



Travis Engineer

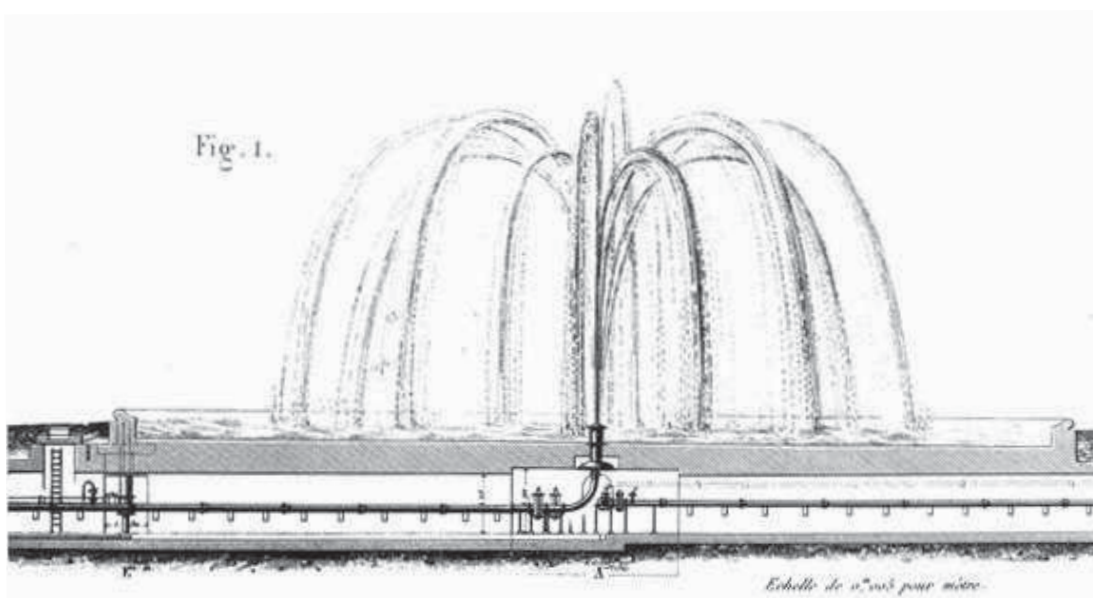
Newsletter of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers Travis Chapter

April 2007 Vol. 57, No. 4



Water Works

Henry Darcy and the Public
Fountains of Dijon France



Water Works Wonder

Hydrogeologist Patricia Bobeck recounts the fascinating story of Henry Darcy's pioneering effort to modernize the water supply system in the City of Dijon, France in 1840.

Patricia Bobeck, Hydrogeologist for the Texas Department of State Health Services, will be our guest speaker April 11 to present a fasci-



Patricia Bobeck, Hydrogeologist for the Texas Department of State Health Services and translator of Henry Darcy's *The Public Fountains of the City of Dijon*

nating account of the planning and construction of the City of Dijon's water supply system by Henry Darcy in 1840, including descriptions of the experiments that led to the formulation of Darcy's Law.

Henry Darcy's major publication *The Public Fountains of the City of Dijon* (France) is his account of the planning and construction of Dijon's water supply system in 1840. The book is famous for the description of the experiments that led to the formulation of Darcy's Law.

Prior to 1840, Dijon had a meager water supply consisting of water collected from rooftops and drawn from shallow alluvial wells located adjacent to cesspools. As a young engineer, Darcy calculated Dijon's per capita water needs, gauged all known springs and researched the surface water bodies near Dijon

prior to selecting a water source. Darcy determined that each inhabitant of Dijon needed 150 liters per day – 90 liters for domestic and industrial purposes and 60 liters for street flushing.

Darcy selected the Rosoir Spring, located 12 kilometers from Dijon, as the water supply source. He built an aqueduct, two reservoirs, a main artery to connect the reservoirs, ten distribution lines branching off the main artery, additional lines to connect the distribution lines to form a network, and 120 street fountains. The system is driven by gravity.

The street fountains provided free pure water for domestic purposes, street flushing and fire fighting for the city of 25,000 inhabitants. Darcy placed the street fountains 100

continued on page 3

Darcy's public fountains of Dijon, France

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meters apart so that no one had to walk more than 50 meters to obtain water. After 1840, Dijon ranked second only to



Henry Darcy

Rome in terms of water quality and quantity. The abundant free water led to a significant population increase in Dijon.

The aqueduct, reservoirs, and distribution system have been preserved. In 2006, two of Darcy's original fountains were discovered in courtyards of historic buildings.

This presentation will include material from Darcy's Public Fountains, a family biography, and photographs of present-day Dijon.

Patricia Bobeck works as a hydrogeologist for the Texas Department of State Health Services. She has a B.A. in French from Dominican University, M.A. in Linguistics from the University of Michigan, and M.A. in Geology from the University of Texas.

In 2004, the American Foundation for Translation and Interpretation awarded her the *S. Edmund Berger Prize for Excellence in Scientific and Technical Translation* for the English translation of Darcy's book.



Fountain at Place Darcy in Dijon, France. Photo by Peter Jensen / diff.net.

April Luncheon Program

Special Guest:

Patricia Bobeck

Hydrogeologist, Texas Department of State Health Services

Wednesday, April 11, 2007

11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Green Pastures Restaurant

811 W. Live Oak Street

Cost: \$20 per person with advance reservation;

\$5 for students and government employees

Reservations can be made by visiting www.tspe-travis.org

New Meeting Location and Date

Our monthly meetings are now on the second Wednesday of the month at the Green Pastures Restaurant located at 811 W. Live Oak Street in South Austin

The Public Fountains of the City of Dijon

Henry Darcy, 1856

English Translation by Patricia Bobeck

The Public Fountains of the City of Dijon

By Henry Darcy, 1856

English Translation by Patricia Bobeck

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Thank you

By Julie Hastings, P.E.

President, Travis Chapter TSPE

We're on the home stretch for the 2006-2007 TSPE year. Congratulations to the new officers! As we wrap up this year, I just want to take this opportunity to thank the 2006-2007 TSPE Board, Directors, and Committees for a great time. We had a successful year and we did it as a team. The new meeting location at Green Pastures is a positive change and I hope to see all of

you there throughout the next year. I'm also very excited about the reformation of the PEPP committee and look forward to all of the positive changes that it will bring about in the years to come. So, please come and join us on May 4 at Walsh Landing for the Officer Installation Banquet to celebrate past accomplishments and future endeavors. Cheers!

Election Results for Travis Chapter Officers for 2007-2008 term

The votes are in and our new 2007-08 Board of Directors are as follows:

President	Steve Roth, P.E.
President Elect	Kelly Barney, P.E.
Vice President	John Powell, P.E.
Secretary	Larissa Prince, E.I.T.
Treasurer	Rebecca Feldman, P.E.
Banquet Director	Chris Leal, E.I.T.
State Director	Dale Shumaker, P.E.
Alt State Director	Carroll Faulkner, P.E.
Past President	Julie Hastings, P.E.

The new officers will be installed at our annual Officers and Directors Installation Dinner on Friday May 4 aboard the Austin Party Cruise boat. For details about the dinner cruise, see page 7 of this newsletter.

About the Cover:

Photo of the Fountain at Place Darcy in Dijon, France.

Photo by Peter Jensen / diff.net.

Board Meeting Minutes

by Larissa Prince, E.I.T.

Below are the Minutes of the TSPE Travis Chapter Board of Directors Meeting held February 28, 2007:

Treasurer's Report

The meeting began with an update from Treasurer **Rebecca Feldman**. The concern was raised of how to bring money in to continue funding events like the summer picnic and MathCounts. It was decided that the chapter should look into forming a committee dedicated to fundraising.

Engineers Banquet

Next on the agenda was the fast approaching Engineer's Banquet set for March 3, 2007. Banquet volunteers are still needed for the day of the banquet for things like table decorations, programs, and the registration table. Some firms still need to submit their logos for the A/V slideshow. **Stephanie Stanford** volunteered to help set up the tables. **Ted Schoenberg** and **Rebecca**

Feldman will help at the registration table. All volunteers will need to be at the hotel by 5 p.m.

Officers Installation Banquet

The officer's installation banquet is set for May 4. Details of the event will be decided at the next board meeting. Nominations are needed for the board positions and the results will be announced at the next board meeting on March 28, 2007.

New Business

Julie Hastings provided a New Business update which included the possibility of forming a local LG&A committee. This committee would keep up on the latest engineering issues and make sure the chapter's voice on these issues is heard. The first issue on the agenda that the board would address is the changes in the City of Austin's contract for engineering services. A motion was made by **Stephanie Stanford** to

form a local Professional Engineers Private Practice (PEPP) committee to address regional issues affecting the engineering community. The motion was seconded by **Steve Roth**. All were in agreement. **Graham Moore** has volunteered to decide the structure and procedures of the PEPP committee.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 28, at the offices of Lockwood, Andrews & Newman, Inc., 10801 N. Mopac, Bldg 1, Ste 120.

Attendees

Julie Hastings, Stephanie Stanford, Larissa Prince, Kelly Barney, Rebecca Feldman, Steve Roth, Ryan Bell and **Graham Moore**.

ACEA hosts Infrastructure Design and Construction Symposium April 18 in Austin

By **Stephen Delgado, EIT**

The Austin Contractors and Engineers Association (ACEA) is hosting the Central Texas Infrastructure Design & Construction Symposium on Wednesday, April 18, 2007 at the Austin Convention Center. The purpose of the Symposium is to provide Central Texas infrastructure stakeholders a venue for open forum discussions and information sessions to address key issues and present the

findings to the ACEA for follow through with Central Texas cities, counties, and industry associations.

As a member of TSPE, you may register at a discounted price of \$125 since we are a co-hosting organization. Also, all licensed engineers will receive up to eight professional development hours (PDHs), including credit for the Ethics requirement.



Central Texas Infrastructure
Design and Construction
Symposium
April 18, 2007
7:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Austin Convention Center
To register online, go to
[www.aceatx.com/events/
symposium.htm](http://www.aceatx.com/events/symposium.htm)



TSPE State Happenings

“What is TSPE doing for me?”

By Julia Harrod, P.E. -
State Director, Travis Chapter TSPE

TSPE Stands up for Engineers

The TSPE Board of Directors approved taking the initial steps necessary for litigation to protect the practice of engineering against infringement by the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners (TBAE).

Recent actions by the architectural board and actions being considered by the TBPE/TBAE Joint Advisory Committee threaten to disenfranchise the legitimate practice of comprehensive building design by licensed architectural engineers — a practice that has been historically the purview of engineers. We have Professional Engineers that have been trained, tested and licensed to provide this service. TSPE is not

interested in shutting the door on these individuals or future generations of architectural engineers. On March 23, the TSPE board voted unanimously to support legal action to protect this area of practice.

Simplifying Dues

In an effort to simplify dues, TSPE is working with NSPE to roll out a uniform dues structure for all TSPE members. A task force has been assigned to look at uniform chapter and practice division dues for all Texas members — no more calculus needed to determine your fee! If each state pitches in and joins Texas in this effort, NSPE could realize up to \$1 million in savings. In true engineering fashion, NSPE currently

logs approximately 12,000 different dues structures — slowing down the membership computer program and often requiring expensive, time-consuming human intervention. The task force will present recommendations to the board at the June annual meeting.

PACE Fundraising Dinner

TSPE members will have the opportunity to participate in a PACE fundraising dinner on June 13 as part of the annual meeting. PACE is TSPE's Political Action Committee that supports candidates for office — this is the lifeblood of our ability to be effective in getting our voice heard on legislation. This is sure to be a well-attended event — look for more details in the TSPE magazine or contact Trish Smith by email at trish@tspe.org or by phone at the TSPE state office at (512) 472-9286.

PEPP Raises Funds for Legal Action

Professional Engineers in Private Practice (PEPP) members voted overwhelmingly to set aside funds for use by the Legislative and Government Affairs Committee to pursue legal actions to defend the legitimate practice of comprehensive building design by licensed professional engineers. PEPP members have expressed strong opinions concerning the Architectural Board's actions to redefine the practice of engineering.

Mission of Texas Society of Professional Engineers

In order to assist the engineering profession in its responsibilities to protect the public health, safety, and property, the Texas Society of Professional Engineers is dedicated to:

- ♦ Restriction of the practice of engineering to properly qualified and licensed persons;
- ♦ Maintenance and observance of high ethical standards of conduct;
- ♦ Support of high standards of formal educational preparation for the practice of engineering;
- ♦ Continuing professional development of members of the engineering profession;
- ♦ Focusing appropriate public attention upon engineering responsibilities and engineering accomplishments for the purpose of attracting qualified persons to the practice of engineering;
- ♦ Providing appropriate assistance to its members to facilitate the pursuit of their professional goals.

Travis Chapter Installation of New Officers and Directors

Friday, May 4, 2007
6 – 8:30 p.m.
Austin Party Cruises

\$40 per person

**Includes: 2-hour sunset cruise on beautiful Lake Austin
Austintatious Fajita Dinner
Beer, wine, margaritas, and a variety of other drinks
Casual attire**

Join the fun on the Celebration – a double-deck party boat with air-conditioned dining and bar area. The upper deck is for relaxing in the cool lake breezes and enjoying a scenic tour of Lake Austin and its majestic landmarks.

**Boarding at Walsh Boat Landing
(Intersection of Lake Austin Boulevard and Enfield)
Parking lot across from Walsh Landing**

RSVP by 5 p.m. Monday, April 30, 2007

www.tspe-travis.org

or email Julie Hastings at

www.jdhastings@lan-inc.com

or call 512.585.7408

Space is limited so early RSVP's are encouraged.





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