



April Luncheon Notice:

We are pleased to announce this month's guest speaker is Dr. David James of UNLV Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Dr. James will be speaking on the topic of "Brief History of the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire of 1906". The meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at Lawry's Prime Rib at 4043 Howard Hughes Parkway.



Dr. James is an Associate Professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He currently serves UNLV as Associate Vice Provost for Academic Programs. He has a PhD in Environmental Engineering Science from the California Institute of Technology. Dr. James is licensed as a Civil Engineer (CE #013388) in the State of Nevada, and has been a member of NSPE since 1998. He is currently Past-President of the southern Nevada Chapter of the Nevada Society of Professional Engineers and Director Auditor of the state organization.

Dr. James will be speaking on the topic of Brief History of the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire of 1906, describing the investigation of the earthquake and the response in California in terms of building standards.

The lunch will be held from 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. and the cost is \$25.00 for those who RSVP before 12:00 P.M. on Friday, April 11, 2008 and \$27.00 for those who register thereafter. If you would like to attend the April luncheon, please RSVP on the NSPE website <http://www.nspenv.org/south/lunch-rsvp.html> or contact Brook Demitropoulos at (702) 804-2042.

April Luncheon Sponsor:



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Save The Date:

NSPE will host an all-day PDH workshop on contracts for engineering services in early June 2008. The workshop will be sponsored by the Nevada State Board of Engineers and Land Surveyors. Ms. Christine Drage, of Weil and Drage, will lead the workshop. Come to this month's luncheon for a preview of what you might learn at the all day workshop!

Registration information will be available next month.

*Thank you* to Bill Valent and American Insurance & Investment Corp. for sponsoring the March luncheon. The NSPE Southern Nevada Chapter and our Officers are grateful to all the local companies like American Insurance & Investment Corp. who continue to support NSPE efforts. If your company is interested in being a sponsor in 2008, please contact Allen Pavelka at [apavelka@co.clark.nv.us](mailto:apavelka@co.clark.nv.us).

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## Calendar of Events:

| Date                  | Activity / Location   | Time      |
|-----------------------|---|-----------|
| Wednesday<br>04/11/08 | Final PE Exam at The Stan Fulton Building and the Reynolds Boy Scout Center | 8:00 A.M. |
| Tuesday<br>04/15/08   | NSPE Monthly Luncheon at Lawry's. Speaker Dr. David James of UNLV           | 11:30 AM  |
| Tuesday<br>05/20/08   | NSPE Monthly Luncheon at Lawry's. Speaker TBD                               | 11:30 AM  |

## MATHCOUNTS 2008:



The southern Nevada chapter just wrapped up the MATHCOUNTS program for this year. The chapter competition was held on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and the state competition took place on March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Clark County Government Center. Ninety local Las Vegas students from 14 middle schools participated this year in the competition with many more students involved at the school level. Twenty eight students from southern and northern Nevada competed at the state competition.

The chapter competition consists of written exams in which the students compete as individuals and as a part of a school team. The top three teams and the top ten individuals move onto the Nevada state competition to represent southern Nevada and to compete against the winners of the northern chapter. The top four individuals from the state competition represent the state of Nevada at the national competition to be held in May in Denver, Colorado.

One part of the competition identifies the top eight students and they compete in a gameshow/tournament style of head to head competition. Students buzz in as a math problem flashes on the screen. Many times the students are buzzing in with the correct answer as most adults are still figuring out the question!

Results of the state competition:

Top Individuals (1<sup>st</sup> Place through 4<sup>th</sup> Place): Anthony Fidaleo (Davidson Academy), Fangzhou Liu (Davidson Academy), Rhen Bruneteau (Del Webb), Michael Chen (Hyde Park). These students will compete as Nevada's team at the national competition. Rhen and Michael are from southern Nevada.

Top Teams (1<sup>st</sup> Place through 3<sup>rd</sup> Place): Davidson Academy, Del Webb, Hyde Park Academy. The coach of the Davidson Academy, John Fidaleo, will coach the state team in May.

Results of the chapter competition:

Top Individuals (1<sup>st</sup> Place through 3<sup>rd</sup> Place): Owen Stewart (Hyde Park), Luke Sanford (Del Webb), and Michael Chen (Hyde Park)

Top Teams (1<sup>st</sup> Place through 3<sup>rd</sup> Place): Del Webb Middle School (Coach Bob Greer), Hyde Park Academy (Coach Brandon Lawrence), and Bob Miller Middle School (Coach Ken Steadman)

Christine Smith of MWH served as both the southern Nevada and state Coordinator. She deserves a big round of applause for managing both competitions this year! Thank you's are in order for her entire committee and also to the following firms for donating Texas Instruments TI-84 calculators (\$150 value): Aztech Materials Testing, Black & Veatch, CH2M Hill, GC Wallace, GeoTek, MWH, and PBS&J. The calculators were raffled off to the students at the chapter competition.

## FIRST Robotics Competition:

The 2008 FIRST Robotics Competition FIRST OVERDRIVE was held March 26-29, 2008 at the Thomas & Mack Center. Forty-two teams from the region and even an international team came to compete. On Thursday evening, the 7PM show of the Blue Man Group was sold out by FIRST teams, UNLV representatives and local engineering people. The teams worked very hard to design some amazing robots to solve this year's challenge - OVERDRIVE. The competition was intense with lots of exciting matches! The reigning world champions from Cimarron-Memorial High School won the top two awards at the Las Vegas Regional event. Cimarron will go on to compete in the National Competition in Atlanta on April 17-19.

