



April 2011

NEDEA NEWSLETTER

2011 NEDEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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IN THIS ISSUE

Chairman's Message	1
NED University News	1
Share with Us – Anis Paya's Mediterranean trip	2
5 Minutes with Afzaal Hafeez	4
NEDEA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes #4	5
Advertisements	6
NEDEA Calendar of Events 2011	7

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



I would like to start by paying my condolences to Tanweer Mallick, whose mother passed away on April 11, 2011. May Allah grant her Jannat-ul-Firdous and give patience to the family members (Ameen).

This month the new Board is conducting its first event, a Professional Seminar. All the Board members are working very diligently for the success of this event.

Also, I am pleased to announce that NED University Vice Chancellor, Engineer Abul Kalam, will be in the US during the summer of this year. He has accepted our invitation to visit Chicago to meet NEDEA members. We are planning to have a get-together with the Vice Chancellor on June 25th. You will hear more on this as we finalize this program.

Once again to our members/readers, please send us information that you would like to share with our membership.

Best wishes
Rashid Ahmed

NED UNIVERSITY NEWS

Spring Festival 2011



NED University held its Spring Festival 2011 on February 2, 2011. This festival becoming very popular and offers fun games, music, food, and many stalls of food and open to over 12000 students, faculty and staff members from 3 campuses of the university.



The VC, Engineer Abul Kalam, attended the festival with his family and stopped by at many stalls.

The celebrities invited this year were Ali Safina and Fahad Mustafa.



The event was sponsored by many vendors.

SHARE WITH US

Please send us the information that you would like to share with us. Examples are your vacation, wedding in your family, graduation of your children, job promotion, achievements, etc.

ANIS PAYA'S MEDITERRANEAN CRUISE TRIP (Thanks to Anis for sharing his Mediterranean Cruise experience with us)



All aboard - Venice (Italy)

Little story about our 8 day Mediterranean cruise last summer (a different experience than our Alaska cruise). Our first stop was Venice. It has a small airport and it was quiet easy to get through the city and reach the port. The port had lot of hustle and bustle and few other ships were also sailing that evening, but the arrangements were great. Our ship's name was **Costa Fortuna**, of an Italian cruise line. After spending two hrs in the huge hall and going through passport and documentation formalities, we started boarding the ship. It was a 16 story tall ship, like a 5-star floating hotel, 3200 passengers, 1300 crew, and 44 nationalities on board and here we go...depart exactly at 5pm. The views from the room balcony were great and the whole Venice was shinning with golden sun light. Soon it was dinner time. On cruise, the dinner time and tables are assigned

for the entire duration to accommodate thousands of passengers; these are elegant two hr long dinners and you meet people from various countries. Surprisingly, besides us, there was only one other desi family from UK and one from Jordan.

Bari (Italy)

Next morning, we docked at Bari, Italy. It is an important economic center of southern Italy with a population of about 300,000 and the Basilica of St. Nicholas and Cathedral of San Sabino were worth seeing. We took excursions trip to Bari with tour guide and strolled through the old town, narrow streets, hundreds of years old homes with balconies full of fresh flowers and a maze of zigzag streets. Very laid back town and even they pronounce it "Baaari", it is so nice to hear the word Bari from Italians. The buildings were not more than two or three stories and look like they dry their laundry in the balconies, lace curtains are common and older people sit outside their homes and take nap in the shade. You will feel like you have gone back in history, it was established in 3rd century BC.



Katakolon (Greece)

Our next stop was Katakolon, a small sea-side town in the south-western part of Greece. A very peaceful and quiet place with nice scenery. It was an hour bus ride to the famous city of Olympia, from where the Olympic Games started in 776BC. It was exciting to see the place, where even as of this date, the Olympic torch is ignited and then taken all over the world to its final destination.



Olympia



Olympia



Katakolon

Santorini (Greece)

Santorini is the last of the Cyclades islands to the South. Santorini (Thira) is the main island and around it Thirasia and Aspronisi and the two volcanic islands Palea Kameni and Nea Kameni. It was one island named Stroggili (circle in Greek) until about 1645 BC, when the volcano in the middle of the island erupted and Caldera was created. The two volcanic islands appeared much later from various eruptions starting from 157 BC until the last one in the 20th century (1950). The unique caldera, the energy and the beauty of the island are the most important reasons for being ranked as the top island in Europe and one of the once in a life time must see destinations of the world. It is pronounced as "Sundorini" by locals. The white churches with blue domes on the hill top are the most photographed place on earth.



Mykonos (Greece)

A very small but amazingly beautiful island to visit. The ship stayed a mile away in the water and we were brought to island in small boats. Fancy restaurants, expensive shops and one could imagine all the technology this tiny town has. Many artists have their own shops where they sell their art work. Also very famous for hand crafted jewelry. Virtually, every building was white here.



Lindos and Rhodes (Rodi or Rhodus) (Greece)

The ships tour bus took us to Lindos first. At the mountain top, you could see all the remains of the Roman city and enjoy the donkey ride through the narrow streets coming down the hill. A very serene and quiet place to be away from the world. From here, we went to Rhodes. This town was just 18 km southwest of Turkey in the eastern Aegean Sea. It was famous for Colossus of Rhodes (one of seven ancient



wonders of the world) which was actually a huge statue in the water to protect the town but destroyed in an earthquake in 226BC. Now only the foundation pillars are left. We were at our own here and we hired a taxi. The driver spoke good English in his Greek accent and showed us the entire town and the mountain top. He had an album with the history of Rhodes and Greece and would explain the structures with history.



Rhodes

Lindos

Dubrovnik (Croatia)

The beautiful walled city of Dubrovnik is located on the banks of Adriatic Sea and was founded in 7th century. It is one of the most popular tourist attractions. The interesting part was to walk on top of the city wall circling the old city. The architecture is marvelous and clear sky and blue waters around the city would make you wonder, why you are not settled here. After the breakup of Yugoslavia, it is a part of independent Croatia. The handicrafts and art work is amazing there.

Venice (Italy)

Well, after circling around the Mediterranean islands, we were back in Venice and stayed for another day there to visit the Morano (famous for Morano glass work) and Borano (famous for lace and crafts) islands via small boats. Both are beautiful towns and every house has a small boat. No trip to Venice is complete without the Gondola ride in the canals of Venice, which is actually composition of 172 islands interconnected via bridges. The interesting part was to take the water taxi at 4am in front of our hotel all the way to the airport. Kind of scary in dark rough waters, but made it safe and flew back to Chicago via Amsterdam.



5 MINUTES WITH AFZAAL HAFEEZ



Q. Tell us about yourself and your family.

A. Born and raised Karachi Pakistan; I am the sixth youngest of 7 siblings. My family migrates from India to Karachi during separation from India. I grow up in bureaucratic family. Married to Naheed with 3 children Adeeba (12), Saba (10), and Hayan (7)

Q. Why Engineering?

A. Mechanical engineering was my favorite, Second position in SIND Province Associated engineering in Mechanical after I joined NED.

Q. Which year did you graduate and what was your major?

A. 1984 Civil, NED Engineering University & Technology
M.S .Construction Managements & Materials, 1989 (Netherlands)

Q. Tell us about your professional life?

A. Construction management-Infrastructure engineer and buildings construction
Experience in Construction management, Engineering consultant and contracting Broad base.
Actively involve professional Activities, Engineering Council, Social networking, Past Chairman NEDEA and NEDEA Advisory Council. President IEC - Illinois Engineering Council • Founding Member Illinois Engineers Hall of Fame.
Founding Member and Member Steering Committee, United Power for Action & Justice
Member, Civil Right Committee in Department of Homeland Security.
Coordinator, Outreach Committee State Republican Party.
Ethnic Affairs Coordinator, DUPAGE County Republican Party.
Past Advisor National Public TV channel WTTW 11.
Currently President Illinois Minority Council

Q. If you had to choose another occupation, what would it be?

A. Politician

Q. Who was your favorite teacher at NED?

A. Dr. A.Q. Alvi and Prof. Fahim, Prof. Nauman and Dr ATA Khan

Q. Please recount some of your unforgettable memories while at NED?

A. University politics - teachers versus students, Industrial tour

Q. What are some of your proudest achievements in life?

A. Construction management build largest project in Illinois. Received Achievement Award from various organization
Including City of Chicago and IDOT. Various Mosque - provided construction service

Q. What do you like best about NEDEA?

A. Improve member's professional skill through professional seminar and certification and social networking

Q. What do you like to do in your spare time?

A. Social networking

Q. Describe your perfect day?

A. Every day is perfect day; working 7 days a week

Q. What is something about you that might surprise most people?

A. I was Pakistan government diplomat to European Countries

Q. Favorite food

A. Arabic food

Q. What is your favorite word?

A. Accept Challenge

Q. What is your least favorite word?

A. Prompt

Q. What advice can you give to our readers?

A. Be consistent in what you do and success will meet you, never give up on your goals in life. Participate in NEDEA activities
It's obligatory to the members.

NEDEA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES #4

DATE OF MEETING: February 20, 2011
DATE OF ISSUANCE: March 17, 2011
LOCATION OF MEETING: Ramada Inn, Glendale Heights

MINUTES BY: Rashid Ahmed

PARTICIPANTS:

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1. Call to order

- a. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Rashid Ahmed.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes #3

- a. Minutes of the meeting #3 reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Shahid, seconded by Bilal and the motion passed.

3. Meeting with Edmonds from PESA

- a. Group met with Edmond, who is a member of Philippines Engineers, Scientist, and Engineers Association (PESA) and helps associations to raise money by organizing the poker game. After the discussion, it was decided not to involve in this venture.

4. Professional Development

- a. Shahid mentioned that we have two speakers agreed to participate in our upcoming seminar "How to market yourself in tough economy." They are Shabbir Hassan and a representative from Sterling Recruiters. Shahid will check with Zafarul Azam.
- b. Shahid still waiting for a response from USGBC.

5. Social Affairs

- a. Board met Arif, Ramada Inn owner, and discuss in detail to finalize the following programs:
 - Picnic
 - Iftar
 - Annual Dinner

6. Next Meeting

- a. The tentative date for the next meeting is Sunday, March 20, 2011.

7. Meeting Adjournment

- a. Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

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Afzaal Hafeez

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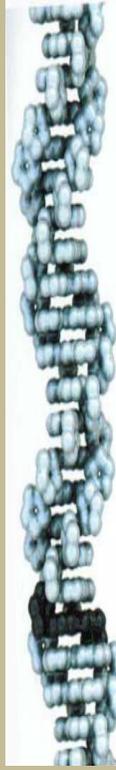
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NEDEA - CALENDAR OF EVENTS – 2011

Tentative Date	Description	Location	Time
Sunday 4/17/2011	Professional Seminar	Holiday Inn 17W350 22nd Street Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181	10:00 am to 1:30 pm
Saturday 6/25/2011	Meeting with NED VC Engineer Abul Kalam	TBD	TBD
Saturday 7/23/2011	Annual Picnic	Herrick Lake Forest Preserve Wheaton	1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
Saturday 8/20/2011	Iftar	TBD	7:00 pm – 9:30 pm
Saturday 9/10/2011	Cricket Game	TBD	11:00 am to 2:00 pm
Sunday 10/2/2011	Professional Seminar	TBD	10:30 am to 1:30 am
10/7/2011 to 10/9/2011	NED Alumni Convention	New Jersey	All day event
Friday 11/11/2011	Annual Dinner	TBD	7:00 pm – 12:00 am