



As part of Detroit SPE's Christmas Toy Donation Project, these girls each received a plastic car through the Lions Club. They returned the gift with their bright smiles! See story inside this month's newsletter.



Don't miss this year's AutoEPCON.
See <https://www.eiseverywhere.com/home/143053> for details.



Please join us in support of Detroit SPE's Education and Scholarship Program at the 2016 Material Auction, Friday, April 1st at the MGM Grand Hotel & Casino from 4:30-9:00 pm. Please see our website for updated information. <http://spedetroit.org/>



TRENDS & TOPICS



President's Message

Dr. Adrian Merrington
Midland Compounding and Consulting
President

It's that Time of Year Again...

As I write this note, it's early December. Thanksgiving is a joyful memory, and I'm looking forward to seeing family and friends over the Christmas and New Year's break. For those of us who administer volunteer organizations, it has become almost as traditional to take the time to look at the year's accomplishments as it is to watch the Lions and Cowboys play (and usually lose) football.

As 2015 comes to a close and we look forward to the New Year, I find myself now in that role. This is a little odd given SPE's fiscal year starts in July. Nevertheless, I'm happy to play along as the Detroit Section has provided me with a lot about which to be proud.

I spent considerable time in my last newsletter article describing the activities and accomplishments of our educational outreach and in particular, the successes of the Education Committee. As we continue to expand our educational outreach, I can only thank the continued efforts put forward by the members of that Committee. Student Chapter

liaisons, Plastivan visit organizers, Essay Contest judges, and Scholarship Committee evaluators have all been very busy this year.

I also can look back with some satisfaction at the effort of the teams that put on our two internationally renowned conferences: AutoEPCON and the TPO conference. The numbers of attendees for the TPO conference continue to reach unprecedented levels, and the success is leading to involvement in developing a similar conference for the Chinese market. AutoEPCON continues to grow in numbers and helps cement our standing as a premiere conference producer. The continued success of these conferences is a prime focus of SPE Detroit this year.

Our award-winning Communications Committee continues to provide exemplary product for our membership. The fact that they continue to be "award-winning" should emphasize that point. Our website, newsletter, social media, e-blasts, etc. continue to flourish at getting our message out to our membership and the general public.

Those who organize our social activities continued doing a phenomenal job this year. We had our kick-off meeting at Kettering University and were treated to a great tour of the Polymer Processing Lab. A month later, we toured Ferris State's Plastics program to compare and contrast. A trip to Linear Mold & Engineering completed this fall's technical dinner meetings. We have tours of Vantage Plastics and Midland Compounding & Consulting already lined up for early next year. The Material Auction is also scheduled for early next year. As a great night out, an opportunity to help fund some of our educational programs, and land some bargain prices on donated resins, this night should be on your calendar. The team that puts on the event works throughout the year to solicit donations and plan the night. The team that puts on the golf outing works hard to ensure a successful day.

Then of course there are the people who work hard at some of the back-room tasks; invisible to our membership but necessary for our Section's survival. Our Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Emeritus Board members and of course the wonderful Karen Rhodes-Parker who makes my role much easier.

Given the time of year, I want to emphasize the efforts of one of our volunteers. As a father, I'm always thoughtful that there

are some children who may not be as lucky as ours. Dawn Cooper has taken on the activity of organizing our annual toy donation. This year, your Section donated 31,920 toys to help make the holiday's a little more fun for some local children.

I'm grateful to be part of this team that successfully continues to grow our Section. I look forward to what we can accomplish together next year.



Coming Events

January 25, 2016
Future City Competition
Suburban Collection, Novi, MI

April 1, 2016
Detroit Section Material Auction
MGM Grand, Detroit, MI

April 11, 2016
Technical Meeting & Tour
Vantage Plastics, Standish, MI

May 10, 2016
Auto EPCON
Detroit Marriott, Troy, MI

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SPE's Toy Donation Project



American Legion
Santa's Breakfast

Dawn Cooper, Inside Sales/Product Development at Uniplas (uniplasinc.com) has worked tirelessly for many years on SPE's Toy Donation Project which produced and donated 31,000+ toys this year to the area's needy children.

Once again Chevron Phillips Chemical donated the necessary materials, Maple Press of Troy donated the labels, and JK Transport of Plymouth donated the transportation. The concentrate, packaging and production were handled by American Plastic Toy Headquarters in Walled Lake and its manufacturing facility in Rose City.

Children received the toys from a number of local agencies and groups including: the United Way, the Romeo Lions Club,

the Engineering Society of Detroit, the American Legion Hill Gazette Post 143 in Auburn Hills, and Sgt. Santa (WWJ, Detroit Police Department, and Salvation Army.) Other smaller organizations received donations, too.

As Detroit SPE's Public Interest Chair, Dawn coordinates this entire project in her "spare" time, as well as being instrumental in our successful Material Auction and Golf Outing. Without her generosity of spirit and talent Detroit SPE would certainly be a lesser force in our community, in plastics education, and in the plastics industry.

Thank you, Dawn!

Linear Mold & Engineering Technical Dinner Meeting Highlights



Linear Mold & Engineering began in 2003 filling the automotive industry's need for rapid tooling. They currently operate in Livonia with combined space of 57,000 square feet, employing 130+ employees. They are known for their customer service approach which generates repeat and word-of-mouth business that has led to their growth. Linear specializes in tool design, rapid prototyping, and has very successfully ventured into additive manufacturing. Please see their website at <http://www.linearmold.com/engineering/> for more information.



Linear Mold & Engineering President, John Tenbusch, receives a thank you plaque from Bob Petrach on behalf of Detroit SPE.



Election of Directors for 7/2016 to 6/2019

Irv Poston – General Motors (retired)

Nominations are open through January for three-year term Directors of the Detroit Section. If you are interested and willing to serve on the Detroit Board, or if you know someone who is, please contact Irv Poston at 248-646-9574 (ieposton@juno.com) or Nippani Rao at 248-444-1753 (nippanirao@aol.com). Ballots will be emailed to members early in March and will be due by March 31.

Current Detroit Section Directors who will be continuing in the 2016-2017 year will be Marc Bahm, Pete Grelle, Wayne Hertlein, Todd Hogan, Norm Kakarala, Steve Keinath, Gary Kogowski, Sandra McClelland, Adrian Merrington, Tom Pickett, Irv Poston, Ron Price, Tom Powers, Nippani Rao, Chris Surbrook, and Bill Windschief plus Officers elected by the current Directors from the current Directors.

Please consider making a nomination, and by all means vote!



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Technical Meeting Programs

**Bob Petrach – Safety Technology International
SPE Detroit Secretary and Technical Program Chair**

Dear Detroit SPE members, Sassan Tarahomi and I are working to fill the calendar. Our next confirmed tour is April 11, 2016 at Vantage Plastics. I only have one other tour I'm working on for early 2016 so if you have any suggestions, please step forward, contact me robertpetrach@aol.com.

Since the last newsletter, we had two very successful "technical dinner meetings".

October 26 we met at Ferris State University. We had a great program hosted by Bob Speirs about the plastics program at FSU and sponsored by Chase Plastics. We also had Dave Chase – Sales Representative, Chase Plastics, Dave Davis-Sales & Marketing Manager, MacLean Fogg, Engineered Plastics Company (both proud FSU grads) and Sassan Tarahomi-Engineering Manager, N.A., IAC share with the students how SPE membership built on their education and helped them integrate that education with successful careers in plastics through further education and networking.

November 9 we were hosted by Linear Mold & Engineering, in Livonia for a tour and presentation. John Tenbusch, President, gave the presentation and led the discussion about the cutting-edge, state-of-the-art work they are doing producing a variety of metal parts as well as mold details incorporating conformal cooling and mold components that would

be difficult or time consuming to machine using additive manufacturing processes. He was supported by Chris Jastrzembksi, Additive Manufacturing Account Manager and Kristen Eisiminger, Marketing Manager. We also had great audience participation including four University of Michigan students. During the presentation John encouraged questions, and we had a lively discussion of the current and future states of additive manufacturing, and how it is revolutionizing design as well as material use.

Again, our next scheduled tour is April 11, 2016 at Vantage Plastics in Standish Michigan. Please RSVP for that by sending an email to Ms. Karen Rhodes-Parker at karen@spedetroit.com

And please suggest (or help schedule something) in January, February, or March. Remember SPE Detroit now covers the geographic area from southwest Ontario into the Upper Peninsula covering most of Michigan. We are open to events in that entire area and want to offer events to all our members, but we need your help. Also remember EVERYONE is welcome at Board meetings (February 1, March 28, and May 9) just RSVP so Karen can plan the meal accordingly.

2015 - 2016 Detroit SPE Board Technical Dinner Meetings / Tours

Date	Event	Location
January??	TDM / Tour	OPEN to suggestions
February 1, 2016	SPE Detroit Section Board Meeting	ACC
February??	TDM / Tour	OPEN to suggestions
March??	TDM / Tour	OPEN to suggestions
March 28, 2016	SPE Detroit Section Board Meeting	ACC
April 11, 2016	Vantage Plastics tour	Vantage Plastics, Standish MI
May 9, 2016	SPE Detroit Section Board Meeting	ACC
May 10, 2016	2016 Auto EPCON	Detroit Marriott -Troy, Troy
May 23 - 25, 2016.	ANTEC® Indianapolis	
June??	TDM / Tour	usually we don't have one in June but why not?
June 20, 2016	SPE Detroit Section Planning Meeting	TBD
June 21, 2016	SPE Golf Outing	Bay Point Golf Club, 4001 Haggerty Rd. West Bloomfield, MI
Exact date is TBD	Technical Program	Board / Planning Meeting



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JUNE
21



SPE DETROIT **Annual Golf Outing**

June 21, 2016



Bay Pointe Golf Club

4001 Haggerty Rd. West Bloomfield, MI

For more information see our website: spedetroit.org

Reserve your spot: Contact Karen Rhodes-Parker - email: karen@spedetroit.com
Phone: 248-244-8993

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We need sponsors for the **Trends & Topics** Newsletter!

To reach our members SPE Detroit Section distributes an electronic Newsletter 6 times a year. All ads are full color and copies of the newsletter are posted on the Detroit Section website. A limited number of copies will only be printed to promote the section at various shows.

Acceptable file formats for advertising include:

- Portable Document Files (PDF) *preferred*:
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- Photoshop *.tif Files:
96 – 100 DPI resolution, RGB color model.
- JPG Files:
Low to medium resolution, RGB color model.
- Adobe InDesign CS 5 Files:
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If any other formats are to be submitted, please contact Jim at Maple Press, 248.733.9669, fax 248.307.0819, or orders@maplepressprinting.com.

In addition to the ad, Sponsors of PC level and greater, will have the opportunity to publish a press release once per year.

Note: Artwork approved for your first newsletter is the artwork that will be used for the entire year.

Please contact , **Chris Surbrook** at 989-495-9367, or 989-205-6960
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Advertising rates are based on a 6 time run starting in September.
Please email or call for information on other Sponsorship opportunities or less than full year rates after October 1st.



e-Communications

Irv Poston – General Motors (retired)

Your One Stop Shop!

The SPE International website at www.4spe.org has a treasure trove of information and resources. It is constantly being updated to provide you with everything that you need to be successful in the plastics industry. Direct links are provided to **The Chain** and to **Plastics Insight**. The website works well on mobile devices as well as PCs and Laptops.



From the Home Page, you can easily go to the many webpages and details. For example:

- **Events** includes a monthly calendar with links to specific events
- **Membership** includes extensive member benefits
- **Leadership** includes the ByLaws and Policies
- **Resources** includes Jobs and Career Solutions
- **Communities** includes Divisions and Sections, like Detroit
- **Foundation** includes PlastiVan and Hands On Plastics (HOP)
- **Corporate** includes Opportunities and Sponsorships

Detroit Section conferences (AutoEPCON and TPO) are two of the three Corporate Sponsorship examples. The other one is the SPE ANTEC.

In addition, the Home Page gives information on soon-to-come events, current news, and technical resources.

All Divisions and Sections have individual webpages so you can see what is going on around the world. The **Detroit Section webpage** can be found by navigating through Communities and Sections. It has links to our Newsletters, News Briefs, and key Officers; and it has a link to our local website spedetroit.org.



Detroit Section
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