

Editor: Aaron Andry

## The Chairman's Corner

Here we are again at the beginning of another season of activity for the Mobile Gulf Coast Section. We had a great season last year that included some very interesting presenters at our section meetings, very informative PDH seminars, and highly successful golf tournament. The section this past year hosted a Regional Administrative Conference and a Regional Student Conference (RSA/RSC) both of which are still receiving rave reviews from the Southeastern Region XI leadership. For this I convey my thanks to the outgoing Section Chair, Charles Busby, and all the other officers, executive board members, and section members who worked to make for a successful year. I also wish to extend my appreciation to the USA Student Section for their participation. I know I speak for Charles Busby and Aaron Andry when I say that without their participation, the RAC/RSC would not have been the success it was. We as officers of the 2004-2005 section year have a high standard to meet to match last season.

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Last year, we heard from EXXON Mobil about the LNG facility they proposed for the Homeport facility. This year we will hear about another LNG facility, one with a whole different set of challenges. Hopefully, this facility will come to fruition with a positive impact to the local economy without much of the controversy of the land-based facility.

This year we have a speaker from the ASME distinguished lecturer series. Our plant tour of Aker Kvaerner promises to be an impressive demonstration of the latest in marine deepwater control and conveyance technology and the machinery it takes to manufacture this equipment. We will again organize what has become a successful, and much anticipated set of PDH seminars. Several topics have been considered and we believe they'll be very interesting, as well as, provide PDH credits. We are also planning a "fun" trip to one of the casinos to look at the systems that keep the visitors comfortable and safely connected to land.

**Senior Section Members and Student Section Members alike, let's plan to attend the events for this year and take the opportunity to maintain contact with one another and learn a little bit about what is going on in the engineering world**

Keith LaFleur, P.E.  
Section Chair

## Senior Section News

September Meeting Schedule:

Topic: Conoco Phillips talks about Liquid Natural Gas (LNG) facilities,  
When: Tuesday, September 28, 2004, 6: 00 pm.  
Where: University of South Alabama, Terrace Room University Student Center.  
RSVP – 251-443-6440 X258 or [aandry@mpsac.com](mailto:aandry@mpsac.com)  
Entrees will start at 6:00 pm at \$15.00 per person.

The 2004-2005 Section officers are:  
Keith LaFleur, Chairman  
Ray Miller, Vice Chairman  
Lance Steed, Treasure  
Aaron Andry, Secretary

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## Engineers Provide Sustainable Solutions Through International Volunteerism

ASME members around the world have the chance to get involved in real-world engineering projects, gaining exposure and training in internationally responsible and sustainable engineering through ASME's partnership with Engineers Without Borders™ – USA (EWB-USA).

Offering a unique opportunity for professional engineers (active or retired) and engineering students, EWB-USA is a non-profit organization established in 2000 to help developing areas worldwide with their engineering needs. EWB-USA projects may involve the design and construction of water, waste-water, sanitation, energy, and shelter systems. Projects are initiated by, and completed with, contributions and support from the local, host community, which is trained to operate the systems without external assistance. In this way, projects are appropriate and self-sustaining. The projects are conducted by groups of students under the supervision of faculty and professional engineers from partnering engineering firms and professional Societies.

ASME members should contact Diedra Hackley ([hackleyd@asme.org](mailto:hackleyd@asme.org)) if they are interested in any of the above projects, or would like to propose a project of their own.

## Partners In Mechanical Engineering Grants Available

The Board on Diversity and Outreach is accepting applications for Partners in Mechanical Engineering grants. All ASME Sections are eligible to apply. Grants are made on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, go to <http://www.asme.org/communities/diversities/bdo/partners.html>

## ASME's 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in Full Swing!

Log onto [www.asme.org/anniversary](http://www.asme.org/anniversary) for information on events to take place during 2005, as well as historical material and information on how you can get involved.

**Member 2 Member REFERRAL**  
Refer a friend or colleague to ASME!

Visit [www.asme.org/membershipdrive](http://www.asme.org/membershipdrive) for complete details.

## New Faces of Engineering Strives to Recognize Young Talent

The *New Faces of Engineering* strives to promote the accomplishments of young engineers by highlighting their engineering contributions and the resulting impact on society. The campaign is designed to enhance and improve the image of engineering by:

Putting faces to what has often been referred to as "the stealth profession."

Showing a group of young, diverse and talented engineers, thereby portraying engineering as an exciting profession open to everyone.

Providing both stimulation and incentive for college engineering students to explore the variety of career options available to them with their engineering degrees as well as encouraging high school students to study engineering in college.

Help students understand they are part of a global profession.

This is an opportunity to represent the mechanical engineering profession and ASME as the top individual *New Faces*. The ASME finalist will be featured in a full-page ad in USA TODAY during Engineers Week, February 20-26, 2005. The finalist's photo will be captioned with the engineer's name and ASME affiliation, employer and a brief statement of that individual's accomplishments as they relate to the public welfare.

*New Faces* provides a unique opportunity to learn from new engineers. EWeek and the ASME staff will interview the top individuals regarding the experiences leading them to select engineering careers, the challenges in making the transition to the work force, and other key experiences that can be used with K-12 and college students.

The top candidates will participate in an e-mail and/or online Question and Answer discussion forum with engineering undergraduates globally at a future date to be determined. Candidates are asked to list languages in which they are fluent.

National Engineers Week will profile the top individuals. The profiles will be posted on the ASME web site, [www.asme.org](http://www.asme.org), National Engineers Week web site at [www.eweek.org](http://www.eweek.org) and at [www.discoverengineering.org](http://www.discoverengineering.org), the EWeek web site for middle school students.

The engineering trade press will be targeted for feature stories on the top individuals. The local media of all the nominees will be targeted to capture general press coverage.

Visit [http://www.asme.org/eng\\_week/](http://www.asme.org/eng_week/) to submit your application by the Oct. 22, 2004 deadline.

## ASME Launches 'Communities of Practice'

Want to talk to your peers about technical matters, career and personal interests? Do you need communicate with your peers without going to a meeting or even leaving your desk?

Now ASME offers you a new tool to communicate, get the information you need and meet others with similar interests and concerns at the new ASME Communities of Practice site.

On the CoP site, you can join a community, suggest a new community, participate in discussions and polls, and post your own message or request to be notified when messages are posted on the community. Its your choice what communities you participate in, and how you choose to participate.

The Communities of Practice pages also allow you to customize your own personal page to include your communities, your own links and calendar and to access an ASME event calendar.

You will need to register the first time that you use the page, and set your preferences for your home page. It only takes a few moments – then you are ready to participate, or just observe the discussions. To visit the site, and test the features for yourself, go to [www.cop.asme.org](http://www.cop.asme.org).

## Make Your Contribution to the FasTrack E-zine Today!

The FasTrack is emailed to early career members (previously known as the young engineer), and provides quick online access to what's new and current in professional & technical resources including highlighting featured member benefits and enhancements, etc.

The FasTrack e-zine features a special section called "Q&A with Experienced Engineers (Five Career Questions Asked)" and we invite you to share your experience. The idea is to feature an engineer each month responding to the same 5 questions. Among the questions posed are:

When you first started your career, what was the biggest lesson you learned on the job? What is the underlying foundation for career success today? How do you keep up-to-date within your industry? What advice would you give a recent engineering graduate looking for work? Has your involvement in ASME changed or influenced your career path?

If you are interested in contributing, please send your responses to Cheryl Hasan at [hasanc@asme.org](mailto:hasanc@asme.org). Please include your name and job title, as it will be included in the section. To view the latest Fasttrack Ezine, click on: <http://www.asme.org/youngengineers/fastrack>

## EQUAL ACCESS FOR ALL 2004 FIRST LEGO League (FLL)

The playing field has NO LIMITS. The challenge is to address specific needs of individuals, who face physical challenges in today's society and build a modern society that is one of equal access for all. FIRST-LEGO League (FLL) mesmerizes thousands of 9-14 year-olds and their adult partners through the beginning months of each school year.

Using the LEGO MINDSTORMS Technology, LEGO bricks and other elements such as sensors, motors and gears, teams of 9-14 year old children, a coach, and a mentor, research, design, build and test a fully autonomous robot. The 8-week design and build period begins mid September and the local and state tournaments are from November to January.

ASME is a supporter of FIRST Robotics Competition and the middle school-level FIRST/Lego League. Over 46,000 students worldwide participated in FLL last year. ASME members – as individuals, student groups, or sections – help in many ways – and more are always needed. ASME Sections and Student Sections can sponsor or start teams or individuals can volunteer to help at tournaments or to be coaches or mentors for local schools. Those wishing to get involved with kids and invest in the future of the profession are always well rewarded!

For more information on how to get involved, please contact Dawna Schultz at [schultzd@asme.org](mailto:schultzd@asme.org) or visit: <http://www.asme.org/education/precollege/partner.htm>.

## International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition and RD&D Expo.



Log onto <http://www.asme.org/congress> for valuable information on 500 technical sessions and 9 industry tracks. Various special events and tours are also scheduled to take place during Congress. The conference will take place at the Anaheim Hilton in Anaheim, Calif. from Nov. 13-19.

ASME Congress is once again teamed with the Research, Development & Design Expo, the only event dedicated to presenting the latest developments and tools in the world of engineering.

To register for the 2004 IMECE & RD&D expo, click [here](#).

## Student Activity Calendar

### October

- Oct. 1 [Renewal](#) deadline for 2004-05 ASME Student Membership
- Oct. 15 [Application deadline](#) for Winter/Spring student loans
- Oct. 21 2004-05 [Graduate Teaching Fellowship](#) – application deadline.
- Oct. 29-30 Fundamentals of Engineering Exam
- \* Attend your [Regional Student Leadership Seminar](#)

### November

- Nov. 1 Preliminary reports due for [Ingersoll-Rand Contest](#)
- Nov. 1 Deadline for [Diversity Action Grant](#) applications
- Nov. 13 [Young Engineers Forum](#) – held at Congress
- Nov. 14 [Student Design Contest](#) finals held at Congress
- Nov. 14-19 [Congress](#) – Anaheim California
- Nov. 15 [Old Guard Oral Competition](#) finals held at Congress

## New Mortgage Benefit for ASME Members!

Wachovia makes the mortgage process easy by providing competitive rates, quick approvals, and accurate closings. Members also receive friendly, personal attention through an ASME-dedicated mortgage team.

For details, visit <http://www.wachovia.com/misc/0,,507,00.html>

### Diversity Action Grants Now Available!

The Board on Diversity and Outreach (BDO) will be accepting applications for Diversity Action Grants (DAG) for the 2004-2005 academic year. Encourage the ASME Student Section in your area to apply for these competitive grants. Deadline for applications is Nov. 1, 2004.

For more information, go to <http://www.asme.org/communities/diversities/bdo/dag.html>

## Continuity & Change Update

The Codes & Standards Project Team has developed their organizational structure recommendations: <http://www.asme.org/change/PHASE%20II/C&SOrgChart-TG5-8-11.pdf>

A new Transition Rules Project team template is available on the web. The purpose of the Rules Transition team is to take a proactive position ensure that ASME's governance documents adequately define the reorganized ASME. Click [here](#) for the complete template.

### Project Team Progress Reports:

The Centers Project team is in the midst of reviewing draft vision and mission statements. Program units that the Centers group have interest in are also being reviewed.

The Knowledge and Community Groups Project team is currently developing their mission and vision statements, which will represent the society as a whole.

More information providing the latest on Continuity & Change initiative can be found on the C&C Newsletter:

## MISSION STATEMENT

Our mission statement is to promote the competency and professional well being of our members and to encourage the development of future mechanical engineers. We strive to accomplish these goals by conducting meetings, professional development seminars, plant tours and social events, by maintaining a close association with the ASME Student Section at the University of South Alabama and by assisting in math and science activities in local schools.

### SECTION OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS FOR 2004-2005

<b>Chairman</b>	<b>Keith Lafleur, PE</b>
<b>Vice Chairman</b>	<b>Ray Miller</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Lance Steed</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Aaron Andry</b>
<b>Immediate Past Chair</b>	<b>Charles Busby, PE</b>
<b>Membership Development</b>	
<b>Member Interests</b>	<b>Jasper Reaves, PE</b>
<b>History and Heritage</b>	
<b>Government Relations</b>	<b>Bob Cooper, PE</b>
<b>Honors and Awards</b>	<b>Joe Baraco, PE</b>
<b>University Relations</b>	<b>Lanier Cauley, PE</b>
<b>Technical Activities</b>	<b>Ross Rogers</b>
<b>Industry Relations</b>	<b>Jack Ehlenberg, PE</b>
<b>Professional Development</b>	<b>Kathryn Wilhelm, PE</b>
<b>Practices and Ethics</b>	<b>Ray Miller</b>
<b>BMW Regional Rep</b>	<b>Judy Anderson</b>
<b>Golf Tournament</b>	<b>David Harris, PE</b>
<b>Golf Tournament</b>	<b>Keith Tinnell, PE</b>
<b>At Large</b>	<b>Rich Howe</b>

### Schedule of Programs for 2004-2005

<b>September 28</b>	<b>Conoco Phillips – LNG Facilities</b>
<b>October 26</b>	<b>Tour of Aker-Kvaerner Facility</b>
<b>November 9</b>	<b>Aircraft A/C Systems by George Halen</b>
<b>December 10-AM</b>	<b>PDH Seminar</b>
<b>December 10-PM</b>	<b>PDH Seminar</b>
<b>January 25</b>	<b>Distinguished Lecturer</b>
<b>February 22</b>	<b>TBD</b>
<b>March 22</b>	<b>Tour of a Mississippi Coast Casino-(TBD)</b>
<b>April 26</b>	<b>Senior Student Project Presentations at USA</b>
<b>May TBD</b>	<b>End-of-Year Party</b>
<b>May TBD</b>	<b>Golf Tournament</b>

ASME  
Mobile-Gulf Coast Section  
855 Montfort Road W  
Mobile, Alabama 36608  
251-443-6440 X258