



ENGI-NEWS

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Editor: Denis C. Chabot, PE

January 15, 2010

January Meeting Notice

The Potomac Appalachian Transmission Highline

*American Electric Power to
present January 15th program*

By: Kevin L. Osborne
ECH President

Two representatives from American Electric Power (AEP) will provide a presentation at the January 15th ECH meeting on the proposed Potomac Appalachian Transmission Highline (PATH). The PATH transmission line, a planned 765 kiloVolt (kV) line that will be built as a joint venture between American Electric Power and Allegheny Energy, will extend from the John Amos Power Plant substation in Putnam County, WV to the proposed Kemptown Substation southeast of New Market, Maryland.



The presentation will cover the technical aspects that go into the design of a high voltage transmission line. Also to be discussed is the purpose for this line and how it will assist in providing critical electric needs to a portion of the eastern United States.

AEP owns the nation's largest electricity transmission system, a nearly 39,000-mile network that includes more 765 kV extra-high voltage transmission lines than all other U.S. transmission systems combined. AEP's transmission system directly or indirectly serves about 10 percent of the electricity demand in the Eastern Interconnection which covers 38 eastern and central U.S. states as well as eastern Canada.

President's Corner

*Thoughts as ECH
begins its 74th Year!*



By: Kevin L. Osborne
ECH President

A new year has arrived, and by now you should be in possession of an invoice for your 2010 ECH dues. To the many of you that have promptly returned the invoice, along with payment, I offer my gratitude. For those that have not, I ask that you please do so as soon as practicable. A second billing is not only an expense to the Club but is also an added burden on our Executive Officers.

I believe I can speak for anyone that has previously served in the position of Program Chairman that one person cannot do it all. Developing topic ideas, coordinating with prospective speakers, developing articles for the **ENGI-NEWS**, and the myriad of other tasks involved makes this one of the most difficult yet rewarding positions on the ECH Executive Board. Therefore, I ask each of you to assist your Program Chairman by not only being cognizant of topics that may be interest to the Club but also taking the extra initiative to locate speakers knowledgeable on the subject and, at the request of the Program Chairman, serving as the liaison for the speaker.

The topic of the January 15th meeting is one of local and national significance. I hope that you will be in attendance and look forward to seeing you there.

A Set of Opportunities...

By: Judith D. Dumke

Chair, Awards and Education Committee

The Awards and Education Committee would like to inform the members that there are three opportunities this year to assist ECH and the Committee with the on-going effort to recruit young, excited students to a career in engineering.

The first is to encourage students in Marshall's engineering program to apply for the ECH Scholarship money. This year the Engineers Club will be able to award \$1,500. Interested students should see **Dr. William Pierson** in the Engineering program for an application. The deadline for submission of applications is February 9th.

The second opportunity is a new outreach program. We would like ECH members to volunteer to take a student out to eat either lunch or dinner. This program will begin after the scholarship is awarded, so no student thinks of it as an interview or audition for the scholarship. The meal would be a one-on-one meeting at a mutually agreed upon location. The Engineers Club has made funding available to offset part or all of the meal (not that having a member offer to pick it all up would not be appreciated). If you would like to offer to help in this way contact the Awards and Education Committee Chair, **Judy Dumke**, at 740-894-6859 or dumke@marshall.edu. You would benefit by getting to know something about students today and the students could learn about engineering from someone who has experience in local engineering.

The third opportunity, as always, is to contribute to the ECH Endowed Scholarship Fund at Marshall, either by including a contribution with your dues or by a directed contribution to the Marshall University Foundation earmarked for the ECH Endowed Scholarship. With declining interest rates and stock market variations, the yield on the endowment is down and all contributions go to the corpus of the fund to help maintain our level of support for the next generation of engineers.

JANUARY MEETING NOTICE

Date: January 15, 2010
Speaker: (from American Electric Power)
Program: *The Potomac Appalachian Transmission Highline*
Place: ► **Ponderosa Steakhouse** ◀
 3100 Route 60 East
 Huntington, WV 25705
Time: Social, 6-7:00 p.m.
 Dinner, 7-8:00 p.m.
 Program, 8:00 p.m.
Cost: \$14 (*discount is applied; NO COUPONS, please*)

Reservations Required through Denis Chabot

(NOTE: Deadline Noon Thursday, Jan. 13th)
 at 304-399-5140 (w) or E-mail at
Denis.C.Chabot@usace.army.mil

Decembers' Timely Topic

Burj Dubai and "Building to Extremes"

By: Denis C. Chabot, PE
ENGI-NEWS Editor



It is a pleasure to see ECH present programs of such timely significance as was experienced in December. The Engineers Club showed the film *Building to Extremes*, with an excellently prepared update from Program Chair **Jonathan R. Duncan, PE**. The film was chosen, rather than a speaker, due to time constraints – although more importantly, ECH had the film in its library for several years, and with the recent order of eight more professional films, wanted to use it before it got “too stale.”

There was nothing “stale” about the film. What it presented was state of the art, and it just so happened that we showed it one month prior to the dedication of the Burj Dubai, one of the featured buildings the film illustrated under construction.

The \$1.5 billion “vertical city” was announced this week to be 2,717 feet high, twice the height of the Empire State Building. At the dedication, it was renamed the *Burj Khalifa*, after **Sheik Khalifa** of neighboring Abu Dhabi, following a financial “bail-out”. It is more than 1,000 feet taller than Taipei 101, another building detailed in the film, and which was formerly the world's tallest.

-Editor