

STC REGION TODAY

Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben Counties

New York State

Spring 2008

APPALACHIAN REGIONAL COMMISSION APPLICATION CYCLE BEGINS



Applications are due June 6, 2008 in the STC office for the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) 2009 funding cycle.

The allocation to the Appalachian Regional Commission for fiscal year 2009 has been increased from that of previous years, so this is a good time to submit an application!

The application form and guidance are available from STC by calling 962-5092 or e-mailing stcrpdb@stny.rr.com. Sponsors are advised to complete an application only after discussing it with STC staff. Those submitting construction projects should talk to Tom McGarry, Economic Development Coordinator, and those with non-construction projects should talk to Marcia Weber, Executive Director, although both staff members can provide information on the program.

“We want to discuss potential projects and the process with people ahead of time,” said Marcia Weber. “We like to review drafts before an application form is complete. There are many details that we discuss with applicants that will make their applications stronger.”

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STC's Annual Meeting

The recent groundbreaking for the expansion of Corning Incorporated's Sullivan Park Research Center brought Research and Development into the spotlight. The number of jobs to be created by the expansion and the potential for future business growth as a result of R&D made this subject, "Beginning the Next Century of R&D and Innovation at Corning," a timely and exciting one for the STC annual meeting.

Charles Craig, Vice President of Science and Technology for Corning Incorporated, was the keynote speaker at the STC annual meeting in February, and participants were able to hear first hand about the advances and inventions made by the Sullivan Park Research Center. The response was enthusiastic, even from those who claimed they don't usually understand science.

Officers for 2008 were elected by the STC Board at the annual meeting. They are:

Chair	Thomas Gifford
Vice Chair	Thomas Santulli
Treasurer	Carol Whitehead
Secretary	Marcia Weber

The completion and availability of the 2007 STC Annual Report was announced, and Marcia gave the Executive Director's Report containing highlights of the past year.

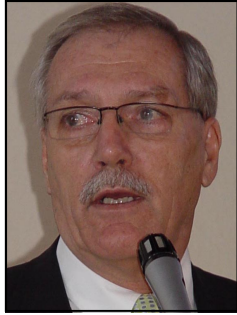
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This report has been funded in part by the following:
Federal agencies: Appalachian Regional Commission, U.S. Department of Commerce Economic Development Administration (EDA), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) through section 604(b) of the Clean Water Act (administered by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation), USEPA Chesapeake Bay Program, USEPA Watershed Initiative Program; and the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network Program.

Regional Leadership Conference Continues to Grow



Craig Rust,
President, Watkins
Glen International



Floyd F. "Bud"
Amann, President,
Corning Community
College



Thomas Santulli,
Chemung County
Executive

A total of 503 local officials, community leaders, presenters, and exhibitors helped to set a new attendance record at the 12th annual Regional Leadership Conference in April at Corning Community College (CCC). This year's theme was "Education Helps You to Think Clearly and Act Sensibly."

The day of learning and sharing kicked off with a welcome from Chemung County Executive Thomas Santulli, who represented this year's host county. Dr. Floyd F. "Bud" Amann welcomed everyone on behalf of the College. Craig Rust, President of Watkins Glen International, gave a very informative presentation on the operations, programs, and future plans for the racetrack, describing how they fit in with local planning.

A total of 32 classes and workshops was offered throughout the day on a variety of topics including community development grants, budgeting, effective meetings, shared municipal services, resources for small businesses, economics of windpower, rural road construction, SEQR, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), flood mitigation, and court clerk and justice topics.

A trade show and resource exhibit was held throughout the day; it included 22 companies and agencies with products and services for local government.

94% of Chemung County's municipalities were represented at the conference, with 141 officials attending; 54 Schuyler County officials attended, representing 92% of Schuyler's municipalities; and 208 Steuben County officials attended, representing 81% of its municipalities.

The conference attendees agreed that the information and contacts from the conference would be very useful for their work in local government. What they learn from the conference will be utilized in municipalities across the region.

Thank you to all the participants, presenters, exhibitors, staff and the Conference Committee. A special thanks to David Jordan and Daniel Wilhelm, who helped with registration, and Dennis Abbey, the conference photographer.



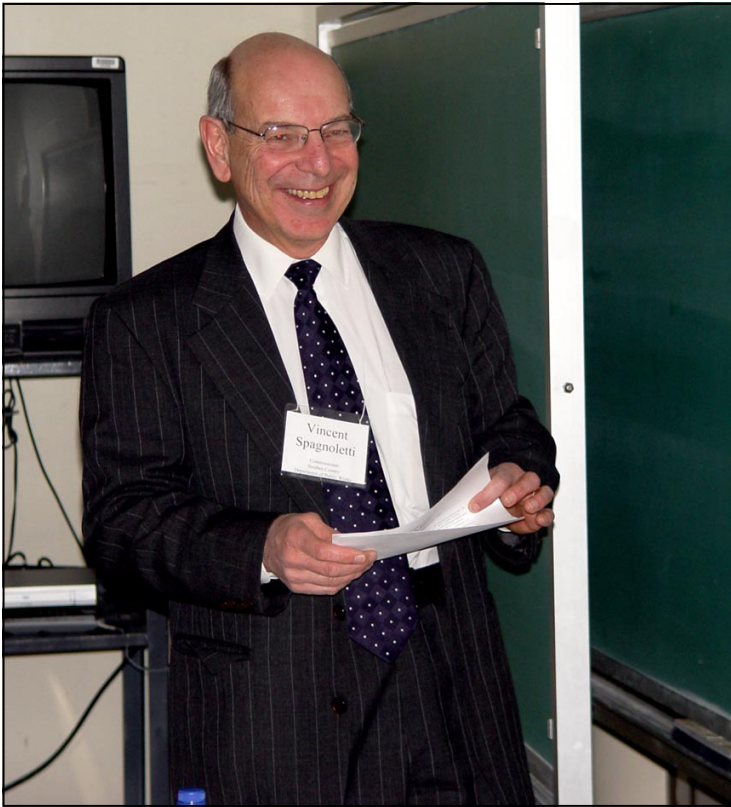
Sitting (left-right)- Susan Cratsley, STCRPDB; Shelly Jayne, Conference Assistant. Standing (left-right) Teresa Dean, Town of Big Flats, Daniel Wilhelm, STCRPDB, JoAnne Ridosh, Town of Elmira, David Jordan, Registration Assistant, Thomas McGarry, STCRPDB



Kyle Wilber, NYS Department of State and the State's Appalachian Program Manager, checks in at the registration table with Teresa Dean, STC Conference Committee Member/Town of Big Flats.

Sponsored by STC, the conference is supported, in part, through a grant from the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) and through donations from participating counties and agencies

Pictures of the Twelfth Annual Regional Leadership Conference



Vincent Spagnoletti, Commissioner, Steuben County Department of Public Works, presenting at the conference at one of the many classes.



Local government officials attend one of the many classes held throughout the day

Door Prizes

Jennifer Miller, City of Elmira - Gift Basket; Freda Feely, Town of Cohocton; Donna Kelley, V. of Montour Falls - Bottles of Wine; Mary Jessup, V. of Elmira Heights; Debbie Ammack, V. of Van Etten; Edward Reed, Town of Woodhull; Ann Sherwood, Town of Horseheads; Wes Strzegowski, Town of Erwin; Donna Wescott, Town of Caton; Michael Knopf, Town of Rathbone; Robert Green, Town of Ashland - Sweatshirts.

Photos courtesy of Dennis Abbey



One of the many companies and agencies that took part in the trade show

**Next year's conference
will be on April 9, 2009.
Be sure to mark
your calendars!!**

Water and Sewer Funding Workshops Announced

The 2008 NYS Water & Sewer Infrastructure Co-funding Workshop plus Individual Project Consultations will be held on the following dates: **October 7**, Holiday Inn Downtown Buffalo; **October 16**, Holiday Inn Utica Business Park (New Hartford); **October 29**, Queensbury Hotel Glens Falls.

The workshops, now in their fourth year, are designed for local officials, municipal planners, drinking water and wastewater operators, economic developers, public agencies, and consulting engineers. Registration is required for both the Workshops and Consultations. To register online visit www.nycofunding.org or register by phone at 1-800-882-9721.

Rural Stormwater Coalition

Individuals interested in promoting improved stormwater management practices in Schuyler and Steuben Counties and the non-urban areas of Chemung County have banded together to form a 3-county Rural Stormwater Coalition. The group's first project is a series of open forums entitled, "**Rural Stormwater: Why Does It Matter?**" These events are intended for municipal officials, particularly building officials, elected boards, Planning Boards, and Zoning Boards of Appeal. The goal is to improve understanding of drainage issues, the New York State Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities, and other tools for preventing local drainage problems. This training will be held on June 5 in Bath and on June 12 in Montour Falls (morning and evening sessions on both dates). Registration information is available at <http://www.stcplanning.org>.

STC involvement in the Chemung / Schuyler / Steuben Rural Stormwater Coalition is part of the new STC Rural Stormwater Program, funded by a NYS Water Quality Improvement Program grant. The objectives of this program are to provide individuals and municipalities with tools and information for improved management of surface runoff and prevention of drainage problems. Technical assistance includes public information, training, drainage system mapping, roadbank/road ditch erosion assessment, driveway standards, and internet access to map data. To join the Coalition, call Janet Thigpen, STC Flood Mitigation Specialist, at (607) 737-5271.



The Rural Stormwater Coalition is providing training and information to prevent and correct drainage problems, such as the one pictured here. At this site, near Lake Salubria, the Steuben County Soil and Water Conservation District and Town of Bath installed infiltration systems to replace failing drywells and improve local drainage patterns.

Flood Safety



Eagle Scout candidate Mike Hitchcock was interviewed after presenting the Town of Campbell and Steuben County with 39 signs warning motorists of the risks of driving on flooded roads. Two flip-down signs will be permanently located in flood-prone areas, and portable signs will be deployed where needed during floods. These signs may save lives.



Nearly half of all flood fatalities occur when people drive into floodwaters. They cannot tell how deep the water is or the condition of the road under the water. Most vehicles can be swept away by less than two feet of water. This photo was taken in the Town of Campbell, where Boy Scout Michael Hitchcock undertook a project to warn motorists about the risk of driving on flooded roads.

Earth Day and Rain Gardens

Catching stormwater in a raingarden is not only effective - it is beautiful as well. That is the message that staff Jennifer Fais took to the annual Earth Day Celebration at the Schuyler County Youth Center held April 26. She shared daylilies and information on rain gardens with people as she explained the need to slow down and infiltrate runoff to reduce impacts on the landscape. This outreach is part of the Chemung / Schuyler / Steuben Rural Stormwater Coalition's efforts to educate municipalities and residents about managing runoff. You can create a raingarden, too. Contact Jennifer for more information or visit the STC exhibit at the upcoming Finger Lakes Water Day festival (Champlin Beach Park, Hammondsport, June 1, noon-4 pm).



Jennifer Fais hands out daylilies to Nicholas Cratsley as they talk about raingardens during the annual Earth Day Celebration in Schuyler County

Other Upcoming River Events



Jennifer Fais enjoys festivities at the 2007 River Fest.

RiverFest 2008 will be held June 7 from 11 to 3 at the Grove Street Launch Site in Elmira. The Paddle will begin at Bottcher's Landing in Big Flats at 9:00 a.m. RiverFest grew out of a community visioning project about the Chemung River assisted by STC in 2002.



The Susquehanna Sojourn, a six day paddling excursion sponsored by the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, begins in Corning on Sunday, June 15. Afternoon events will include the Flood Warning Service open house, Sierra Club Water Sentinels water testing project and an introduction to geo-caching. Buy a ticket for dinner and join the Sojourners in Centerway Square for a kick-off program and music. After tenting on the Corning Fire Department grounds, the Sojourn will launch Monday morning to enjoy lunch provided by the Big Flats Lions Club at Miniers Field. The Grove Street Launch Site in Elmira is the destination for Tuesday which will end with dinner and a presentation on the Chemung River Comprehensive Master Plan. Wednesday, the trip proceeds to Wellsburg, then on to Tozer's Landing in PA. STC staff, as co-chair of the Chemung Basin River Trail Partnership, have helped organize the NY portion of this water education. Go to www.AllianceChesBay.com for complete details.

FINGER LAKES
WATER DAY
Sunday, June 1, 2008
12:00 noon to 4:00 pm
Champlin Beach Park, Hammondsport, NY
on the shores of Keuka Lake



This is the flip side of the special geo-coin to be given to "catchers" who find at least 12 of the 25 geo-caches placed along the Sojourn route. Coin design by Amelia Harnas.

Wind Power

The following excerpts from the NY Wind Power Education Project (WPEP) April 28, 2008 newsletter **highlight wind power projects and recent activities. STC works with the WPEP as part of our Wind Energy Local Government Support program.**

Howard wind hearing lightly attended

Fewer than 20 residents attended a Steuben County Industrial Development Agency (SCIDA) hearing held April 10 on a proposed PILOT Agreement with EverPower Renewables. The New York-based company is planning to build 25 2.5 MW wind turbines south of Howard, along County Route 27. Under the proposed 20-year PILOT plan, the Town of Howard will receive 24% of payments, the Canisteo-Greenwood Central School District will get nearly 60%, and Steuben County will receive the rest.

Invenergy Sees Ten Turbines In Canisteo

A potential wind project in the Town of Canisteo would likely include 10 turbines on Swale Hill, according to an Invenergy spokesman, who addressed the town board recently. Invenergy is also planning a 40-turbine project in the neighboring town of Jasper. The company has been testing the winds in both towns for about five years.

Prattsburgh May Use Eminent Domain

The Prattsburgh Town Council has voted to use the power of eminent domain, if needed, to ensure that wind farm developer UPC can run underground power lines needed to connect the 36 wind turbines it plans to install in the town. Of the 48 affected property owners in Prattsburgh, eight have not yet reached an agreement with the developer. The town is planning to schedule a public hearing within the next month on the subject of the proposed wind farm.

STC CONFERENCE GOERS LEARN ABOUT COHOCTON WIND PROJECT

Stepping in for an ailing Jim Sherron, Steuben County IDA Director, Mayor Jack Zigenfus gave the "Economics of Wind Power" audience a first-hand account of the wind project in the Town of Cohocton by detailing impacts on local facilities, taxes, and natural resources. He described in detail the hosting, security, permit oversight, road use and improvement, and other agreements forged by the town, county IDA, and others to ensure that the wind project not only benefits New York as a whole, but also the residents of the Town of Cohocton. The mayor invites everyone to see the turbines, expected to be in production in time for the Cohocton Fall Foliage Festival in October.

BOA Contracts Signed



Edward "Sandy" Franklin, Jr., Mayor, Village of Painted Post; David Erwin, Town of Erwin Supervisor; and William Cornell, Mayor, Village of Riverside, get ready to sign the BOA contracts assisted by STC staff, Jennifer Fais.

A \$50,695 Brownfield Opportunity Areas (BOA) Program grant has been approved for the Town of Erwin, Village of Painted Post, and Village of Riverside. The money will be used to complete Step 1, the Pre-Nomination Study, to lay the groundwork for designation of about 500 acres as a Brownfield Opportunity Area by the NYS Department of State and the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. The land with 26 brownfield sites and more than 50 underutilized or vacant sites is located at the I-86 / Route 15 interchange. STC will work with the communities to create a community vision and goals/objectives, better define the boundaries, study the existing zoning, land ownership, and natural resources, and prepare an analysis and recommendations. Contracts were signed by the communities during the April 30 Painted Post Forward meeting that began the intense community involvement phase of the project.

NYS EFC Newsletter

The NYS Environmental Facilities Corporation (EFC) published its first issue of the New York State Revolving Fund News. The newsletter addresses topics pertaining to the Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) programs including articles on financial innovations, M/WBE compliance and energy efficiency measures for drinking water and wastewater facilities. SRF News is sent via email to approximately 1,300 municipal officials around the state and is also available on the EFC website at www.nysefc.org or by calling (800) 882-9721.

Big, Bad & Blue



The sight makes many computer users tremble: the BSOD (Blue Screen Of Death). Chances are that if you've used Windows for a while, you have, at one point or another, encountered the BSOD.

The BSOD is one type of Windows error message. Unlike the error message shown in the last article, the BSOD is a full-screen error message. With its bright blue background and white text, the BSOD is hard to miss. Sometimes it signals that an individual program must shut down. Other times, the BSOD indicates that the error is so grave that the entire system must shut down.

The BSOD has existed in all versions of Windows including NT/2000/XP. These more recent OSes have an error message called a STOP message that looks similar to and has many of the same elements as a BSOD.

Various types of errors may cause a BSOD. For example, a bad device driver, a hardware conflict, or even an error in the Registry may prompt a BSOD. One of the most common causes of a BSOD is that Windows can't boot from the hard drive. Corrupted data on a hard drive can cause a BSOD, as can the installation of incompatible memory modules.

The most common type of BSOD is a fatal exception error, an error that forces the current application to shut down. This happens when an unexpected event, or exception, occurs. If no code exists to handle the exception, the program cannot proceed, and Windows will display a fatal exception error message. With so many possible causes, it helps to understand the parts of a BSOD and its language so you can diagnose the problem.

Type Of Error. The first part of a BSOD tells you what type of error occurred. In most cases, the error is a fatal exception error, an error so great that it requires that the offending program close.

Error Code. This two-character DOS code ranges from 00 to 0F. It provides further information about the type of error that occurred. In this example, 0D indicates a general protection fault, an error that is unique and does not meet the definition of any of the other fatal exception types.

Memory Address. This string of characters is the memory address. It tells you the precise location of the error in the system memory.

Location Of Error. Here, the BSOD tells you where the error occurred. In this error message, we can see that the problem occurred in a VxD (virtual device driver), a file that manages memory to ensure that programs don't access the same devices simultaneously.

Offending Device Or Program. This is the name of the device, program, or file that prompted the error. In this message, the BSOD tells us that the VFD (virtual floppy disk) caused the error.

Message Body. After the technical information, the BSOD briefly describes, in plain English, what action you should take (or what action will be taken automatically). In the pictured BSOD, because a fatal exception error occurred, the program cannot continue. The BSOD explains that the application will shut down.

Response Mechanism. Finally, the BSOD offers at least one response mechanism. In this error message, there are two response mechanisms. First, you can press any key to exit the offending program but continue working. This gives you a chance to save open documents before you restart your PC. Second, you can press CTRL-ALT-DELETE to immediately restart your PC.

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STC Has Successful First Data Management/Reporting Project

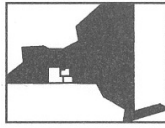


When the Town of Rathbone established a Comprehensive Town Planning Committee, the Committee mailed surveys to residents and property owners of the town to find out what issues were important to them.

STC's Accountant, Dan Wilhelm, set up a database and designed an input form to allow the quick and accurate recording of the data collected from the returned surveys. A Town of Rathbone volunteer was trained on how to easily analyze the data and create informative reports using Pivot Tables and Pivot Charts.

The survey and results of the analysis allowed the Committee to identify important issues, make presentations to the townspeople, and begin the task of addressing those issues important to residents and landowners.

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*resigned as of May 29