

Joseph F. Boward, P.E.  
PSPE 2008 Engineer of the Year



The PSPE State Engineer for the Year Award Publicly recognizes outstanding engineers based on specific criteria including professional and occupational achievements, civic and political affairs, and engineering and educational affairs.

The PSPE Engineer of the Year for 2008 is Joseph Boward, P.E. Joe has been a “fixture” in the Pittsburgh Chapter and State PSPE for many years.

Joe has provided only the highest level of leadership to the Pittsburgh Chapter. He has Chaired and/or served on nearly all of the available Chapter committees, including: MATCOUNTS, Awards, Nominations, Long Range Planning, Scholarship, Newsletter, Chapter Office, and Tellers. He also served on the Chapter Editorial Board for four years, was the Auxiliary Liaison and represented the Chapter on the Pittsburgh Construction Legislative Council.

As a past member of the Board of Directors and during his term as President in 1996-1997, Joe took the Chapter to the next level with respect to its organization and internal workings. He reorganized the Chapter hierarchy and made Bylaw changes to effect a more efficient organization. Joe continues to serve the Chapter, where appropriate, especially as the Moderator for the morning Sprint, Target and Team rounds test administration during the Pittsburgh Chapter MATHCOUNTS competition. During his eleven years on the PA/PEPP Board, Joe served as Southwest Vice Chair and Secretary, as well as chairing several committees, including the PA/PEPP Awards committee. As the PA/PEPP Chair from 1998 to 2000, Joe maintained a financially viable practice division, which has remained so since his leadership.

Joe was the PSPE, Pittsburgh Chapter MATHCOUNTS program coordinator during 1991 and 1992. The Allegheny County Commissioners presented him with a “Certificate of Achievement” for his service as the MATHCOUNTS Coordinator. He was awarded the Chapter Young Engineer of the Year Award in 1992, as well as its L.W. Hornfeck Award in 1995. Joe received the Pittsburgh Chapter Dedicated Service Award in 2005 and PA/PEPP Distinguished Service Award in 2006. He was a member of the PSPE State Awards Committee for ten years, serving as its Chairman from 2000 to 2006. He currently holds the Secretary position on the State PSPE Board of Directors and the PSPE Executive Committee. Joe has volunteered with the PA/PEPP Board as Secretary. He is also the instructor for the PSPE, Pittsburgh Chapter, Engineering Licensing Exam Refresher Course, Geotechnical Engineering Section.

Joe is also active in the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, serving on the Geo-Institute Board. He is very active in his Church, having served on the Church Council and Finance Committees, as well as serving as the President of the Church Board of Trustees during 2004 and 2005. He remains on that Board, in addition to leading the Adult Bible Studies Class. Through the Church, Joe volunteers, as required, to maintain the West Hills Area Food Bank.

In 2004, Joe Boward and Gary Garvin founded Garvin Boward Engineering, Inc., a consulting geotechnical engineering firm that offers limited environmental and forensic engineering services. Today the firm is known as Garvin Boward Beitko, with Doug Beitko joining the firm. Under Joe’s leadership, the firm has been successful, and is currently experiencing a “growth spurt”, hiring more engineers and other employees. Joe earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from Purdue University in 1984 and his Masters of Science in Civil Engineering from the University of Pittsburgh in 1990.

Joe and his wife Martha live in Moon Township, Pennsylvania. They have three children: Joe, Sarah and Rachel.

Congratulations to Joe Boward the 2008 PSPE State Engineer of the Year!