



NEWS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 25, 2015

Contact: Bill Spratley
(614) 985-6131
bill@greenenergyohio.org
www.greenenergyohio.org

Green Energy Ohio Statewide Conference at OSU

Advancing Ohio Green Energy Conference, GEO 15th Anniversary Banquet, Spring Tour, Awards Reception, Electric Vehicle Tour del Sol Cruise-In on Saturday, May 2nd at Fawcett Center

Columbus– The public is invited to join Green Energy Ohio (GEO) on Saturday, May 2 to learn about Ohio renewable energy and energy efficiency at five events at the Fawcett Center, 2400 Olentangy River Road, Columbus on the Ohio State University campus. The agenda and event registration fees are on-line at: <http://bit.ly/1HfmSSst>. Megawatt Sponsor for the event is **Hecate Energy** and Green Star Sponsors are **Energy Optimizers, USA** and **Solar Power & Light**.

The day's events kick-off with the **GEO 2015 Spring Tour & 4th Annual GEO EV Cruise-In** from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon. Up to 30 registered participants using carpools will form at 10:00 am in the parking lot of the Fawcett Center to visit OSU CAR (Center for Automotive Research) where solar arrays charge electric vehicles (EVs). The second tour site will be the OSU Solar House near the 4H Center.

For the fourth year, GEO and Clean Fuels Ohio are teaming up to provide free rides in electric vehicles (EVs) via the **EV Tour del Sol**. To drive or ride in an EV, individuals must sign up at the GEO table in the Fawcett Center Parking Lot and present a valid driver's license and sign a waiver of liability form. Participants may ride and drive EVs from 11:00 am to 12:00 Noon on a first come, first serve basis.

The **Advancing Ohio Green Energy Conference** from 1:00 to 5:30 pm at the Fawcett Center will feature 18 expert speakers on energy efficiency, solar, wind and policy issues including a Green Expo Trade Show. Speakers from the following Ohio firms include: Advanced Distributed Generation LLC; Blue Rock Station; DiPerna Economic Advisors, Dovetail Solar & Wind; Eco-Engineering; Energy Optimizers, USA; Hecate Energy; Nextronex, Inc.; Panich Architecture; SolarVision, LLC; Third Sun Solar; and Ohio organizations: City of Cincinnati Office of Environment & Sustainability; Cuyahoga County Dept. of Sustainability; and Ohio Farm Bureau Federation.

The **GEO Awards & Networking Reception** following the conference will be held from 5:30 to 7:00 pm at the Fawcett Center at the Green Energy Expo. The GEO Annual Recognition Awards for 2014 are announced today below.

The Saturday activities wrap-up with the **GEO 15th Anniversary Banquet** from 7:00 to 9:00 pm Featuring Keynote Speaker **David Wilhelm**, Partner & Chief Strategy Officer for Hecate Energy in Columbus, Ohio. Banquet tickets are available through April 28 at: <http://bit.ly/1IWlrv0>.

Announcing the GEO Annual Awards. Special guests will receive the "GEOs" – the Annual Awards of Green Energy Ohio at the 5:30 – 7:00 Reception at the Fawcett Center on May 2nd.

These annual awards recognize 2014 contributions that individuals, business and organizations that have significantly promoted and utilized Ohio green energy. Awards are presented to:

GEO Pioneer of the Year 2014 Awards:

David Panich, Panich Architecture, *Framingham, Massachusetts*
John Witte, Advanced Distributed Generation, LLC, *Maumee, Ohio*

GEO Businesses of the Year 2014 Award:

Key Bank, *Cleveland, Ohio*
Motorcars Honda, *Cleveland Heights, Ohio*

GEO Ohio Clean Energy Community of the Year 2014 Awards:

Ansonia Local Schools, *Darke County*
Mississinawa Valley Schools, *Darke County*

GEO Nonprofit Group of the Year 2014 Award:

The Westcott House Solar House, *Springfield, Ohio*

GEO Public Official of the Year 2014 Award:

Kevin Moyer, Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, *Toledo, Ohio*

GEO Volunteer of Year 2014 Award:

Dick Radosevic, *Canton, Ohio*

GEO Board Dedicated Service 2014 Award:

Jim Gravelle, Gravelle Communications, *Hilliard, Ohio*

GEO Board Dedicated Service 2014 Award:

Emily Sautter, GEO Wind Program Manager, *Cincinnati, Ohio*

About Green Energy Ohio (GEO)

Green Energy Ohio (GEO) is a nonprofit organization that promotes economically and environmentally sustainable energy policies and practices in Ohio. GEO conducts public outreach on all forms of renewable energy, serves as the Ohio American Solar Energy Society (ASES) Chapter and provides a statewide commercial solar thermal rebate. To learn how renewable energy can work for you, visit www.greenenergyohio.org.

Editor's Note: Following are brief descriptions of the 11 "GEOs" – the 2014 GEO Annual Recognition Awards. Also see the current and past 15 years (2001-2014) GEO Awards at: www.greenenergyohio.org/page.cfm?pageID=4115

Green Energy Ohio's Annual Recognition Awards for 2014



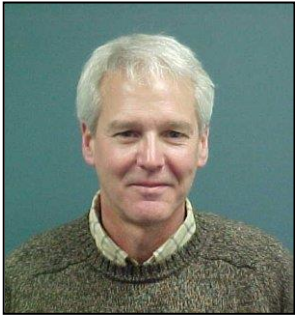
PIONEER OF THE YEAR

David Panich

Architect David Panich has been involved with solar since the mid-1970's, designing and developing residential and commercial buildings that utilize passive solar and energy conservation measures. Before becoming a GEO Board Member and chairing the Membership Committee from 2007 to 2012, David participated on the local organizing committee for the 1984 National Passive Solar Conference of the American Solar Energy Society (ASES) in Columbus, Ohio. He actively supported GEO's bid to bring the 36th ASES National Solar Conference to Cleveland in July 2007. David served on the National Organizing

Committee for SOLAR 2007 attended by 5,000 people in downtown Cleveland and hosted locally by

GEO. Today, David is Chairman of the ASES Board of Directors and lives in Framingham, Massachusetts where he inspires solar development on a national basis. David remains a registered architect and was founding partner for 29 years in the firm of Panich + Noel Architects (P+N) in Athens, Ohio. David is a 1971 graduate of the Ohio University College of Architecture and is a member of the American Institute of Architects.



PIONEER OF THE YEAR

John Witte

President, Advanced Distributed Generation LLC

John Witte is the founding partner in Advanced Distributed Generation (ADG), specializing in the design and installation of photovoltaic systems. ADG has installed over 150 PV systems with a total rated capacity of 6.5 megawatts. ADG is one of 13 original industry partners of the Center for Photovoltaic Innovation and Commercialization at the University of Toledo and a member of the Ohio Advanced Energy Business Council. Through these professional affiliations, ADG is working toward lowering the cost of installed PV by standardizing design and construction practices.

John Witte has 35 years of experience in the solar industry. John has a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering and Bachelor of Science in Construction Management. He is NABCEP certified for PV and solar thermal installations. Mr. Witte is a member of Great Lakes Renewable Energy Association's Professional Certification Board, and is an ISPQ Certified Instructor for Photovoltaic Classes.

In 1999 John Witte, working with members of the GLREA and armed with a generous donation from Detroit Edison started installer training in Michigan. As a new member of the GEO board of directors, John started working with Bill Spratley and other Ohio installers on bringing PV design and installation training programs to the state. In 2000 John helped GEO receive a \$90,000 grant from the Ohio Department of Development to design and implement a program to train and certify PV system installers. The first class for installers was held at Owens Community College in Toledo in 2001. Ohio manufacturers, installers and generous individuals donated money, equipment and their time to set up the hands-on laboratory. Owens has continued to update their facilities with new components and the program has evolved into an undergraduate option for individuals interested in a career in alternative energy.

In 2000 John Witte and partner Mark Tuttle introduced the Ohio Army National Guard to solar for battery maintenance and in 2008 ADG installed the first large scale grid connected PV system for the Ohio Air National Guard at the 180th Fighter Wing west of Toledo.



OHIO CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR

Ansonia Local Schools

Ansonia Local Schools signed a Power Purchase Agreement with Sunlight Power, LLC in November 2011. This agreement incorporated a 486 KW solar array on the roof of our K - 12 facility at no cost to the district. The project incorporated almost 2,000 solar panels and twenty miles of wiring to complete the project. The agreement provides for a fixed electric price to Sunlight Power to be adjusted every five years. The agreement will provide the opportunity for students to learn of renewable energy through a Solar Education Center, provided by Sunlight Power. The district has reduced the demand charge, prior to the project from 600 to now at 400. The use of solar power and the reduction in our demand charge has resulted in an annual savings of \$50,000 per year the last two years.

Ansonia Local Schools also partnered with Clean Fuels Ohio for a Department of Energy Clean Cities Grant. Ansonia Local Schools was awarded \$246,784 to repower four diesel buses to compressed natural gas. The project began in 2010 with the first Compressed Natural Gas bus being repowered in the spring of 2011. The money also paid for engineering expenses, construction costs, electrical upgrades to our transportation facility, along with a compressed natural gas filling station. “We are excited about saving fuel costs for the district, while at the same time providing for cleaner emissions with our bus fleet,” said Superintendent Jim Atchley.



OHIO CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITY OF THE YEAR

Mississinawa Valley Schools

Mississinawa Valley Local Schools entered into a Power Purchasing Agreement with Solar Power & Light for a 622kW ground mount solar field. The project has approximately 2,000 solar panels. The installation of the solar field was completed by TMI Electrical Solutions. The project came online April 2015. The district will see immediate savings as the power purchasing rate is significantly lower than our current electric rate. Mississinawa Valley Local Schools anticipates an annual electrical savings of \$50,000 - \$75,000, once the current demand rate is reset.



NONPROFIT GROUP OF THE YEAR

The Westcott House

Frank Lloyd Wright’s Westcott House in Springfield, Ohio partnered with Norwich University in Vermont to bring a Solar Decathlon House to the museum campus, where it now offers a conversation piece for Frank Lloyd Wright aficionados who are visiting the historic site. Moreover, it operates as a model home and a learning lab for area schools. The non-profit Westcott House opened their Solar House for the 2014 GEO Fall Tour and hosted a meeting of the GEO Board of Directors there several weeks later. The Solar House

was also the cover for the Fall 2014 GEO News Magazine Tour Preview Edition. Through series of design education activities, the Westcott Center for Architecture + Design intends to engage the public in a dialogue about sustainable practices, and gain a better understanding of the opportunities for community improvement presented by creative and innovative design. More information about touring both structures can be found at westcotthouse.org.



PUBLIC OFFICIAL OF THE YEAR

Kevin Moyer

Executive Director, Energy Efficiency & Alternative Energy, Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority

As Executive Director – Energy Programs, Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, Kevin has lead the Port’s team through the start up and implementation of energy efficiency and alternative energy financing for commercial and public markets. The Program is utilizing a new community development and financing tool “PACE” which stands for “Property Assessed Clean Energy”. Through a local Energy Special Improvement District, all types of building owners can complete improvements to their buildings that extend property economic life, reduce energy consumption and incorporate renewable energy. Energy and operational savings provide building owners the confidence to commit to projects and achieve sustainable energy transformation with 100% of the project cost funded at attractive fixed rates for up to 20 years. Conveniently repaid through a special assessment on the property, energy savings of 20% to 50% or more can be achieved. To date over 100

projects have been completed on over \$30 million of project value gaining the program state and national recognition from the Department of Energy, PACENow and Council of Development Finance Agencies. Kevin's presentations at GEO events in recent years have helped take the PACE message to new audiences across Ohio. Kevin enjoyed a successful 25 year career with Dana Corporation in structured finance investment, global operations and business development.



BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

KeyBank

presented to Joe Paterniti, Vice President, KeyBank

KeyBank supports Ohio home and business owners by investing in energy efficiency and renewable energy. More than 200 projects are financed by Key Bank across the state and KeyBank continues to provide the expertise and guidance that helps their customers. Key Bank was a sponsor of both the GEO Spring Event and GEO Fall Tour in 2014 helping finance solar homes across Ohio. Since 2007 KeyBank has invested in renewable energy with a portfolio of nearly more than \$2 billion supporting more than 6,300 MW of renewable energy capacity. This investment can power more than 2 million homes and makes Key

one of the largest lenders to the wind and solar sectors among U.S. banks.

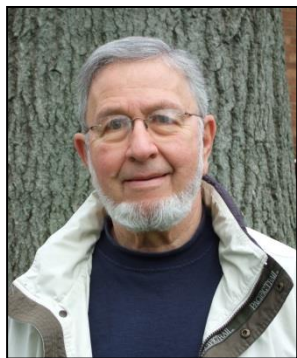


BUSINESS OF THE YEAR

Motorcars Honda

Motorcars Honda in Cleveland Heights, Ohio has installed a state-of-the art 335 kW solar canopy system for their dealership. This is the largest single covered solar structure at a dealership in the country. The canopy structure itself was made of 80% recycled cars and will serve to protect cars from the elements. The Solar World panels will create enough

clean energy to avoid 600,000 pounds of carbon dioxide from going into the atmosphere every year. As real champions in promoting and implementing sustainability and energy efficiency throughout their businesses, Motorcars Honda has also participated in many workshops and speaking engagements in Northeast Ohio promoting sustainability, renewable energy and efficiency.



GEO VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

Dick Radosevic

Dick Radosevic has organized the GEO Solar Tours in Stark County since 2009. The tours have showcased solar, wind and energy efficiency technologies employed by a variety of homes, schools, businesses and public places including the McKinley Museum, the Stark County Wilderness Center, Stark State College, the University of Mount Union and the American Municipal Power facility at Beech City. Dick sees the annual tour as a great educational event and tries to provide people with a “real world” picture of the advantages and conditions that can make renewable energy work for them. To this end, each year Dick and his

team of volunteers provide an all-day guided tour that begins with an overview of all the technologies they will see that day. During the bus ride between stops they discuss what they just saw and more information is provided about the next stop. At each open house stop, there is a tri-fold poster for each technology at that location with detailed information about that technology. To advertise the tour, 100 posters and 800 flyers are distributed to libraries, schools, public businesses, recreational facilities and churches. Also, press releases are sent to local and nearby news outlets. For the 2014 GEO Tour, Dick added an “Electric Car Show, Ride & Drive Event” on Sunday afternoon. For 2015, he hopes to have the electric car event precede the GEO Solar Tour by a couple of weeks to help advertise the tour.



GEO BOARD DEDICATED SERVICE AWARD

Jim Gravelle

Gravelle Communications

Completing three terms (2009-2015) as the longest-serving President of the Green Energy Ohio Board of Directors, Jim has also participated in GEO's Central Ohio Clean Energy Networking Meetings since he joined the Board in 2003. The GEO staff has frequently relied on Jim's journalism background for media advice as Jim has faithfully contributed each quarter to the President's Message in the *GEO News Magazine*. In the corporate business world, Jim was director of communications for the Lazarus division of Federated Department Stores and director of corporate communications in the eastern United States for Green Mountain Energy Company of Austin, Texas. Jim has 40 years of experience in news reporting, corporate communications, marketing, political campaign strategy and government relations. His professional tenure includes being press secretary to four, Ohio Attorneys General, director of communications at Federated Department Stores and, for 18 years, president of Jim Gravelle Communications. Jim is also immediate, three-term past president and chairman of the board of Earth Share Ohio. Jim and his wife of 39 years, Columbus Dispatch City Editor Carol Ann Lease, live on a small farm near Hilliard where they rescue thoroughbred racehorses and retire them.



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING STAFF SERVICE

Emily Sautter

Wind Program Manager, Green Energy Ohio

Emily Sautter has provided dedicated service to Green Energy Ohio as a volunteer, technical advisor, program manager and non-profit educational specialist for the past eight years. This award recognizes her competent service that citizens across Ohio relied upon to assess wind resources and install wind turbines based on her research. Her technical skills now contribute to GEO's credibility more than ever. Emily started with GEO as a volunteer in early 2007, conducting wind data analysis using skills learned from a B.S. in Meteorology from the Ohio State University. Emily assumed a full-time position as Wind Projects Coordinator in the summer of 2008, and in September 2010, was promoted to Wind Program Manager. Beyond analyzing wind speed data, Emily has written data summary reports and performed economic feasibility studies for GEO's wind monitoring sites. She now helps to facilitate GEO's outreach and education programming, fundraise, and perform market research (including gathering data on the 25 largest solar PV arrays in the state for publication in the *Green Energy Ohio News Magazine*).