



Columbus Engineer

Franklin County Chapter

A chapter chartered by the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers.

P.O. Box 69

Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-0069

May 2025

Vol. 83 No. 9



President's Message

**S. Rao Chitikela, PhD, PE,
PEng, F.ASCE
– FCC President**

This message and update would be my last-one as president of the chapter. I appreciate all of the professional support extended to me by the Board, Membership, and Patrons; THANK YOU

I have become professionally resilient via learning and working with the Board in this past 12-month time, *so to name a few*: Mr. Steve Day's resilient, reliable-anytime, and sustainable way of conducting the treasurer's role and managing the finances of the chapter; Ms. Tina Sutermeister's annually innovative way of finding the eligible FCC-awardee(s) of various proven talents; Mr. Dustin Doherty's invaluable capabilities of finding the best speakers to the Board's monthly seminars and as witnessed by the member-attendance – the last-one for the 2024-25 by Mr. Darrell Miller, PE, of Del-Co Water was invaluable in that Del-Co planning for ongoing growth in the region and importance on water-reuse; Mr. Nathan Abele's unwavered support to the Board activities anytime; Mr. Tim Mcarthy's conductance of the Imagine Engineering and providing the judicious support in OSPE-selection of the Winner among 10,000 registrants (*this year*); Mr. Baba Yahaya conducting the annual Science Judging and effectively selecting high school student projects on the FCC-sponsored awards, where FCC is a lead-group; and, the big annual MATHCOUNTS

competition organized and managed by Joe Bolzenius, Howard Jones, Steve Day, and Tina Sutermeister. Of course, all of the monthly collected updates and presented to you, as supported by Richard Smelker, in the Columbus Engineer by our own Editor, Howard Jones!! THANK YOU TO ALL OFFICERS OF THE BOARD!!

The notable accomplishment during this time is reviving the student-chapter at The Ohio State University; THANK YOU to Zach Wedekind (FCC-OSPE) and Dr. Amy Kramer (OSU)!!

The chapter president for 2025-26 is being selected and will be installed by JUL 1st; Congratulations to the incoming president, and all Officers of the *new* Board!

Please do not hesitate to reach out the Board on the Chapter activities and any support you need on your professional activities and accomplishments.

THANK YOU to the Membership and Patrons, in regard to current and growing membership!

The professional engineers of the Franklin County Chapter - OSPE, have a significant role in supporting the (i) ongoing industrial development, (ii) design, installation, and management of new and sustainable infrastructure, and (iii) especially, management of water resources of central-OH in circular economies. Wish the Best to the FCC Board and Chapter of OSPE!!

HAPPY SUMMER, Folks!!



2025 All-Ohio Engineering Conference June 12- 14,2025

Number of PDHs: 12

Type of Event: Conference, Virtual Conference

Date: Thursday, June 12, 2025 - Saturday, June 14, 2025

Start Time: 08:20:00

End Time: 07:30:00

Time Zone: Eastern

Register for the 2025 All-Ohio Engineering Conference, proudly presented by the Ohio Society of Professional Engineers.

To give you the best of both worlds, we are offering:

- 12.0 virtual CPD hours (including 2 hours of ethics) on Thursday & Friday, June 12-13, via Zoom. (VIRTUAL ONLY: Registered participants will get Zoom login credentials.)
- In-person business meetings & meals/events in Dublin, Ohio on Saturday, June 14. (IN-PERSON ONLY).

Register by Friday, June 6.

Contact: Ohio Society of Professional Engineers
Phone: (614) 223-1144



Upcoming NSPE-OH PEI MEETING on Saturday, June 15th

The NSPE-OH PEI (Professional Engineers in Industry) Annual Meeting will be held in person on Saturday, June 15th at 9:00 a.m. at the Embassy Suites Columbus Dublin, 5100 Upper Metro Place, Dublin, Ohio 43017, as part of the 2025 All Ohio Engineering Conference. Please plan on attending this meeting and RSVP to Tina L. Sutermeister, P.E., F.NSPE, NSPE-OH PEI Chair at tlsuterm@embarqmail.com or 614-537-7660.

A full agenda is planned and will include the regular Business meeting, a discussion on the NSPE-OH PEI New Product Award, the election of the 2025-26 PEI Trustee and more. A special part of this PEI meeting will be a discussion with the NSPE Board of Directors – Interest Group Director, Angela Newland, P.E., F.NSPE. Plan on coming to meet and network with fellow PEI'ers from around the State of Ohio.

REMINDER: RSVP to Tina L. Sutermeister, P.E., F.NSPE, NSPE-OH PEI Chair at tlsuterm@embarqmail.com or 614-537-7660.



FCC Election Results

FRANKLIN COUNTY CHAPTER OHIO SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS 2025-2026 ELECTION OF OFFICERS VOTE TALLY	
President (vote for one)	No. of Votes
Derek Kiss, PE <i>CTL Engineering</i>	19
Vice-President/President Elect (vote for one)	No. of Votes
Zach Wedekind, PE <i>Kimley-Horn</i>	19
Vice-President (vote for one)	No. of Votes
Nathan Abele, PE <i>S&ME, Inc.</i>	20
Chapter Secretary (vote for one)	No. of Votes
Anthony Wong, EI <i>Kimley-Horn</i>	19
PEG Trustee (vote for one)	No. of Votes
C.R. Weaver, PE <i>City of Columbus</i>	16
PEHE Trustee (vote for two)	No. of Votes
Tim McCarthy, PE <i>Retired, The Ohio State University</i>	15
S. Rao Chitikela, PhD, PE <i>RC-WEE Solutions</i>	16
PEPP Trustee (vote for one)	No. of Votes
Eric Bates, PE <i>Nederveld, Inc.</i>	17
Young Engineers Trustee	No. of Votes
Zach Wedekind, PE <i>Kimley-Horn</i>	15
Retired Engineers Trustee (vote for one)	No. of Votes
Robert H. Fuller, PE, FNSPE <i>Retired</i>	17
Write-in Candidates	
PEC Trustee	No. of Votes
Baba Yahaya, PE <i>Terracon</i>	1
Yogesh Rege, PE <i>Terracon</i>	1
James Olsavsky, PE	1

The write-in PEC Trustees are yet to be determined.



Welcome New Members of the Franklin County Chapter

New FCC-OSPE members added from the NSPE Database from April 10, 2025 through May 8, 2025 are:

Members: Jacob R. Owen, PE
Nageswara Rao Vudathala
Hudson Park, PE

Student Members: Jacob Capaldi
Hannah Hull

Welcome these new Members to FCC-OSPE!!



FCC & EFO Scholarship Winners

- By Joe Sullivan

Once again, this year the Franklin County Chapter funded a \$2,000 scholarship for a deserving student within the 14-county chapter area. The Chapter received 5 applications for the scholarship and this year's winner was Alex Rush, a senior at St. Francis DeSales High School in Columbus, Ohio. Alex lives in Johnstown and hopes to study Computer Engineering at the University of Dayton.

The Engineers Foundation of Ohio General Fund Scholarship will be awarded to Matthew Maniglia. Matthew is a Junior at the University of Cincinnati studying Mechanical Engineering. He is also pursuing a minor in Mathematics as well as a minor in Materials Engineering. Matthew is from Mentor, Ohio and attended Mentor High School.





Dayton Society of Professional Engineers LUNCHEON PRESENTATION

Date: Thursday, June 12, 2025

Time: 12:00 Noon to 1:30 PM

Topic: “Progressive Design-Build Construction of the Northwest Regional Water Treatment Plant Membrane Softening and Capacity Upgrade”.

Presented by: Randy Gilbert, PE, MPA, Deputy Director, Greene County Sanitary Engineering, and Tristan Mull, MS, Engineer, Greene County Sanitary Engineering.

A buffet lunch will be served.

Attendees will receive **1.0 Professional Development Hours for Engineering**

Reservations: Those wishing to attend should make your reservations no later than noon on Tuesday, June 10, 2025, with Jon Wheeler by email at jon.wheeler@yahoo.com or by phone at (937) 239-5982 (mobile).

Cost: \$30-Members

\$40-Non-Members

\$15-Students

Location: Engineer’s Club of Dayton

110 East Monument Avenue

Dayton, OH

The Northwest Regional water treatment plant is at the tail end of two-year, 45.5-million-dollar upgrade, adding treatment capacity as well as nanofiltration softening. This was a design-build project with an owner’s agent and joint venture design-build team using state revolving loan funds. This combination resulted in a unique project environment and challenges, as well as specific advantages to the design process. The presentation will give the story of the plant upgrades, with specific emphasis on the unique challenges of a design-build project in a system catered to traditional construction processes.

Randy Gilbert, PE, MPA, serves as the deputy director at Greene County Sanitary Engineering with over 42 years of experience in water supply & sanitation and has been a registered Ohio PE for nearly 38 years. Previously Randy worked at Montgomery County Environmental Services for 30 years before working at Preble County in the interim. Tristan Mull, MS, has almost 4 years of experience at Greene County Sanitary Engineering as an engineer. Prior to employment at Greene County, Tristan attended Ohio University receiving bachelor’s and master’s degrees, both in Civil Engineering.



Imagine Engineering 2025 – Another Successful Contest



- By Tim McCarthy, P.E.

The Imagine Engineering Coloring Contest for 2nd graders has been completed for 2025. This was a very successful year for the contest. Locally, the Franklin County Chapter saw 44 registrations. This list represented 41 schools with approximately 1,800 students. Participants included schools in Columbus, Dublin, Reynoldsburg, Lancaster, Columbus Grove, Galloway, Hilliard, Logan, Union Furnace, Mt. Vernon, Fredericktown, Marion, Chillicothe, Circleville, Newark, Dresden, Duncan Falls and Zanesville. State-wide, the registrations totaled 10,000 students.

The option for requesting a presentation by an FCC-OSPE member was made available to the registered teachers. Franklin County Chapter volunteers made presentations to 38 classes of those teachers requesting in-person presentations. Teachers also had the opportunity to have their class view an on-line video produced by EFO. The teachers were very appreciative of the presentations.



There were 430 contest entries received from the classes within the Franklin County Chapter area. Judging of these entries produced the “top three” for the chapter. The top three entries are:

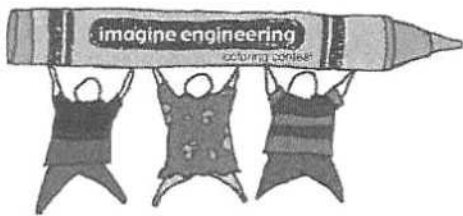
James Owens from St. John’s Lutheran School in Marysville

Kalvin Rush from Zane Grey Primary in Zanesville

Demi Nelson from St. Pius X Elementary in Reynoldsburg.

Franklin County Chapter awarded prizes to each of these students. Scans of the drawings are included in this newsletter. These entries were forwarded to EFO for statewide judging. The statewide 1st place winner was also James Owens from St. John’s. Congratulations to these winners and also to the students and teachers participating to make this a successful program.

To help make next year even better please consider volunteering when the call for volunteers is made in late 2025 or early 2026!



Presented by



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With support from



Directions to enter contest:

- 1) Neatly print your name, school and city, and teacher's name here.
- 2) Draw and color your idea of an engineer working.
- 3) Submit your entry by April 15. Email a scan of your entry to efo@ohioengineer.com or return your original entry to EFO, 400 S. Fifth Street, Suite 300, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Name: James Owens

School and City: St. John's Mansville

Your Teacher's Name: Mrs. Bowsher

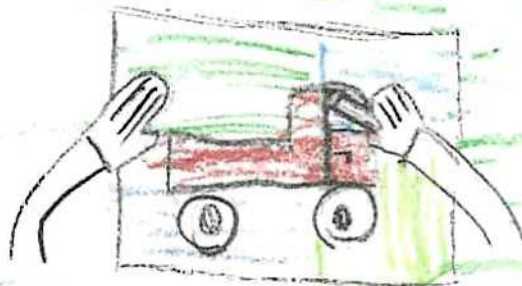
Prizes: The statewide winners will win:

- 1st place – Telescope (\$260 value) & art published in OhioENGINEER
- 2nd place – Digital Microscope (\$100 value)
- 3rd place – Mega Science Lab (\$60 value)

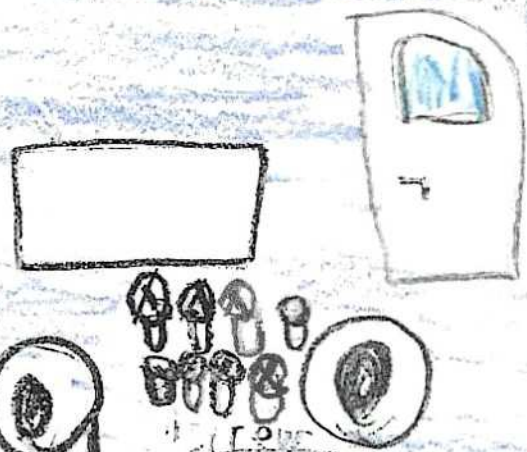
**Thanks for participating
and HAVE FUN!**

Top of Coloring

#1 Draw

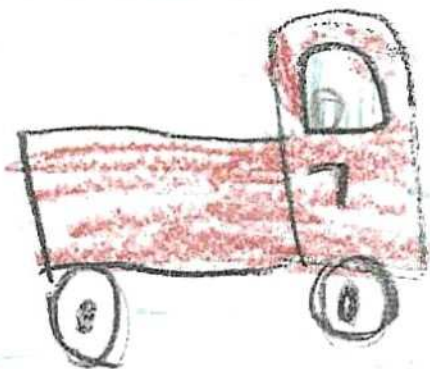


#2 f. & pieces



Build **Mechanical**

#4 Test





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With support from



Directions for contest:

- 1) Neatly print your name, school and city, and teacher's name here.
- 2) Draw and color your idea of an engineer working.
- 3) Submit your entry by April 15. Email a scan of your entry to efo@imagineengineering.com or return your original entry to EFO, 400 S. Fifth Street, Suite 300, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Name:

Kalvin Rush

School and City:

Zane Grey Primary Zanesville

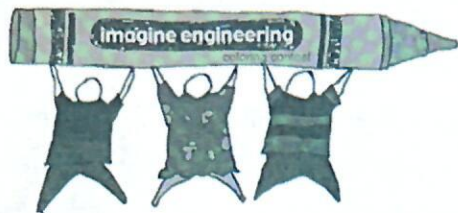
Your Teacher's Name:

Mrs. Melick

Thanks for participating
and **HAVE FUN!**

Top of Coloring





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Directions to enter contest:

- 1) Neatly print your name, school and city, and teacher's name here.
- 2) Draw and color your idea of an engineer working.
- 3) Submit your entry by April 15. Email a scan of your entry to efo@ohioengineer.com or return your original entry to EFO, 400 S. Fifth Street, Suite 300, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

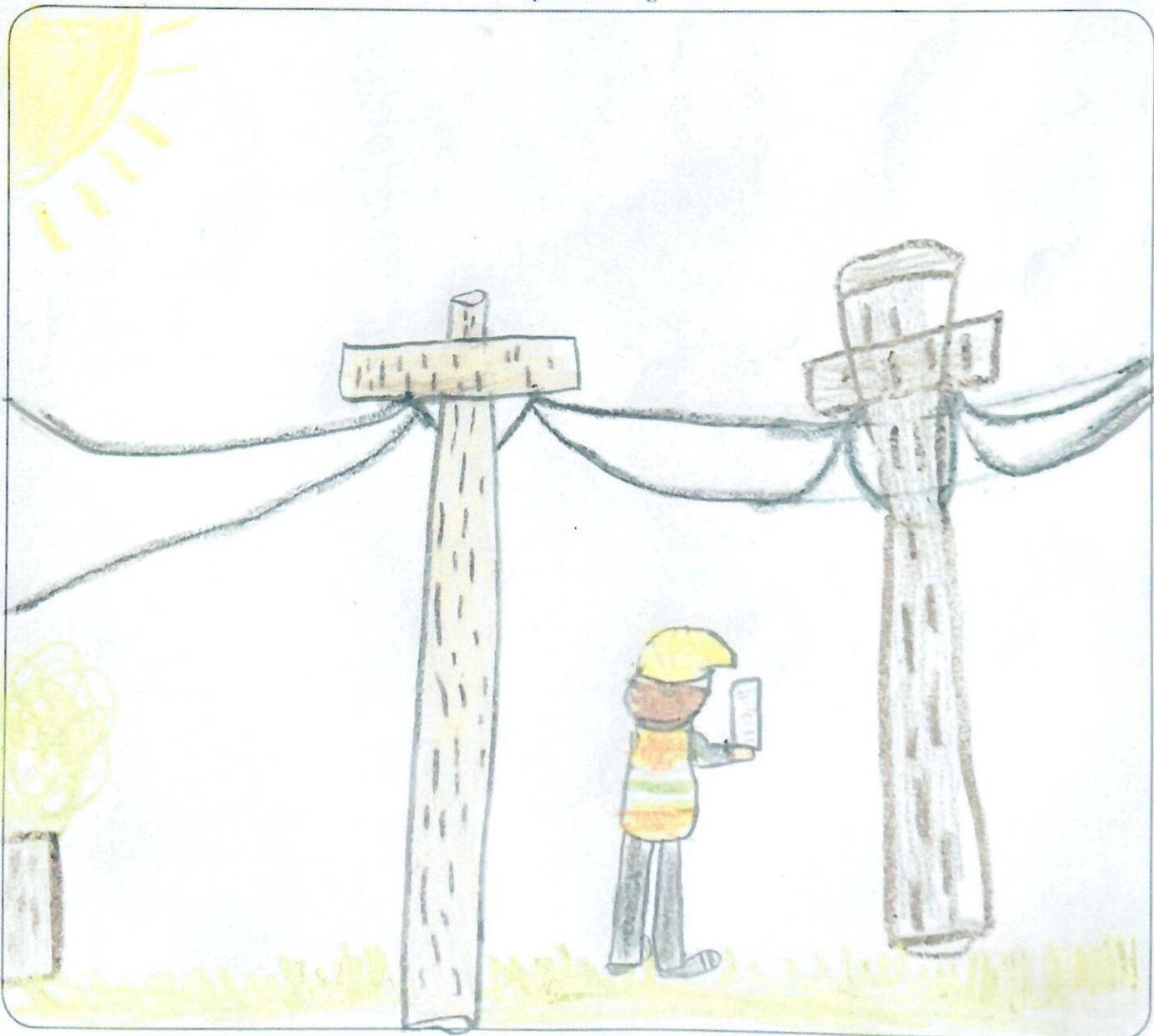
Name: Demi Nelson
School and City: St. Pius Reynoldsburg
Your Teacher's Name: Mrs. Feicht

Prizes: The statewide winners will win:

- 1st place – Telescope (\$260 value) & art published in OhioENGINEER
- 2nd place – Digital Microscope (\$100 value)
- 3rd place – Mega Science Lab (\$60 value)

**Thanks for participating
and HAVE FUN!**

Top of Coloring





2024-2025 CALENDAR

DATE	TIME	DESCRIPTION
Aug. 23	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for September <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
Sept. 5	11:30 a.m.	CPD Program: Title: "Improving Public Health Outcomes through Research and Teaching Innovations" - Presenter: Prof. Allison MacKay
Sept. 10	5:45 p.m.	FCC Board Meeting @ CEC, Inc. and Virtual
Sept. 11	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for October <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
Sept. 27	12:00 p.m.	OSPE Lunchtime Legislative Briefing, Zoom meeting
Oct. 3	11:30 a.m.	CPD Program: NO PROGRAM FOR OCTOBER
Oct. 8	5:45 p.m.	FCC Board Meeting @ CEC, Inc. and Virtual
Oct. 17	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for November <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
Nov. 7-8		EFO Fall CPD Conference
Nov. 12	5:00 p.m.	FCC Board Meeting @ CEC, Inc. and Virtual
Nov. 14	11:30 a.m.	CPD Program: Title: "Construction Bidding from a Contractor's Perspective" - Presenter: Mark Setterlin
Nov. 14	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for December <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
Dec. 5	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for January <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
Dec. 5	11:30 a.m.	CPD Program: Title: "Recreation and Parks Department – WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!": - Presenter: James Miller, Section Manager, City of Columbus
Dec. 9	8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.	EFO December Seminar
Dec. 9	5:45 p.m.	FCC Board Meeting @ CEC, Inc. and Virtual
Dec. 20	12:00 p.m.	OSPE Lunchtime Legislative Briefing, Zoom meeting
Jan. 9	12:00 p.m.	CPD Program: "Engineering Lessons Learned from a Natural Disaster" - Presenter: Angela R. Newland, P.E., F.NAPE
Jan. 14	5:45 p.m.	FCC Board Meeting @ CEC, Inc. and Virtual
Jan. 28	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for E-Week Luncheon Flyer
Jan. 28	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for February <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
Feb. 6	12:00 p.m.	CPD Program: No Program
Feb. 8	8:00 a.m.	Regional MathCounts Competition @CSCC
Feb. 11	5:45 p.m.	FCC Board Meeting @ CEC, Inc. and Virtual
Feb. 13	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for March <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
Feb. 16-22		National Engineer's Week
Feb. 20	11:00 a.m.	Program: E-Week Luncheon – Location: Villa Milano Banquet & Conference Center
Mar. 6	12:00 p.m.	CPD Program: Title: "The Duty to Act" - Presenter: Travis L. Rhoades, PE, Civil & Environmental Consultants, Inc.
Mar. 11		Attend Central Ohio STEM Expo @ Nationwide & OH Farm Bureau 4-H Center, Columbus
Mar. 11	5:45 p.m.	FCC Board Meeting @ Kimley-Horn: 7965 North High Street, Suite 200, Columbus, Ohio, and Virtual
Mar. 13	5:00 P.M.	Deadline for April <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
Mar. 13-15		Engineer's Leadership Institute (ELI) - Virtual
Mar. 15	8:15 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Ohio MATHCOUNTS Competition @CSCC
Mar. 15		District Science Day @CSCC

2024-2025 CALENDAR

Continued



DATE	TIME	DESCRIPTION
Apr. 3	11:30 a.m.	CPD Program: Title: "Growth in Delaware County and How Delco Water is Supporting It" - Presenter: Darrell Miller, PE
Apr. 4	12:00 p.m.	OSPE Lunchtime Legislative Briefing, Zoom meeting
Apr. 8	5:45 p.m.	FCC Board Meeting @ Kimley-Horn and Virtual
Apr. 10	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for May <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
Apr. TBD	TBD	Legislative Day
May 1	12:00 p.m.	CPD Program: NO PROGRAM
May 10 – 13		National MATHCOUNTS Competition
May 13	5:45 p.m.	FCC Board Meeting @ Kimley-Horn and Virtual
May 15	12:00 p.m.	Deadline for June <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
June 3	6:30 p.m.	Chapter Officer Installation & Awards Dinner – Location: TBD
June 5		CPD Program: NO PROGRAM
June 10	5:45 p.m.	FCC Board Meeting @ Kimley-Horn and Virtual
June 12	5:00 p.m.	Deadline for July <i>Columbus Engineer</i>
June 12-13		All Ohio Engineering Conference
June 14		EFO/OSPE Annual Meetings & Awards Luncheon
June 27	12:00 p.m.	OSPE Lunchtime Legislative Briefing, Zoom meeting
July TBD	TBD	FCC Budget Meeting - Location to be announced

THE FCC BOARD MEETINGS

will be held at:

Kimley-Horn

**7965 North High Street, Suite 200,
Columbus, Ohio 43235**

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

FCC-OSPE President E-mail & Phone:

FCC-OSPE WEBSITE:

OSPE WEBSITE:

NSPE WEBSITE:

To volunteer to help with MATHCOUNTS:

To volunteer to help with Science Day:

To volunteer to help with OSU Student Chapter:

To volunteer to help with Imagine Engineering:

FCC Luncheons / Programs:

New Members / Membership Application

rao.chitikela@rcweesolutions.com

www.fccospe.org

www.ohioengineer.com

www.nspe.org

benjamin_brown@yahoo.com

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TBD

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dpdoherty2000@aol.com

www.nspe.org or www.ohioengineer.com

(614) 818-4900

(614) 519-8978

(614) 328-5209

(614) 670-1175

(614) 359-6321

(614) 223-1144



2024-2025 OFFICERS, TRUSTEES & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

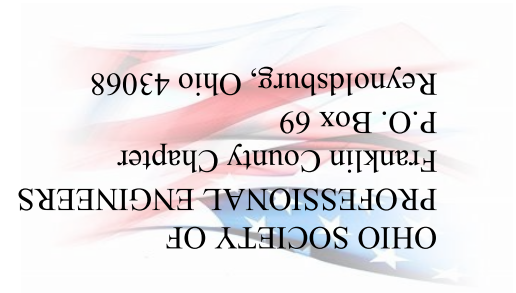


TITLE	NAME	PHONE # (w) or (h)	MOBILE #	EMAIL ADDRESS
President	S. Rao Chitikela, PhD, PE	614-818-4900 (w)	412-310-9452 (m)	rao.chitikela@rcweesolutions.com
Vice President	Derek Kiss, PE			DerekCKiss@gmail.com
Vice President	Eric Bates, PE		614-674-3441 (m)	ebates1019@gmail.com
Chapter Secretary	Zach Wedekind, PE		380-215-1810 (m)	zwedekind@gmail.com
Treasurer	Steve Day, PE, F.NSPE	614-876-7525 (w)	614-531-2858 (m)	lday1@columbus.rr.com
Past President	Mehrdad Rowhani, PE, PMP	614-389-4132 (w)	773-517-1036 (m)	mehrdadrowhani@terracon.com
Administrative Assistant	Dawn Morrison	614-328-5148 (w)	614-313-3814 (m)	dawn.morrison@terracon.com
	FCC-OSPE Website			www.fccospe.org
OSPE				
OSPE Director	Nathan Abele, PE	614-793-2226 (w)	614-746-7243 (m)	Nabele@smeinc.com
OSPE Executive Director	Tim Schaffer, PE	614-223-1144 (w)		exec@ohioengineer.com
OSPE/EFO Staff	Pam McClure (ret., part-time)	614-223-1144 (w-OSPE)		admin@ohioengineer.com
	Holly Ross	614-223-1177 (w-EFO)		pr@ohioengineer.com
	JoAnn Finke (part-time)	614-223-1144 (w-EFO)		admin@ohioengineer.com
VICE-PRESIDENT	TRUSTEE/COMMITTEE	CHAIRPERSON	TELEPHONE	E-MAIL
Derek Kiss, PE	Vice-President	Derek Kiss, PE		DerekCKiss@gmail.com
	Programs/CPD/Activity	Dustin Doherty, PE, CPESC	614-359-6321 (m)	dpdoherty2000@aol.com
	Membership	Richard Irwin	614-885-9016 (h)	richirwin614@gmail.com
	Young Engineer Trustee	Zach Wedekind, PE	380-215-1810 (m)	zwedekind@gamil.com
	Retired Engineers Trustee	Bob Fuller, P.E.	614-886-2020 (m) 614-880-9221 (h)	barbarafuller6438@att.net
	PEHE Trustee	S. Rao Chitikela, PE Tim McCarthy, PE	412-310-9452 (m) 614-670-1175 (m)	srao.chitikela@gmail.com tim_mccarthy@breezelineohio.net
	OSU - Student Chapter Liason	TBD		
	Science Day (District)	Baba Yahaya, PE	614-328-5209 (w) 614-517-7864 (m)	Baba.Yahaya2@terracon.com
	Scholarship	Joe Sullivan, PE	614-898-7100 (w) 614-561-5447 (m)	jsullivan@msconsultants.com
	Columbus Engineer - Editor	Howard Jones, PE, F.NSPE	614-209-3289 (m) 614-209-3289 (h)	hrjones63@yahoo.com
	Engineers Week	CR Weaver, PE	614-645-7100 (w) 614-946-2961 (h)	CRWeaver@columbus.gov
	Engineer For A Day	TBD		
	PEG Trustee	CR Weaver, PE	614-645-7100 (w)	CRWeaver@columbus.gov
Eric Bates, PE	Vice-President	Eric Bates, PE	614-674-3441 (m)	ebates1019@gmail.com
	MATHCOUNTS Chair	Ben Brown, PE	614-519-8978 (m)	benjamin_brown@yahoo.com
	MATHCOUNTS Chair	Joseph Bolzenius, PE, PS	614-354-4933 (h) 614-441-4222 (m)	joseph.bolzenius@hotmail.com
	Awards/Citations	Tina Sutermeister, PE	614-537-7660 (m) 740-964-0828 (h)	tsuterm@embargmail.com
	Legislative	Steve Day, PE	614-876-7525 (w) 614-531-2858 (m)	lday1@columbus.rr.com
	PEI Trustee	Richard Smelker, PE	614-427-9970 (m) 614-267-9610 (h)	rdsmelker@att.net
	EFO Liaison	Steve Day, PE	614-876-7525 (w) 614-531-2858 (m)	lday1@columbus.rr.com
	Chapter Directory	Zach Wedekind, EI		zwedekind@gmail.com
	Imagine Engineering Contest	Tim McCarthy, PE	614-670-1175 (m)	tim_mccarthy@breezelineohio.net
	Auxiliary Trustee	TBD		
	OSPE Director	Nathan Abele, PE	614-793-2226 (w) 614-746-7243 (m)	Nabele@smeinc.com
	Constitution & By-Laws	Baba Yahaya, PE	614-328-5209 (w)	Baba.Yahaya2@terracon.com
	PEPP Trustee	Nathan Abele, PE	614-793-2226 (w) 614-746-7243 (m)	Nabele@smeinc.com
	PEPP Trustee	Greg Nortz, PE	614-790-0029 (m)	gregnortz@otisengineering.com
	PEC Trustee	Ken Goodson, PE	380-900-8315 (w) 220-228-2192 (m)	kengoodson@hotmail.com





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Learn about all we can do together.

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alan.riley@terracon.com | (614) 328-5134



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