



# *The* **SPECTRUM**

MIAMI VALLEY SECTION  
SOCIETY OF PLASTICS ENGINEERS

**Vol. 34 No. 1**  
**September 2005**

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National Website**

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## **BASTECH FIRST PLANT TOUR**

*Thursday, September 8, 2005*

The Miami Valley SPE has a few new things in store for the 2005-2006 season. We will start with a plant tour of Bastech, a local sterolithography and production facility in Vandalia, OH. They are a growing local company and you need to see what they do if you have no idea what they do.

When the MVSPE was first exposed to 3-D sterolithography some ten years ago, the demonstrations were truly unbelievable. Today the field has progressed to just drop-dead wow. Along with UDRI (University of Dayton Research Institute) and the United States Air Force, Bastech is one of a few companies in the area that can do this detailed work.

Please give Mickey at Marco Molding a call to let us know you will be attending our first plant tour of the 2005-2006 year. As always check [www.mvspe.org](http://www.mvspe.org) for more information.

### **MEETING SPECIFICS:**

Board Meeting: 5:00pm

Start Arriving for Tour: 6:00pm

Boxed Dinner: 6:00 - 7:00pm

Tour: 7:00 - 8:00pm

RSVP By Tuesday, Sept 6, 2005:

Mickey Brandon or Barbara McCoy 937-890-7834

### **Driving Directions**

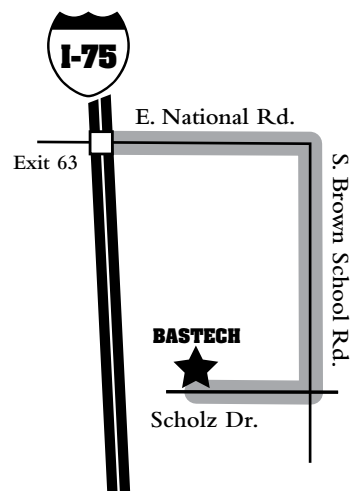
#### **Bastch Plant**

849 Scholz Drive  
Vandalia, OH 45377

I-75 North to Exit 63 – Go East on East National Rd, turn right on S. Brown School Rd and right on Scholz Drive. Bastech is on north side of road. Electroform is directly across the street. Vandalia is North of I-70 and South of Tipp City.

## **BASTECH**

849 Scholz Drive • Vandalia, OH 45377  
Telephone (937) 690-9292



# Miami Valley Section Society of Plastics Engineers, Inc.

## OFFICERS

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## STANDING COMMITTEES

### Advertising

Dick Hauck  
Robert Jergens

### Auditing

Dennis Richmond  
Paul Woods, Don Keyes

### Awards

Mickey Brandon

### Education

Don Keyes  
Bob Rajkovich, Jack Bell, Dick Hauck,  
Dan Tomo, Dennis Richmond

### Golf Outing

Robert Jergens  
Frank Maus, Mike Rusconi

### Historian

Tony Hoog

### House

Frank Maus  
Dick Hauck, Mickey Brandon,  
Dennis Richmond

### IT

Ken Lewis  
Bob Rajkovich

### Membership

Frank Maus  
Rob Jergens, Jack Bell

### Newsletter

Bob Rajkovich:  
rrajkovich@aol.com  
Dan Tomo

### Nominations

Mickey Brandon  
Dick Hauck

### Program

Mickey Brandon  
Rob Jergens, Eric Cantrell, Jack Bell,  
Paul Woods, Bob Rajkovich,  
Dennis Richmond

### Public Information

Bob Rajkovich  
Dick Hauck

### Recycling

Tony Hoog  
Bob Rajkovich, Dennis Richmond

### RETEC

Bob Rajkovich  
Dick Hauck, Dan Tomo, Tony Hoog

### Special Events

Mickey Brandon  
Tony Hoog

## THE SPECTRUM IS LIVE!

The SPECTRUM is built with some very special features. Any time you see an article with an accompanying website link you can click the link to be taken directly to the relating website.

In addition any advertisers with a web presence are linked to their respective sites by clicking on their ad.

Interested in a specific article listed in the "Inside..." column of the front page? Click the name to be taken to it immediately!

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- 09/8**      **Bastech**  
*Tour*
- 10/6**      **Alex's**  
*Multi-Component Molding*  
*FOBOHA*
- 11/3**      **Alex's**  
*Vendor Night*
- 12/3 or 9** **National Air Force Museum**  
*Social/History?*
- 01/12**    **TBD**  
*Tour*
- 02/2**      **Alex's**  
*OSHA*
- 03/2**      **Golf Center King's Is.**  
*Materials Night—Poly One*
- 04/6**      **UD/MU/UC?**  
*Education Night*
- 05/4**      **Alex's/Golf Center?**  
*TBA*
- 06/5**      **King's Island!**  
*2006 Bryon Nelson Memorial Golf Classic*

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Welcome back from a very unseasonably hot summer. During the summer break your Miami Valley Society of Plastics Engineers' board of directors has been busy planning and organizing for the new the 2005/2006 year.

As the new president of your SPE section I welcome any ideas, requests and questions to help make the MVSPE more valuable to you. Please contact me at [spepres@mvspe.org](mailto:spepres@mvspe.org) or send a fax to (513) 722-4666.

**One of the MVSPE's key goals is to improve the communications to our members.** Our website has been updated with hopes to be more useful. The meeting schedule is posted, so please mark your calendars now and save the dates. A week before each meeting, a post card announcing the meeting date and program agenda will be mailed. In addition, direct emails with the meeting and program information will be sent. Please let us know if you have email address changes. You can easily do this on our website, [www.mvspe.org](http://www.mvspe.org).

Make an effort to attend as many of our programs as possible this year. SPE continues to be the premier source of information about the latest plastics technologies from around the globe. It is the key place for members to stay connected. Whether you are a Technology Developer (R&D scientists and engineers), Technology User (production and application engineers) or a Technology Tracker (sales and marketing personnel), SPE is the melting pot for technical information.

I look forward to seeing you during our upcoming September 8, 2005 meeting at Bastech Inc. This will be a program focused at rapid part prototyping and manufacturing. We will learn about SLA (Stereolithography) and SLS (Selective Laser Sintering). Please refer to the newsletter insert for driving directions and additional details about the visit.

*Best Regards,*  
**Dennis Richmond**

## ONLINE SAVES TIME!!

- Register online for montly meetings
- See updated meeting info
- Sign up to receive the electronic version of The SPECTRUM
- Read past issues



*Click here!*

**OUR WEBSITE**  
**[www.mvspe.org](http://www.mvspe.org)**

- Get Email updates for special events
- Update your contact information
- Pay your dues online!
- Stay up-to-date and get involved in *your* MVPSE

(if you are reading this newsletter and have an active online connection, you can click any URL and go directly to that site!)

## **APRIL 7, 2005 MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendees:** Paul Moore, Jack Bell, Don Keyes, Mickey Brandon, Dick Hauck, Dan Tomo, Paul Woods, Dennis Richmond, Tony Hoog, John Pierce

**Reported could not attend:** Robert Jergens, Frank Maus

**Start:** 4:55 President Pro temp Paul Moore.

**Minutes:** Jack Bell moved, Don Keyes seconded. Approved as written.

**Treasurer:** Report read, Dan Tomo moved, Mickey second, approved.

**Program:** May 19th is K-M, details to follow. May 5th Board Meeting at Alex's.

**House:** Booked 22, may have more.

**Education:** SSU has a student presenter, and will need monies, UC will be sending students, and will also be requesting funds.

**IT:** Website has been updated! Will try to add October '04 for the Golf Outing!

**International Councilor:** As written, see memo 4/7/05.

**Membership:** See memo from Frank Maus.

**Newsletter:** Will look into a 8.5"x14" as the mini newsletter in place of postcard. Will add advertisers to this!

**RETEC/TOPCON:** Still looking for some one to have one with!

**Golf Outing:** Dan Tomo has flyers, looking into towels. Insert for newsletter is on the website. Rules and prizes must be updated for the outing and printed. Will Ken Lewis do the pairings for next year? Bob R. will contact Ken. Needs info for signs and banners by June 1st!!!!

**Advisory Committee:** Will meet to advise about the events.

**Old/New Business:** As of now, Paul Moore will be off of the Board, Dick will be replaced. President will be Dennis Richmond, Pres. Elect. Tony Hooge, Treasurer Dick Hauck, Sec. is open. International Councilor is Frank Maus. Paul Moore was given his Presidents' award.

**Adjournment:** 6:15 PM

## **MAY 12, 2005 MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendees:** Paul Moore, Richard Hauck, Dennis Richmond, Mickey Brandon, Jack Bell, Paul Woods

**Reported could not attend:** Dan Tomo

**Start:** 5:00 PM

**Minutes:** Jack Bell moved, Mickey second, approved.

**Treasurer:** Don Keyes moved, Dennis second, approved for audit.

**Program:** Mickey will contact Peter Lipp and advise about next week.

**House:** Mickey will report with info from K-M.

**Education:** UC group did not go to ANTEC. SSU did go and presented a paper! Mickey moved we send SSU \$ 750.00 to cover the costs for ANTEC. Second by Don Keyes, approved.

**IT:** Dean Kroger not in attendance. Bob R. will check with VersaPrint about if they can publish to our website and what if any costs are involved.

**International Councilor:** Frank Maus did not attend ANTEC, Robert Jergens picked-up our STAR Award.

**Membership:** Frank Maus, no report.

**Newsletter:** Two postcards were mailed for the date and meeting change in May. Dayton Postmaster is aware of the facts that we are not getting the cards in a timely way. I will update as the info comes in from the USPS.

**RETEC/TOPCON:** Color Division will be having a meeting in Cincinnati/NKY in September 2005, Paul Moore will look into us helping!

**Golf Outing:** Prizes have been ordered, everything is set, hole sponsors is still up in the air. Robert Jergens will contact last years hole sponsors, and report to the Golf Committee. Dan Tomo will not be part of this years outing, he is in the hospital. Mickey will contact Ken Lewis about the foursome files.

**Old/New Business:** Summer Board will be June 27th, location TBD in the Cincinnati area. Dick Hauck will be sending a letter to all previous SPECTRUM advertisers.

**Adjournment:** 6:44 PM

# *the ninth annual* **BYRON NELSON MEMORIAL GOLF CLASSIC**

## **The Grizzly Course North and West Nines**

**Monday June 13, 2005 at Kings Island Golf Center**

Once again the weather was great for our Byron Nelson Memorial Golf Outing. The day started to look grim, but Dan Tomo was once again smiled on us with a great day. Paul Moore and the Golf Committee of Mike Rusconi, Robert Jergens, Frank Maus and Mickey Brandon along with Dick Hauck and Jack Bell all helped to make this the SPEcial Day it always is.

For the following, it really was SPEcial! (See photos on the following pages)

### **1st Place Team (Score: 60)**

Eric Kuhnash

Steve Jones

Rick Yant

### **Closest to Pin Hole # 5 North**

Dennis Noggle

### **Closest to Pin Hole # 7 West**

Steve Tappin

### **Closest to Pin Hole # 5 West**

Dave McPherson

### **Closest to Pin Hole # 8 North**

Ray Faulkner

### **Longest Drive Hole # 9 North**

Keith Hoffman

### **Longest Drive Hole # 9 West**

Tom Mendel



The Miami Valley SPE and the Education Committee look forward to seeing everyone next year. If you did not hear about this outing, it was not the Golf Committees fault. Since January the United States Postal Service has had trouble delivering the newsletters and postcards to some areas. The Golf Outing notice was printed in April for the ANTEC in May. The notice was mailed to all current members in May. The USPS sat on them, lost them in the mail, or otherwise screwed-up the delivery of the notices. So, for future information about the Golf Outing or any MVSPE meeting information, please go to [www.mvspe.org](http://www.mvspe.org).

Thank you and we look forward to seeing next June at the Kings Island Golf Center.















## STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS

### NEWEST MEMBERS OF SPE

Two students were recently inducted into Sigma Pi Epsilon ( $\Sigma\Pi E$ ), SPE's Honor Society. Ryan Alexander, a graduate student at the University of Dayton, and Rahul Jain, a graduate student at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, join the ranks of student members of SPE who have been recognized for their outstanding achievements in a plastics related field of study. Congratulations are extended to these young men!



## Registration for SPE Multi-Shot Minitec

### September 13-14, 2005 - Hickory, North Carolina

**To register**, please complete this registration form and mail or fax it with payment to the **Polymers Center of Excellence**. Please write **"SPE Minitec"** in the memo section of the check.

**Hotel Accommodations:** A discounted SPE rate of \$69 is available at the Holiday Inn Select in Hickory, NC where the Minitec is being held. Lodging is the responsibility of the attendee. Call (828) 323-1000 to make reservations.

**Directions to the Minitec:** Take I-40 to Hickory, NC. Take Exit 125 South onto Lenoir Rhyne Blvd. The Holiday Inn Select is on Lenoir Rhyne Blvd just south of the interstate.

**Cost per person:**

**Minitec Conference (Tues. & Wed. events): \$150 SPE members / \$175 non-members**

**Tuesday Events (Dinner plus 2PM or 3PM Tour) only: \$25**

**Sponsor Display Table (includes one free entry for entire conference): \$300**

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**Payment:** Payments accepted by check or credit card. Payment must be received one week prior to class date. There is a 10% cancellation for all cancellations. Substitutions are allowed. If you wish to pay by credit card, please supply your card number and expiration date and sign below:

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Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (required authorizing use of card): \_\_\_\_\_

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*Or fax the completed registration form to: 704.602.4114*

**If you have any questions, please call Beverly Jarrell at 1-800-603-4650.**



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# SPE Voices: How To Position Yourself for the New World of Opportunity

This is a new series that will appear bimonthly. It includes three perspectives or “voices” of SPE talking on a similar topic. The next installment will appear in the October issue of *Plastics Engineering*. We hope you find these articles informative and thought-provoking, and that you will add your insights and comments. Please feel free to email your ideas to Susan Oderwald at [seoderwald@4spe.org](mailto:seoderwald@4spe.org).

## SPE President Len Czuba

At this time of year, sporting activities become more prominent in the news and in our lives. We watch professional athletes like Tiger Woods and marvel at how well



Len Czuba

they do what they do. But we don't see all the time and effort that go into the daily routines of professional athletes as they work to hone their skills. Unnoticed are the countless hours spent in conditioning exercises, practice rounds and endless drills working to get that particular part of the game down.

As engineers, we also need to continue practicing our trade to keep up and hone our particular skills. But in our “game,” the rules keep changing. We are

being challenged to take on new roles and responsibilities as the job changes and expands. Engineers are asked to serve in management positions, take over increased marketing and business-related activities, and support growth of the company in ways that we have never formally been trained.

I believe that we, like the professional athlete, must learn how to do the things we need to do by practicing them. We often learn the things we need to know for our jobs by doing them first outside of work, in organizations like SPE. For example, leadership skills are developed and honed when SPE members participate on a committee, become members of a Board of Directors, or take on a leadership role in organizing a conference. We learn the best techniques of working with others as we participate on multi-functional teams.

The opportunities exist, and the engineers who take advantage of these “practice rounds” will find themselves at the front of the line when being considered for promotions and new responsibilities. Take advantage of the opportunities to develop and practice your organizational, leadership, and managerial skills outside of work where the forum can often be less threatening. Those who get involved will bring their sharpened skills back to the job to help their companies succeed. And when the company succeeds, the engineers grow and excel, leading to improvement and success for all involved. Isn't that what SPE is all about?

\*\*\*\*\*

## SPE Executive Director Susan Oderwald

I subscribe to a number of newsletters and forums about adult education and learning. In addition, I work closely with the SPE staff and committees that diligently shape SPE's educational offerings for our members and the industry at large.

Recently, I have been struck by a number of common themes that are coming from our members, SPE's Technical Advisory Board (TAB), and the general adult learning literature. These themes go something like this:

- **Adult education is essential for career advancement.** Adult education is increasingly important for career acquisition, development, and growth. Gone are the days when your high school or college or graduate diploma represented the only type of “formalized” learning you had. Today, ongoing education through professional organizations, company training programs, conferencing, symposia, online learning, and traditional coursework are here to stay. Furthermore, don't expect anyone else to manage your learning process for you. Individuals have to take control of their careers, and chart their own learning paths. It should be the focus of your annual benefits negotiations at work, and if you don't get such benefits at work, pay for them yourselves or find employment with someone who does.



Susan Oderwald

• **“Soft” skills required.** People in almost all careers increasingly need basic organizational, management, human resource, and business acumens. This is in addition to requisite computer and math literacy, and oral and written communications skills. I am hearing this from our own industry leaders, who have emphatically told us that their engineers and technical personnel must understand their roles within the total context of the entire organization. Companies want SPE members to apply their technical knowledge and skills where it makes the most sense—to the bottom line in the short-term, and to the long-term strategic growth of the company. To do this effectively, SPE members must understand and interact with each department in the organization (management, marketing, R&D, production, HR, etc.), and must have the people skills to do so effectively. You can’t just be an excellent technician working in relative isolation. Global competitive forces won’t tolerate a company whose workforce, as a whole, is not focused and efficient.

• **Changing workforce demographics.** Finally, the U.S., many countries in Europe, Australia, and other nations are facing a large baby-boomer retirement, and they do not have enough people with good technical backgrounds to fill existing positions. Furthermore, in the U.S., math and science literacy and technical interest among graduating students, at both the high school and college levels, are far from robust. Engineering student enrollments across most disciplines are down, and attracting bright minds and talent to “traditional” manufacturing sectors is difficult. Naysayers to this trend point out that foreign students and immigrants more than make up for this deficit in engineering. But even this long-standing trend is taking on a new complexion. Students from Asia and elsewhere who once flocked to U.S. and European schools are finding increased educational and work opportunities at home; and even if they go overseas for their education, more and more are returning home to build their careers.

All three of these trends have important implications for SPE and its members. SPE has found some resistance by companies to make a commitment to employee development and to use SPE as a low-cost outlet for their employees’ professional development. SPE is working harder to reach out to companies to gain their insights, and to point out to them that investment in employee activities in SPE enhances their workforce objectives.

SPE is also working diligently to provide broader, but targeted, opportunities at its conferences and with its online programs for members to get “soft skills” training in addition to the technical training for which we’re known.

Finally, SPE is working to collaborate with a broad range of public organizations, governments, and private companies to attract interest in, and bright minds into, the technical fields that support ongoing development of plastics.

I look forward to these articles as a means to let you, our

members, know about our thinking and efforts. But the real value to all of us is in the exchange of diverse ideas that only happens with organizations such as SPE. I invite you to send me your thoughts, comments, and ideas on how SPE can pursue these trends to your advantage. Email: [seoderwald@4spe.org](mailto:seoderwald@4spe.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Jamal El-Hibri, Member Since 1988**

I joined SPE in 1988 and started religiously attending SPE Southern Section meetings shortly after I moved to Atlanta in 1990. My job responsibilities, which focused on the development of new high-performance plastics materials, necessitated my being on the lookout for the latest developments in engineering polymers, novel additives, and thermoplastic resin formulation technology. Naturally, some meetings were more beneficial to me and relevant to what I was doing than others.



Jamal El-Hibri

However, after about two years of consistent SPE Section participation, I had acquired and implemented several technical advances that led to major quality and performance improvements in some of the products for which I was responsible. These technical and business successes came directly from two ideas I gained during an SPE meeting at which I was introduced to two unique grades of additives. At that juncture, I could concretely point to a significant business success that was directly traceable to SPE. To me this was exciting!

But looking back, the more enlightening revelation was this: the SPE meetings from which I received the most benefit and business value were *not* ones where the meeting topic was particularly relevant to what I do. For example, it just happened that a raw-material distributor came to a meeting and made me aware of new additive offerings that were highly applicable to my needs. All it took was a 10-minute conversation during the cocktail hour. This gentleman was not even one of the featured speakers! The lesson I learned is this: attending *more* meetings is much better than attending what you think are the “right” meetings for you based on the announced topic. For instance, if you are an injection molder, try to also attend an extrusion meeting or some other meeting on a completely different topic. Consistent participation will pay off for you as it did (and still does) for me. I have had many experiences like the one mentioned above over the years as I’ve continued to participate in SPE meetings and events.



## SPE Voices

Finally, there is an area of SPE membership that receives little fanfare, but which I personally consider to be one of the most valuable benefits. That is the realm of SPE volunteer leadership. I started on my path in this direction in 1993 when I inadvertently poked my head into a Southern Section Board meeting that was in session. I was invited to come in and sit down, and ever since, I have had the opportunity and privilege of serving the SPE Southern Section in various leadership capacities including Public Interest Committee Chair, Treasurer, Membership Chair, Vice President, President, Technical Conference Chair, and others.

Looking back at my 12 years of service to the Southern Section, I must say that I am deeply grateful to SPE for the positive influence those roles have had on developing my organizational and leadership skills. Being one of the lead organizers of a large topical conference two years ago was a bit daunting at the time, but in the end it was a success, and the organizational skills I learned from it have been immensely valuable. They have stayed with me and have benefited both my employer and me. While you won't see this type of benefit listed in any SPE prospective member brochure, I consider it to be, without a doubt, one of the most valuable SPE member benefits.

Having shared my experiences with you, I'd like to close by inviting you to look at your SPE membership in a new light to see the possibilities that lie within it. Your SPE membership is a powerful tool for your professional advancement...but only if you use it!

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