

NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK

The National Society of Professional Engineers founded National Engineers Week in 1951. It's always celebrated at the time of George Washington's birthday. Our nation's first president was a military engineer and a land surveyor. The mission then, and now, is to increase public awareness and appreciation of the engineering profession.

Peninsula Engineers Council Annual Banquet

With Presentation of the 2010 Engineer of the Year and Doug Ensor Awards

Engineer of the Year



Dr. Christine M. Belcastro is the recipient of the 2010 Peninsula Engineer of the Year Award. She was nominated for this recognition by the Hampton Roads Section of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE).

Dr. Belcastro currently serves as Senior Research Engineer, Integrated Resilient Aircraft Control, Dynamic

Systems and Control Branch, NASA Langley Research Center. Dr. Belcastro has dedicated her life and career to improving aviation safety with a focus on reducing aircraft loss-of-control accidents. She has contributed to this endeavor both technically and through visionary leadership and has received numerous performance and achievement awards for her efforts throughout her career.

Dr. Belcastro has further demonstrated her dedication to promoting the advancement of engineering and technology by extending her services to industry and the community at the national and international level. She has authored or coauthored more than 50 technical publications and presentations for international conferences, workshops, and journals on aviation safety, and has organized numerous invited sessions on aviation for international conferences. She has also sponsored and provided technical mentorship for numerous contracted activities with academia that resulted in the award of graduate engineering degrees.

Doug Ensor Award



Mrs. Karen Poole Schmidt is the recipient of the 2010 Peninsula Engineer Council's Doug Ensor Award. She was nominated for this recognition by the Eastern Virginia Section of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

Mrs. Schmidt currently serves as an Engineering Manager for Propulsion

Plant Engineering Activity at Northrop Grumman Shipbuilding. In this role she is recognized as a key technical point of contact for heat exchanger maintenance in the Navy carrier community and possesses a broad working knowledge of steam propulsion plant operations and maintenance. She has become a focal point for the Navy community, including the Norfolk Naval and Puget Sound shipyards, for technical issues within her responsible systems and area of expertise. She has developed and conducted department-specific training and classes, mentored new engineers, and received several awards at Northrop Grumman for her leadership and problem solving skills, including a Timely Awards Plan (TAP) in 2007 for leadership. Mrs. Schmidt is a past Chair of ASME-EVS and continues to sit on the Board of Directors. Mrs. Schmidt is currently pursuing her Masters in Business Administration degree at the College of William & Mary.

Featured Speaker



Mr. Donner Grigsby is a NASA engineer and a Certified Information Systems Security Professional (CISSP). Among his many accolades are two Turning Goals into Reality Awards and the prestigious honor of being NASA Langley's Speaker of the Year in 2004, 2005, and 2006. He is one of only four people in the history of the agency to be inducted into the Speakers Bureau Hall of Fame. While working for the Ares I-X rocket's Systems Engineering and Integration office as the Assistant Chief Engineer, Mr. Grigsby helped prepare the flight test vehicle for its first launch last fall. This technology will eventually be utilized to replace the Space Shuttle, and is another step towards sending humans to Mars and beyond. Mr. Grigsby received a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Old Dominion University in 1995 and MS in Applied Physics & Computer Science in 2005 from Christopher Newport University.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2010 – POINT PLAZA SUITES AND CONFERENCE HOTEL,

950 J. CLYDE MORRIS BLVD, NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA

6:00 PM - Social Hour, 7:00 PM – Dinner, 8:00 PM Program

Menu: Petite Filet Mignon and Lump Crabcake or Chicken Oscar with Crabmeat or Vegetarian Pasta Alfredo. Special dietary meals are available upon request. Each entrée includes tossed salad, Chef's choice of vegetables, rolls, beverage, and dessert.

Tickets: \$45 per person. To purchase tickets, please contact either Fred Brown at 688-1621, William Henry at 380-4581, or your professional society's PEC representative.