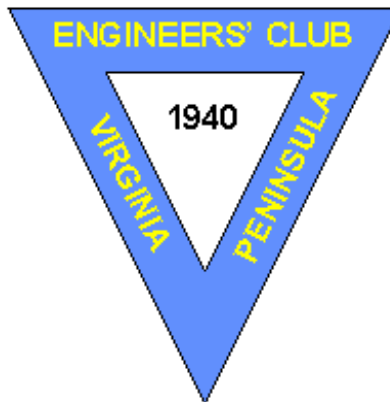


# THE ENGINEERS CLUB OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA



[khoffman@pcs.cnu.edu](mailto:khoffman@pcs.cnu.edu)

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## 1998 ANNUAL KICK-OFF MEMBERSHIP MEETING

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### **SPEAKERS :**

- Various ECVP members

### **TOPICS :**

- Our club's purpose and its structure

### **LOCATION :**

- Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock
- Executive Dining Room
- 41<sup>st</sup> Street and Washington Ave.
- Building 520, Sixth Floor
- Newport News Shipbuilding & Drydock

### **TIMES :**

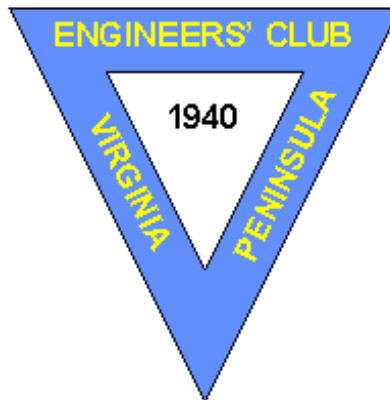
- 5 - 7 Social Hour
- 7 - 8 Speakers

### **MEAL :**

- Cocktails and Heavy Hors D'oeuvres

### **RESERVATION DEADLINE :**

# THE ENGINEERS CLUB OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA



<http://www.pcs.cnu.edu/~khoffman/ECVP/>

[Contact the ECVP secretary at khoffman@pcs.cnu.edu](mailto:khoffman@pcs.cnu.edu)

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## "ORGAN & TISSUE BANKING ACTIVITIES"

*Wednesday, November 12, 1997*

**Tour:** *LifeNet (about 1 and a half hours).*

**Topic:** *Organ and tissue recovery agency.*

**Location:** *LifeNet (for address contact Ron Harvey).*

**Times:** *1 PM at Montgomery Wards parking lot of Coliseum Mall to car pool by 1:15 PM.*

**Meal:** *Members will have dinner at a local restaurant.*

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### **Reservation Deadline: November 10**

Ron Harvey 249-2322 (h)

Abe Leiss 877-2939 (h)

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- SEPTEMBER 14, 1997

**RESERVATION CONTACTS :**

- Ron Harvey 249-2322 (h) 864-2973 (o)
  - Abe Leiss 877-2939 (h) 989-0188 (o)
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## ENGINEERS' CLUB OF THE VIRGINIA PENINSULA

### SUMMARY OF NOVEMBER MEMBERSHIP MEETING

#### (VISIT TO LIFENET TRANSPLANT SERVICES, INC., VIRGINIA BEACH, VA.)

Fifteen ECVP members and guests traveled to LifeNet Transplant Services, Inc. at 5809 Ward Court in Virginia Beach on the afternoon of 12 November 1997. Carpool transportation was provided by Doug Ensor and Everett Skipper. LifeNet Transplant Services is a non-profit, independent agency dedicated to the recovery, preservation, and distribution of organs and tissues for transplantation. The group was greeted at 2:00 PM and given an orientation briefing by Ms. Becky Lawson, Public Education Coordinator for LifeNet. LifeNet is an OPO (Organ Provider Organization)--one of five in the state of Virginia, and is the designated OPO for eastern and central Virginia. It is also the only Tissue Bank in the state. About eighty percent of Lifenet's business is in tissues, and twenty percent in organs. Ms. Lawson's briefing also included time for questions and answers; there was much discussion. Among the points she made are the following:

- Organs are only harvested after brain-death
- From some 25,000 brain-deaths each year, only 5,000 have designated their organs for gift.
- In the USA, the doctrine of Informed Consent applies; in other parts of the world, Presumed Consent applies in most cases.
- Beyond 75 years of age, donated organs are usually used only for research.
- Lung and heart transplants must be made within 4 hours; kidney transplants can be made up to 36 hours.

Following her orientation briefing, Ms. Lawson guided us on a tour of four departments at LifeNet.

Quality Assurance (QA) Division: Linda Wiese described the QA function, which is mainly focused on extremely thorough review of donors' medical records prior to their acceptance. For example, HIV or AIDS automatically disqualifies a donor.

Client Services Department: This department "takes orders" and maintains lists of orders for organs and tissues.

Musculo-Skeletal Division: Mark Connally, Processing Supervisor, described the procedures for handling bones and tissues; fresh-freezing and freeze-drying procedures are used. Several bagged samples were available for inspection. Removal of bones (usually femurs) and skin (mostly from back or buttocks) is performed at the hospital; the tissues are then brought to LifeNet. Thus, there are no "bodies" on site. Each body can provide up to 50 skin grafts or 150 dental bone implants, helping up to 200 people. Cobalt irradiation is used to treat the samples. The terms Autograft (use of a person's own tissues) and Allograft (use of tissues from another body) were defined. This division processes tissues from around twenty donors each week. "Shelf life" of these tissues is from 2.5 to 5 years.

Human Heart Valve Storage Department: Derek Nolf described the procedures for handling human heart valves. Bagged samples of healthy and diseased heart valves were passed around. We were able to see operations being performed in the clean rooms. The precisely documented valves are stored on racks in LN<sub>2</sub> dewars. LifeNet is one of the very few facilities in the country where the valves are size-sorted for children and adults. Discarded samples are used for research.

The tour concluded around 4:20 PM. Some of the tour members got together for dinner afterwards.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Richard E. Davis  
Recording Secretary, ECVP