



The

SPECTRUM

MIAMI VALLEY SECTION
SOCIETY OF PLASTICS ENGINEERS

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MARCH MEETING INFO

WHY YOU NEED TO PARTICIPATE WITH OSHA!

When the SPE announced that we were having OSHA come to a meeting, the general comment was "no one will show up!" That is the wrong attitude! The industry (SPI) has worked with OSHA to define and clarify rulings and acts that in (our) industry terms were counter-productive or just wrong. People in general just don't understand the plastics industry. Most people you talk with, this weekend at the Expo at Fairfield Commons Mall is a good example, assume plastics plants are "just like all factory work, dull dirty shops with a poorly educated workforce." We as an industry have an above average (education) workforce, retrain and educate within and produce a greater number of different parts for more different industries than any "traditional" factory. Sure you may say you have a few employees that aren't the sharpest tacks in the box, but overall as an industry we do have higher educated personnel, and more training is available. How many glass, steel, automobile production jobs have a two and four year degrees? How many colleges and university degree programs provide an automobile production degree, steel processing degrees, how to mine coal 101? None!

Do not be afraid of OSHA. We will not give them the names of all attending the meeting! We won't give them a list of plants in the area. They are coming to provide us with information we can use to better our workplaces and correct ahead of time any problems that may come into question. See you all March 6th!

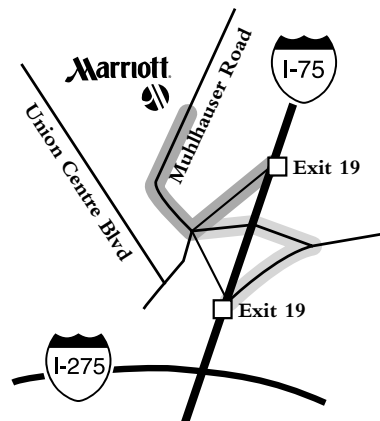
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The screenshot shows the Miami Valley Section website with a contact form. The form includes fields for Name, Address, City, State, Zip, E-mail, and Member ID. There are also checkboxes for 'I am a new member' and 'I am a returning member'. A 'Submit Information' button is at the bottom.

Miami Valley Section

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☐ I am a new member
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Mar. 6	Cin./Marriott Union Centre Taking the fear out of OSHA
April 3	Dayton/Alex's Student Night/Economic Development
May 1	Plant tour Comet Automation - weigh blenders, loaders, dryers, conveying equip.
June 9	Golf outing Hamilton Elks
June 22-26	Chicago NPE'03

MEETING NOTICE DETAILS

MEETING DATE: March 6, 2003
Advance Reservation required by March 4, 2003
To reserve, call or fax:

Dick Hauck	Mickey Brandon
Cincinnati	Dayton
513-871-5544	937-890-7834
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MEETING AGENDA - MAR. 6, 2003

Board Meeting.....	4:30 - 6:00 pm
Networking	6:00 - 6:30 pm
Dinner	6:30 - 7:30 pm
Program	7:30 - 8:30 pm

MEMBERS \$20 NON-MEMBERS \$25 STUDENTS/RETIREES \$10
MEMBERS \$25 AT THE DOOR WITHOUT A RESERVATION

*We are now taking VISA and MASTERCARD
for registration and other events*

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Frank Maus

This month's meeting is especially interesting, and important. We want to provide:

- ★ A way to ask important questions to OSHA in a positive environment
- ★ Knowledge of improving the safety of your employees, co-workers, and yourself

Everyone in the plastics industry is concerned about safety. Loss of employee productivity, fines, insurance costs, and liabilities are all reasons to care about safety. Caring for others is the biggest motivator, and our industry has consistently shown that concern. Putting this into perspective, it is probably the most important topic we could address.

The meeting will be a good opportunity to learn and ask questions. To keep it a very open environment, we will be offering a couple of changes. We typically provide name badges. This month, feel free to simply put your first name on the badge, or not wear one at all. We will also handle the introductions in an appropriate manner to not reveal company information to the OSHA representatives. OSHA has also assured us that this is strictly an informative meeting, and they will not be looking for companies that would warrant further interest.

We certainly appreciate OSHA's interest and support. They have shown a positive effort in improving worker safety. We hope you use this opportunity to improve the safety in your workplace.

JANUARY MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Dan Tomo, Frank Maus, Dick Hauck, Ken Lewis, John Pierce, Jack Bell, Dean Kroger, Mickey Brandon, Bob Rajkovich and Don Keyes.

Treasurer's Report: Renewed the CD for 3 months at 1%. We need to get people to sign up for the e-newsletter instead of the hard copy to save money. National asked us to take half of our rebate in January and the other half in June. Concerning newsletter ads- there are still about \$1000 outstanding.

Minutes: Approved with corrections to Glenn B. name.

Awards: Mickey and Frank need to get together on the Awards.

Education: Don Keyes has received one letter of recommendation so far. All of the advisors have had the applications since November.

Golf Outing: Elks have contacted Dan and they have assured him that everything will be taken care of. The contract will be firmed up in February. The Elks now have a new Golf pro and Dan has talked to him. June 9th is the day of the golf outing.

House: 25 confirmed reservations for tonight.

Membership: 2 new, 2 transfer in, 2 transfers out and 2 renewed for a total of 382 members. The National Society membership was down to 20,000 members at the end of December. At one time the membership reached a high of 32,000.



IT: It was discussed that the website needs updating on a regular basis to reflect the current happenings in our local chapter. Two other items were brought up: 1) We have to get people to unsubscribe from the hardcopy and move over to the electronic version and 2) Attempt to try and bring the defunct Columbus chapter into in to our chapter. The IT committee was going to have a meeting to address some of the website problems.

Int'l Councilor: The National SPE meeting will be held in San Antonio, TX next week. Dan Tomo is going. Officer elections are going to be held there. Dan got taken off of Education committee. Int'l said they couldn't read our PDF file so that is why our meeting could not be published. Jenny Hodge has been replaced.

Recycling: Dean stated that he needs the give away items for the recycling day in Dayton. The dates for this are February 22nd and 23rd.

Retec: It was discussed that our chapter needs a Retec. The board asked Dan to talk to other Councilor's to see about our chapter hosting a Retec.

Newsletter: The Schlemmer Associates ad was printed in the wrong size. They had paid for a half page ad. This correction will go in the next newsletter.

Historian Articles: John Pierce brought up the untimely demise of Jim Miller who used to work at Kadon. Jim Miller was assaulted and killed in Pittsburgh.

Old Business: John Pierce needs to get a copy of the paid members list.



COUNCILOR'S REPORT

The winter Council meeting was held January 17-18, 2003 at the Hilton Palacio del Rio, San Antonio, TX. I attended meetings of the Sections Committee, Student Activities Committee, Council of the Whole (COW) and Council, as a representative of the Miami Valley Section.

Sections Committee Meeting

The current budget and financial situation was reviewed by Len Czuba (Treasurer) and Susan Oderwald (Ass't. Director). The presentation was given to the Divisions meeting and at the COW meeting. A detailed report will come later in my report.

Section partnering was discussed in detail. Various sections enlightened the committee as to how they help faltering sections, i.e., joint meetings, if geographic areas permit.

The Certification Program was discussed. This program would give those in attendance at sectional technical meetings acknowledgment of continued education to their respective companies.

Various sections reviewed their experience with going to electronic newsletters. The savings were astronomical as compared to hard copy printing and mailing. This process of electronic mailing was strongly recommended by those sections already operating in this mode.

A petition was presented for the "Section-in-Formation" for Spain. A second petition was presented for Charter of the Portugal Section. It was reported that as domestic SPE membership continues to drop [more later on this] the foreign membership has risen by 15% in 2002.

It was announced that the position vacated by Jenny [Hodge] Okomoto has not been filled. Tom DuLutri and/or Susan Oderwald will temporarily service the Sections and Divisions.

Student Activities Committee

The chair of this committee, Todd Hogan of Dow Chemical Co. Midland, MI could not attend the meeting because of Dow's curtailment of employee travel. In Todd's absence, Russell Broome, Piedmont Coastal Section, chaired the meeting.

The agenda was covered and action was taken on the following:

The "Student Chapter Award of Excellence" was approved by those in attendance. Copies of the Award are available from headquarters.

The response from Student Chapter Advisors to the STRETCH Award was very poor. The Award (Students Reaching Excellence Through Chapters) is in its final draft, but input is needed from student chapter faculty advisors. None of our six student chapter faculty advisors responded. The MVSPE Section liaison people need to contact the faculty advisors and remind each of them to respond. It is requested that the response be done by February 28 to Tom DuLutri, Susan Oderwald, or Todd Hogan. Todd Hogan initially solicited input from the student chapter faculty advisors last fall.

Committee of the Whole (COW)

Rick Wilson of the Susquehanna Section chaired the meeting. The COW meeting is an open forum basically for an exchange of information. No actual business is transacted in this meeting.

The nine standing committee chairs gave their reports and each was followed by an open discussion.

It was announced that the SPE would have a member lounge at the NPE. Access to the lounge will be by membership ID cards.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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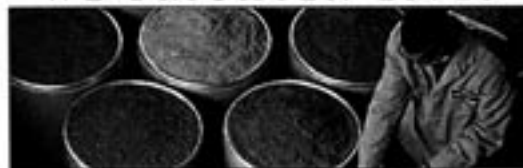
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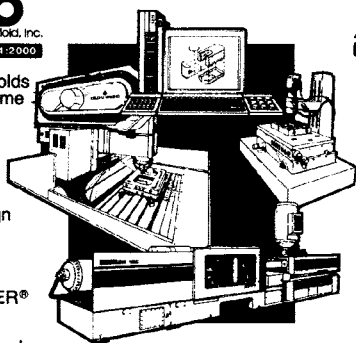
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COUNCILOR'S REPORT CONT.

Len Czuba (Treasurer) and Susan Oderwald (Ass't. Dir.) presented an overview of the steps taken to bring expenses in line with income. The following is Len Czuba's summary of the budget update:

"The year 2002 closed with sales essentially evaporating in the last quarter. Membership was projected to be 24K at year-end, but only reached 21,238. These together resulted in a year-end net loss of \$260K). (Note: This is an unofficial number since the books have not been officially closed and audited. The audits will be done by the end of the month, but the number is pretty close.) As you may remember and reported in September, we recognized that there was a general slowdown. There was a scale back in expenses much earlier in the year to compensate. Without those cutbacks, there would have been a much greater loss. Compared to the shortfall of 2001, the brakes have been applied and this is also reflected in the much more conservative adjusted budget for 2003.

Membership numbers continue to show an annual loss of between 10% and 15%. Anticipating a continuation of this 3-year trend we are taking a conservative approach to budget and basing expenditures on membership of 18K (down from 22K) at the close of 2003. Therefore, the budget approved in September was reduced by about 15% from \$7.15M to \$6.15M.

Changes that needed to be made to help meet the new budget include:

1. Temporarily freezing the position vacated by Jenny Hodge Okamoto. (Tom DeLutri working directly with Susan Oderwald will serve all Sections and Divisions as needed for now.)
2. All of HQ staff will participate in a 5% pay reduction plan.
3. Other programs and services will be adjusted to help meet the new budget; however, we will continue to put priority on membership and European initiatives.

The performance indicators that we will be tracking will give a good picture by Mid-year. Key will be ANTEC and NPE for both sales and new memberships. When things begin to turn around, we will act to reinstate full staff salaries and to fill Jenny's spot."

Council Meeting

The following members were elected to office:

- President (2003-2004) – Donna Davis (EXXON/MOBIL)
- President Elect – Karen Winkler (DOW Chemicals)
- Senior V.P. – Len Czuba (CZUBA Enterprises)
- V.P. Sections – Rick Wilson (INTEGRITY Plastics)
- COW Chair – Allen Arduini (CENTRAL INDIANA Section)

Presentations

The Thermoforming Division presented SPE with a check for \$50,715.49. The monies are Headquarters' portions of the profits from the 2002 Thermoforming RETEC.

The Connecticut Section presented the Foundation with a \$1,000 gift. It was the third of a five-year commitment.

The Mid-Hudson Section donated their rebate to SPE.

The next council meeting is in Nashville, TN prior to the 2003 ANTEC.

FOCUS ON SPE

NEW Video Programs

The Society of Plastics Engineers proudly announces two new video training series, SPE Single Screw Extrusion Video Program and SPE Twin Screw Extrusion Video Program. Both series, shot on location, are enhanced with computer animations that provide a look inside the extruder and graphically show what is happening "behind the scenes" in the extrusion process.

Timothy W. Womer, SPE Extrusion Division Board of Directors and consultant for the video program, teamed with writer Scott Bogue to develop the Single Screw program; and Paul Andersen, Director of Process Technology for Coperion, was consultant for the Twin Screw series. Paul also serves on the SPE Extrusion Division Board of Directors and is active in many SPE activities.

SPE appreciates the support given by industry, particularly NewCastle Industries and Ametek, for allowing SPE to film at their facilities. Single Screw Extrusion Video Program - http://www.4spe.org/bookstore/pestraining/book_0251.htm

News & Notes — New Member Benefit

Online access to ANTEC proceedings is now included with paid membership! We asked, you answered, we listened. Based on the results of an SPE e-Bulletin survey, paid members now have access to complete papers for all online ANTEC proceedings. Go to <http://www.4plasticsresearch.org>

Industrial Thermoforming Symposium and Workshop

March 3 - 7, 2003 Dallas, Texas http://www.4spe.org/semconf/seminars/03_03thermoforming.htm

Thermoset 2003 Conference: Growing Thermoset Technology in a Competitive World

March 11-12, 2003 Research Triangle Park, North Carolina
http://www.4spe.org/semconf/conferences/0303_thermoset_nc.htm

ANTEC 2003 - The SPE Foundation Opening Reception

May 4, 2003 - 8:30-10:30 p.m.

If you'll be at ANTEC 2003 in Nashville, Tennessee, this May, you won't want to miss the annual ANTEC Opening Reception sponsored by The SPE Foundation. Be sure to stop on by and enjoy some good country cookin' and great country music while you mix and mingle with friends old and new. The reception is free to ANTEC attendees. A cash bar will be available throughout the evening. <http://www.anteconline.com>

SPE Product Highlights — Principles of Drying Video, by Conair

A universal training tool that covers the basics of dehumidified drying and drying parameters, problems associated with excess moisture during melt processing, eliminating problems caused by inadequate drying, and the operation of common types of dryers.

http://www.4spe.org/bookstore/pestraining/book_0199.htm

SPE BookStore

Be sure to look at the newest titles we've added to the SPE BookStore website. Watch the mail for your copy of the BookStore flyer highlighting some new training products. Use this flyer as your key to open the door to hundreds of books, videos, CDs.

In the meantime check out this new addition: Specialized Molding Techniques - Applications, Design, Materials and Processing http://www.4spe.org/bookstore/books/book_0207.htm

Section & Division News — Star and Pride Awards

SPE's STAR and PRIDE awards recognize excellence in activities offered by Sections (STAR) and Divisions (PRIDE), and give credit to groups that proactively bring value and services to their constituents. The winners are selected every year in early March and are honored at ANTEC.

In this day and age when volunteer time is very constrained, it is important to recognize that SPE's Sections and Divisions are important grass-roots organizations that have a great deal to offer members. Check out your local Section or technical Division's activities and explore ways that these groups can add value to your membership.

<http://www.4spe.org/sectionsdivisions.htm>

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TITHE II

If you read my last request on why you need to give to our SPE, and are still looking at your check book, here is some good news at tax time. According to the IRS (at irs.gov) if you give:

“A separate acknowledgment may be provided for each single contribution of \$ 250.00 or more, or one acknowledgment, such as an annual summary, may be used to substantiate several single contributions of \$ 250.00 or more. There are no IRS forms for the acknowledgement. Letters, postcards, or computer-generated forms are acceptable. An organization can provide either a paper copy of the acknowledgment to the donor, or an organization can provide the acknowledgment electronically, such as via an e-mail addressed to the donor. A donor should not attach the acknowledgment to his or her tax return, but must retain it to substantiate the contribution. Separate contributions of less than \$ 250.00 will not be aggregated. ”

So, since it is tax time and you are looking forward to your 2003 taxes, think about giving a gift to the Education fund for the Miami Valley SPE and write it off of your next years taxes. The Miami Valley Society of Plastics Engineers is a 501 (C) (3) tax exempt organization.

Bob Rajkovich
Newsletter Editor



April 3, 2003
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