated in All Candidate meeting initiated by Etobicoke Chapter on Jan 10, where the candidates running for PEO elections voiced their viewpoints and answered questions.

Monthly Board of Director’s Meeting – Chapter conducted regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors. The chapter website carried the notice of meeting and thus encouraged all members to attend these meetings. This made the chapter more visible and more volunteers participated in chapter events. This has encouraged the new volunteers to serve in the chapter board.

Minutes of BOD meeting were also available on the chapter web site.

Web updates: Chapter website is updated regularly to provide the up-to-date information to the members (and public) on the chapter activities.

News letters – Chapter published two newsletters this year – One in May and the other in December.

On Going/planned Activities

Engineering Experience for EIT's - Chapter is assisting 2 EIT's in gaining Engineering design experience to supplement their experience record. This project is to design, build and test a machine for load testing of “Popsicle stick bridges” is in progress.

Mentoring Programme for EITs – Chapter is planning to participate in the mentoring programme initiated by PEO.

Joint Activities with other organizations: Chapter is also planning to conduct joint activities with National Society of Black Engineers

Volunteer Training: This program, which was initiated in June 2009, is to be continued with training in other subjects of interest to engineers such as use of Project Management software etc.

Statistics of Significant Achievements:

10 Board of Directors meeting was conducted; on an average each meeting was attended by 18 members - consisting of Directors, Councillors and 6 to 8 volunteers.

21 Events conducted in this year.

79 newly licensed engineers were presented with their certificates.

First Province level Mathletics conducted.

“Hands on Training” for Active Volunteers.

Providing Engineering Experience by building a Bridge testing machine.

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