

NED ALUMNI KONNECTION

In the name of ALLAH (SWT), the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

NED ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF TRI-STATE (NEDATS)

Message from the President

Dear NEDATS members,

Assalam-o-Allaikum,

NED Alumni Association of Tri-state (NEDATS) is proud and honored to host the 2011 NED Alumni International Convention at Hilton, Parsippany, NJ from 7-10 October. The convention was attended by more than 650 NEDians and their families from the entire US, Canada, England, Pakistan, professors from NED and Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations Mr. Abdullah Hussain Harroon. Participants from Alumni associations of Alberta, Chicago, Silicon Valley, New England, Washington DC, Southern California and Houston were also in attendance.

In this downturn economy it would be very difficult, if not impossible, to arrange such a large convention. We are extremely grateful to many, specially the Presidential Circle sponsors, Gold Sponsors, Silver Sponsors and various advertisers who made this convention possible and successful. We are also very thankful to the members of Board of Directors, members of Executive Committee and members of Steering Committee whose dedications and relentless efforts helped made this convention a memorabilia.

Several alumni have written us comments in a short and long form about the arrangement and the execution of the entire program stating from Friday evening to finishing on Sunday morning. If I can summarize all the letters in one word – it will be “amazing”. We sincerely thank to all of those who made an effort to write about the convention. We encourage you to visit our website to write your own comments.

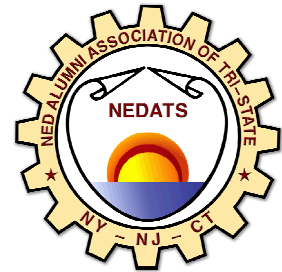
Some alumni especially those who have never attended any convention have a confusion that what is so unique and commotion about the convention and spending so much time and money does not worth it. The alumni who attended the conventions know very well that these conventions are not just party and entertainment but provide a huge networking platform and help forge the forces and success of NEDian entrepreneurs living in North America. In these conventions many make new connections, get new ideas, get jobs, start companies, make business partners and a few just have a good time. Some believe that there is no shortage of social events in your circle but everything fades when the bond of NEDians comes in to picture. Here they come to feel better, feel connected, feel important, feel young, feel inspired, and feel needed. Someone thinks that from here we cannot do anything for NED. I just want to quote from a NED visitor “the best thing NEDians could do is to bring the several thousand NEDian alumni together and connected. This will create the strength in numbers that is needed to bring any change”. Because of many advantageous and benefits number of attendees is increasing in every subsequent year.

As a foot note I just want to mention that because of the creation of NED Alumni Association of Tri-State (NEDATS) we are able to award scholarships with the donations of NEDian entrepreneurs to very deserving students either from NED or the descendant of a of an alumnus of NED. Last year we awarded four and this year we awarded five scholarships.

This year in the month of October, NED Alumni Association of Washington DC is hosting the convention. Very soon we will send you the details. We hope to see you there.

Jazakum Allaahu Khayran. WasSalam

Arshad Rizvi



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Convention 2011 Accolades

Afzal Hafeez Joint Treasurer, NEDIAN-NA
From Illinois, Civil (1984)

After attending this historical Convention we felt really good about the information and quality of the program.... Board has done an excellent job of organizing a high level program in a professional setting.

Thanks to the NEDATS TRISTATE Board for organizing this excellent Historical CONVENTION....

.... Some of us were skeptical about the purpose of NED Alumni Association NEDATS and NEDEA Chicago when it was formed; today's program could not have been done without this forum.

Tanweer Mallick Secretary, NEDIAN-NA
From Illinois, Civil (1979)

YOU HAD TO BE THERE..... YOU HAVE TO BE THERE!

Looking back at the seven NED Alumni Conventions in NA, the second best thing that happened, was the extension of the event into a three day gala. (The best thing was the establishment of NEDIAN – NA, NED International Alumni Network, the NEDian Alliance of NA).

What the Friday evening start of festivities did was provide an organized yet informal meeting time and place for NEDians. And the outcome was, well, Moving, Gratifying, Inspiring, Astounding, Amazing, Mind-boggling, Mind-blowing - some of the adjectives that come to mind, but do not come even close to describing how I felt about what I experienced and observed the evening of October 7th. I was truly over-whelmed. Indeed, the numerous sights of handshakes and hugs, of yells and screams, of roars and laughter..... was an experience that you can feel, not describe. It is not easy to explain – you can only be aware of it if you witness the zeal and fervor of NEDians meeting each other; the intensity varying of course with the distance they had traveled or the time that had lapsed between the last time they were together. But at the same time, when you listened to them talk to each other, you would not know that they had been separated by all these miles and years – as if their relationship was frozen in time and space. I met some fellow-NEDians after more than three decades, when our foreheads were smaller, much like our waist-lines. Notwithstanding the loss of hair and gain of pounds, you were reliving NED once again.....you had to be there!

And that was just the beginning.....there was a whole forty hours worth of celebration, jubilation and above all a feel good sense of camaraderie.....you had to be there!

Khawja Nizamuddin
From Illinois, Civil (1983)

.... We really enjoyed the proceedings of the Convention and your profound hospitality. We all here in Chicago know very well how much effort and dedication is required in putting together a Convention of this caliber and you came out with flying colors.

One thing I would like to mention is that the food at the Convention events was really extraordinaire par excellence. The elaborate menu of the Friday night reception was followed by an even more comprehensive menu on Saturday night where we were treated to a sit-down family style dinner. This was preceded by a hors d'oeuvre session which in itself was sufficient for a dinner. And all of this was topped off with a desi halwa puri, cholay style breakfast on Sunday morning.

An NEDian
From Pakistan

I am here from Pakistan. The pride I feel cannot be measured. What I take back is inspiration to make a difference and the realization that NED alumni are there for the young NEDians too

Salman Macktoom
From New York, Civil (1985)

.... It was simply a marvelous event, and had all the ingredients of glamour. This is what one really expects in such occasion.

This was first time my wife realized, what NED meant to me and as to why I use to recall all the innocent she-nanigans we use to do there beside our academic activities.

Ali Mallick
From New York, Civil (1981)

.... It was a great convention and perhaps the best so far. When the clock struck midnight, we lost all hopes that the trio of Zia, Alamgir and Ali were really coming and there was some buzzing that it was just a gimmick, but you guys were real and the trio showed up with immense entertainment that passed the allotted 2AM time by an hour and I heard you had to pay a price but you still continued with the show

NED INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI CONVENTION 2011

Friday, October 7, 2011 – Sunday, October 9, 2011

By Anas Hashmi, NEDATS General Secretary

The backdrop of 7th NED INTERNATIONAL ALUMNI CONVENTION was glamorous area of New York Tri-state, known for its excesses, excitement and high expectations. With an upscale Hilton Hotel in Parsippany, New Jersey defining elegance and grandeur serving as the center of its festivities, the stage was set for a rousing and memorable event.

It all started more than a year ago during the 2010 Alumni Convention in Chicago when NEDATS was given the task to host the 2011 Alumni International Convention in New York tri-state area. Since it was not an easy feat to arrange such an important event within just a year's time, NEDATS immediately started the work of meticulously planning the event. Convention committee and sub-committees were formed comprising of enthusiastic and energetic alumni who were eager to take the challenge and plan the event. In addition to meticulous planning associated with such events, the other important factor was to raise capital to fund specific activities as well as the entire convention. Businesses owned by NED alumni were approached for the raising funds (especially in Tri-State area), and as expected, they responded positively providing their complete support both financially and on the personal level.

After putting initial pieces in place, the exacting work started. Based on the maximum attendances in previous NEDATS events and NED Alumni International Conventions, number of attendees was estimated and logistics were planned accordingly. Soon after search for a hotel started which can not only accommodate the anticipated number of people but should also be befitting to the occasion. Gate fees were set and to increase the attendance set to a minimum by subsidizing the cost through generous sponsorships. In the months to follow program layout and its details were worked out. Sub-committees were assigned tasks and their progress is monitored and coordinated through executive committee to put a show which can set a standard for the future alumni conventions and shall be remembered for years to come.

The event was advertised months in advance and tickets were made available online. Even with very active effort and regular reminder to NEDATS membership and alumni all over North America, very few tickets were sold a month before the event. But as the event date came closer, the interest not only locally, but all over North America starts to heat up and in the next couple of weeks about half of the tickets were sold. The buzz of the convention now starts to reach every NED alumni household and two weeks in advance of convention, remaining half of the tickets were sold over a weekend. This caught the organizers as well as intended attendees by surprise.

Requests locally and from all over USA and Canada started to pour in for the tickets. Convention Committee stopped all its last two weeks planned preparation and for the next few days put all its effort to accommodate more fellow alumni and their families for the event. With restructuring contract and space with the hotel, about 30% more tickets were made available. But this last minute effort did not leave much time to generate more funds to subsidize the event tickets. As soon as the deal is finalized with the hotel, tickets were made exclusively available for the NEDATS membership initially and for the rest of alumni after couple of days. All newly available tickets were sold in next few days even on unsubsidized rate.

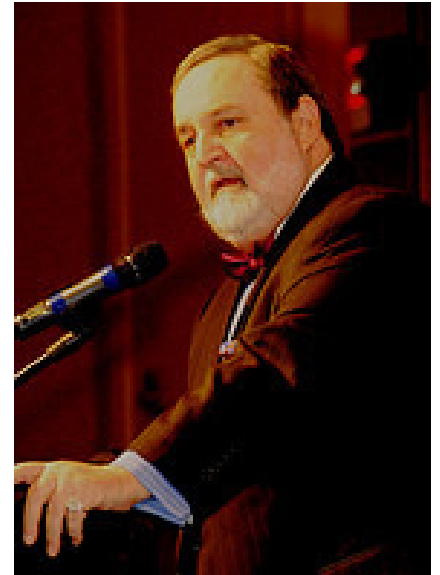
With everything set for the grand weekend of festivities, finally the date of convention arrived. Alumni and their families from far and near started to assemble at the venue. Friday evening meet and greet event was filled with enthusiastic alumni and their families. About 300 people were in attendance and were treated with excellent Pakistani cuisine and music performed by local talent. While the families were enjoying the performance of these artists, alumni were catching up with their friends in groups in the corridors and lobbies all around the hotel. The gathering continued late into the night and people dispersed only realizing the full day of activity is in front of them.

Saturday being the main day of convention was filled with day long activities. NEDians and their families started their day early socializing at the breakfast table. It only ended when the announcement was made informing the start of the conference. The conference began with introduction, followed by keynote speech on "*Energy Crises in Pakistan*". The speech covered different reasons and solutions to the problems faced by Pakistan in field of energy. It generated lot of attention and interest when it uncovers a detailed solar energy plan to make NED University capable of generating its own electricity. The keynote speech was followed by two panel discussions; first on "*Challenges and Rewards of Entrepreneurship*" and second on "*NEDians as a force for change in Social and Political Arenas*". Both the discussions were informative and kept the audience involved. The conference was followed by lavish lunch enjoyed by more than 300 people.

For the entertainment of families and visitors from out of state, trips were arranged for New York City and nearby Short Hill mall. For people who do not want to go outside the hotel premises, a Meena bazaar was setup at the hotel. It comprised of stalls from local businesses offering clothes, jewelry and other items of interest.

Continued to Page 6

Memories from Convention 2011



Memories from Convention 2011



Convention Report

Continued from Page 3

As the families retreated for the afternoon respite, NEDians found time to sit in the company of their fellow alumni and talked about the carefree and wonderful days spent at NED University. It seemed that no one wanted to return to their rooms and wanted to enjoy each and every moment.

The main event was scheduled for Saturday evening. With all tickets sold in advance, 650 alumni and their families attended the event. Well before the start time of 5:30 PM, formally dressed guests started to populate the lobby area designated for hors d'oeuvre. As far as one can see, colorful and cheerful crowd can be seen having a wonderful time. It only disassembled to move to the main hall where the main evening program was organized. The program started with Quran and welcome from the organizers. Presidential sponsors spoke few words about the importance of alumni organizations and gatherings of this kind. It was followed by a powerful speech by chief guest, *Abdullah Hussain Haroon* - Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations touching the sensitive nature of US - Pakistan relation. Next twenty some minutes, *NEDian Ashraf Habibullah*, CEO of Computer Systems Inc. entertained everyone with his distinctive style reminding them of the fun filled days of NED. Sumptuous sit down dinner followed with presentations for achieve-

ments provided the break between speeches and entertainment portion of the evening program. After few songs from talented young artists, *Zia Mohi-uddin* graced the stage. For full one hour he mesmerized the crowd with his readings, creating a pin drop silence, entertaining people familiar with his excellence and astonishing the first timers. *Muhammad Ali Shehyki* and *Alamgir* came next and with their popular songs from the past took the crowd well into the night when it all ended around 3:00am.

On Sunday, alumni and their family met for one last time at breakfast before heading their directions. To delight of all, traditional Pakistani halwa puri was on the menu. More than 200 people were on-hand and they talked about the thrill and excitement of prior evening. Everyone was impressed with the organization and was generous in their comments for all the arrangements made for the convention. The convention committee thanks guests for coming and making the convention a success.

Those who value and cherish their past, their fealty to their class, friends and alma mater will always be drawn to attend these annual NED alumni conventions and reunions. It is always a joyous and emotional experience. It is a time for renewal and strengthening of our attachments and reliving of our gloried past and feeling vindicated that we have not screwed up our lives after all.

Nedian Axiom #6

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PROFILE

MUHAMMAD IZHAR, PE- PRINCIPAL OF SI ENGINEERING, PC (SIE) and CO-FOUNDER

SIE was established in 2003 in New York & New Jersey. Now celebrating its 8th anniversary, SIE has established itself among the top M/D/WBE firm and is a leading provider of engineering, design and construction management services in the region.



Mr. Izhar holds bachelor degree from NED (Class of 1986) and master degree in Construction Management from New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) (Class of 1989).

Mr. Izhar is a licensed professional engineer in NY & NJ. He has over 22 years of diversified experience in design and construction management of transportation and wastewater projects. Prior to co-

founding SIE, Mr. Izhar served as a project engineer & supervising engineer in private and public sector respectively.

Note from NEDATS: The organizing committee inadvertently missed the profile of Muhammad Izhar from the souvenir.



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NEDATS EVENT CALENDAR

Date	Events
Sunday, January 15, 2012	NEDATS Annual Dinner Scholarship Distribution
May 2012	Mushaira & dinner
Whenever Available	PE Credits
September 2012	General Body Meeting Eid ul Fitr Party with musical night
Friday, October 12, 2012 - Sunday, October 14, 2012	NED Alumni Convention in DC
December 2012	Deadline for Scholarship
December 2012	Scholarship Award Announcement
Sunday, January 13, 2013	NEDATS Annual Dinner Scholarship Fundraising and Distribution

ICA 2012 DC

8th International Alumni Convention



October 12th to 14th, (Friday to Sunday) 2012
Sheraton National Hotel, Arlington, VA

CONTACT US

Website

<http://www.nedats.org>

Email

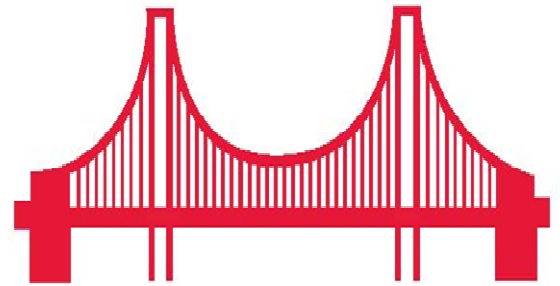
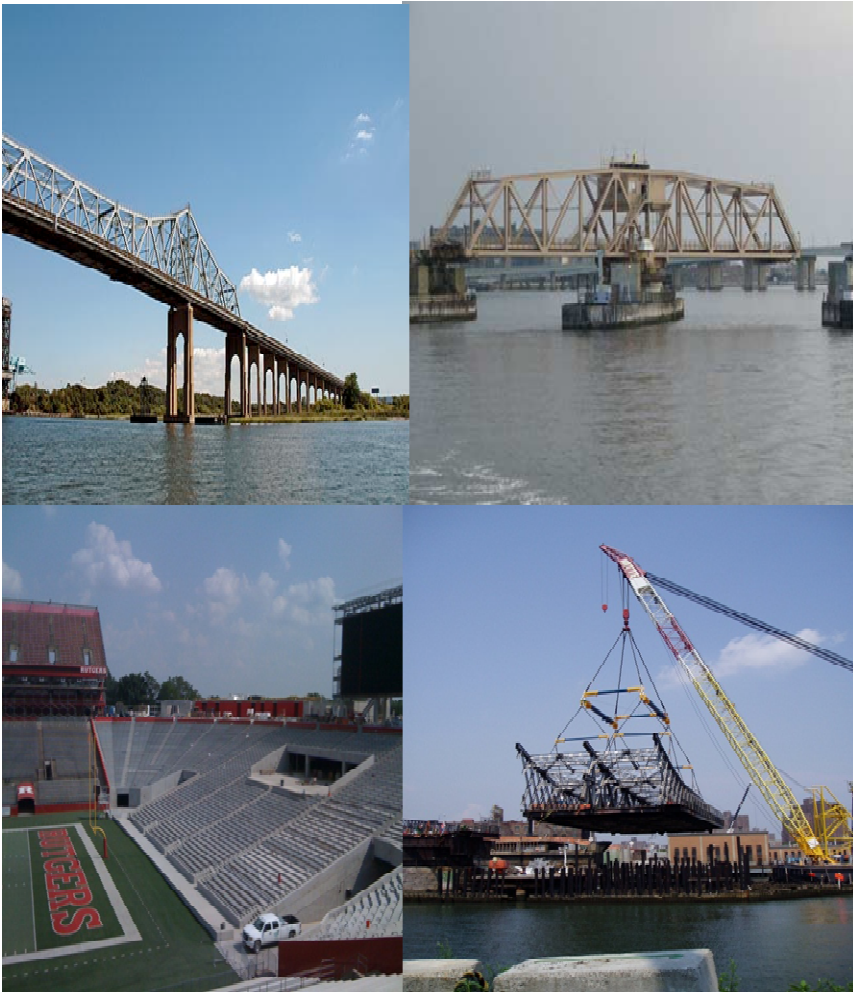
info@nedats.org

Phone

Arshad Rizvi/Shakeel Ahmed
(732) 354-1NED [1633]

Postal Address

4 Vanderwater Ct,
East Brunswick, NJ 08816



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