

**Executive Committee Members
2003-2005**

NEWSLETTER
Vol. XXXIV No. 1
January 2005

Anthracite-LV Website
www.asme.org/sections/a-lv/index.html

Chair
Douglas Robertson
Flowsolve Corp.
(908) 859-8042 (w)
robertsond@asme.org

JANUARY 2005 ISSUE

2004 – 2005 Meeting Schedule

Vice Chair
College Relations Chair
Open

Treasurer
Mgr. Delaware River Area
Jeffrey T. Daniels, P.E.
PPL Corp.
(610) 774-5718 (w)
danielsj1@asme.org

| | | |
|-------------------|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| September 2004 | | No Meeting |
| October 2004 | | No Meeting |
| November 9, 2004 | Allentown / SME Meeting | Choice Precision Machines |
| December 2004 | | No Meeting |
| January 27, 2005 | Reading Area | East Penn Manufacturing |
| February 25, 2005 | Hotel Bethlehem | Engineers Week Banquet |
| March 2005 | | To Be Determined |
| April 2005 | | To Be Determined |
| May 2005 | | To Be Determined |

Secretary
Open

Chair's Comments:

Program Director
Professional Development
R. Glenn Lunger, P.E.
F. L. Smidth, Inc.
(610) 264-6250(w)
lungerg@asme.org

Happy New Year! I hope your winter season has been going well so far. At least where I live, there has not been much snow, so I can't do much complaining about the daily commute through Bucks County, PA.

Manager, Allentown Area
Michael J. Hopstock
Lafarge Corp.
(610) 261-3482 (w)
hopstockm@asme.org

Below you will find an overview of last November's tour of Choice Precision Machine, Inc. I would personally like to thank Choice Precision Machine for hosting us, the Lehigh Valley Section of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers for organizing and including us in this event, and Tom Reilly for making the ASME arrangements for our section. I am looking forward to many more joint meetings with other professional societies in the future.

Manager, Reading Area
Tobi Mengle, P.E.
(610) 582-4864
tobimengle@aol.com

This month's meeting is a plant tour of East Penn Manufacturing. This company makes thousands of different sizes and types of lead acid batteries, battery accessories and wire and cable products for various applications. After the tour, everyone is invited to attend the after-tour dinner where you can enjoy a nice warm meal and do some shop-talk / networking / reminiscing.

Manager, Bethlehem Area
Thomas Reilly
reillyt1@asme.org

Looking forward, we have Engineers' Week coming up in February followed by additional tours and meetings in the spring. I hope to see you at an upcoming meeting and encourage you to get involved in our section's planning. All executive offices will be up for election this spring and we are looking for some new faces with fresh ideas.

Manager, Anthracite Area
Alan Battaglia
Martin Rollison Prompton Tools
(570) 253-4141 ext. 241 (w)
alanb@promptontool.com

Advisor & Newsletter Editor
Richard A. Merz, Ph.D., P.E.
Lafayette College
(610) 330-5451
merzr@asme.org

See you at the East Penn Manufacturing tour on January 27th.

Doug Robertson, Section Chair

Newsletter Editor's Comments:

This is the first formal Newsletter for this program year. In addition to the Chair's Message above, it includes the Newsletter Editor's Comments, a recap of the November tour of Choice Precision Machines, Inc. in Whitehall, PA, Members Seeking Employment, and the Meeting Notice for our January tour of East Penn Manufacturing.

As I said above this is the first formal Newsletter of the program year and you may have been wondering what was happening with your local Section. Well if you look at the Meeting Schedule at the top of the Newsletter you will see that the answer is not much. In November, we participated at a meeting arranged by the Society of Manufacturing Engineers. Our participation in this meeting was so hastily arranged that we did not have time to put out a formal Newsletter in either printed or electronic form. An electronic announcement was sent to those with email addresses on file with ASME and about 8 members came to the tour. I apologize to those of you who receive the printed version of the Newsletter for not letting you know about this tour but there was just not enough time to get it out before the tour. Thus, our January tour of East Penn Manufacturing is our first fully announced meeting of the year. The only other meeting on the schedule is February's Lehigh Valley Engineers' Week Banquet. Details for this event may be found at www.lvengineer.org.

The remainder of the year is wide open. We currently have no other meetings planned or scheduled. The reason for this is twofold. First, we have had some difficulty finding organizations willing to let us into their facilities and second, we have a lack of folks willing to organize a meeting. We can cure the first problem if you will provide us with ideas and leads for activities, tours, or speakers. The second part of the problem will require a little more involvement on your part. Perhaps you could arrange and host a tour where you work. Maybe you have an interesting topic you would like to speak about at a Section meeting or maybe you know someone who would be an interesting speaker. Please contact me or one of the other officers and help us fill out the remainder of the schedule. If you provide the tour or speaker for the meeting, we will take care of the rest.

My second point for this Newsletter relates to a comment made by our Section Chair, Doug Robertson, in his message - "All executive offices will be up for election this spring and we are looking for some new faces with fresh ideas". We need some of you to come forward and serve on the Executive Committee. Everyone one of the current members have been on the Committee for at least five years and some of us, Tobi and myself, have over fifteen years of service. We are in particular need of a Section Chair. Virtually all the current members have served a term in this office. It is time for you to step up to the plate. If we have sufficient committee members, jobs don't take a great deal of time. We keep our meetings short and do most of our work via email. We also make sure that we have fun. Contact Doug Robertson, our Section Chair, at robertsond@asme.org if you would like to join the Executive Committee.

My third and final point for this Newsletter is what happens if you the member don't help with my first two points. The answer is simple. The Section goes out of business, is shut down and ceases to exist. You might think that this can't happen. Well, it has happened to other sections where the members took no interest and did not participate and it could happen to us. The current leaders have done their part and fair share of keeping the Section active. If you want a local section, it is time for others to come forward and take on leadership roles within the Section. Be assured that all the current leaders are not planning to go away. We will be here and continue to be active on the Executive Committee. We all know that in this day and age everyone is busy. But with over 800 members in the Section, there must be some folks out there that can give some time to their professional society. Perhaps you are a young engineer who is just starting out and does not have a lot of other commitments. Serving the local section

is an excellent way to gain skills and experience that you can put to use on your job. In addition, think of the contacts you will add to your network. Perhaps you are an experienced engineer or a retired member with lots of knowledge that you could pass on to our younger members. Come be a mentor and share the information that you have acquired over the years - the information you wish someone had shared with you when you were just starting out. All you Pennsylvania PE's will soon need continuing education and professional development hours to maintain your licenses. Serving on our Executive Committee would count towards that requirement. While it is a cliché, it is non-the-less true, the more you put in, the more you will get out of your involvement. I will personally attest that my 35 years of active involvement with ASME has been one of the most rewarding parts of my career. I have been places, met people, seen things, and done things that I would never have had the chance to do if I had not been active with ASME. As engineering professionals, we all owe something back to the profession that has provided us with our careers and our livelihood. Come join us on the Executive Committee and be an active member of your Society. If you don't, the Anthracite-Lehigh Valley Section of ASME may not be here in the not too distant future.

I hope to see you at East Penn Manufacturing on January 27, 2005 and on the Executive Committee.

Anyone not receiving a hardcopy of the Newsletter that wants one, needs to notify me at merzr@asme.org. Please keep ASME up-to-date with your preferred email at <https://www.asmeny.org/memberaddr/html/security.htm>.

Richard Merz, Newsletter Editor

November Meeting Report – Plant Tour of Choice Precision Machines Inc.:

Anthracite-Lehigh Valley Section members had the pleasure of being guests of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers on Nov. 9th at an excellent tour of Choice Precision Machine, Inc.'s 44,800 sq. ft. facility in Whitehall, PA. This tour was set up by SME Chair, Ken Lawrence.

There were many examples of milling, turning, and drilling on a variety of products from block manifolds to rotating shaft components. Several operator-controlled stations are used for low volume work while fully enclosed vertical/horizontal stations are used for fully automated processes.

The pride of the facility was two Palletech queue systems that featured modular, pre-engineered design to allow fast delivery and installation to start manufacturing in the minimum possible time. These systems each use 24 separate setup blocks or pallets for fixturing. Each block can be indexed and programmed individually. Operation is managed by an extremely user-friendly cell controller. Pallets are automatically transferred from the pallet stocker to a machining center according to the production schedule. Machining automatically starts with no operator required. After a pallet is finished, it is automatically replaced with the next one in the production schedule. As a result, you realize higher spindle utilization with the PALLETECH. Parts are machined in a totally unmanned environment giving absolute security of quality through process control. A wide variety of work is permanently set-up awaiting customer requirements. The pallets are stored offering a massive amount of machine work holding area. This all adds up to a dramatic reduction of lost time for resetting, while maintaining total flexibility to customers needs.

Coordinate Measurement Machine (CMM), an Optical Comparator, and gauge pins are some of the quality assurance tools used. Choice Precision Machines, Inc. uses Just-In-Time and Lean Manufacturing practices.

Choice Precision Machine, Inc. has successfully implemented lean manufacturing techniques and highly automated CNC machines to obtain productivity levels that make them a leader in the industry. Their focused and disciplined approach to seek out and eliminate all waste has resulted in very efficient and competitive practices. This process is ongoing and they have been able to focus on these improvements

without compromising production commitments. Integrated with lights out manufacturing, this has become an everyday way of life for Choice, as well as seeking out any technology and software in the manufacturing fields that are the most user friendly in its industry.

More information about Choice Precision Machines, Inc. may be found at <http://www.choiceprecision.com/>

Tom Reilly – Bethlehem Area Manager

Continuity and Change - Update:

ASME's Continuity and Change initiative continues to move forward like a lumbering elephant – slow but don't get in the way. There seems to be a lot of Change and not much Continuity. I am not sure that we will recognize the organization when all is said and done. You need to visit the sites listed below and read the information there to see where ASME is headed. If you want ASME to meet your needs, then you need to make them known. We entered Phase II of the process (Transition) in March 2004 and it will continue until July 2005. Phase II is designed to maximize member and staff participation in ASME's transition to the Board-approved model through project teams that are planning the transition. The January 2005 edition of the Continuity & Change Newsletter may be found at <http://www.asme.org/change/IINEWSLTR0105.htm>. Information in the Continuity & Change Newsletter is provided directly from ASME's senior volunteers, executive management committee, staff members, and the Project Management Task Force and Project Teams. If you are not yet a subscriber and wish to receive this Newsletter, please send an email with the subject line SUBSCRIPTION to projectoffice@asme.org. Additional information is available at <http://www.asme.org/change> and in the minutes of the Board of Governors meetings at <http://www.asme.org/bog/>.

Members Seeking Employment:

Michael J. Kaszyski, PE: seeking an Engineering position that makes use of skills in Facility Engineering and Project Management. The ideal position would involve engineering process improvement in support of manufacturing. Award winning Senior Project Manager, who conceived, designed, implemented and managed numerous plant improvements and modifications. Consistently made significant contributions to corporate goals for business growth and profits, amounting to \$3.5 million per year in cost savings.

Contact: Michael J. Kaszyski, (610) 398-4929, kaszyski@verizon.net

ASME January 2005 Meeting Announcement



Tour of East Penn Manufacturing

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2005

TOUR: East Penn Manufacturing, Lyon Station, PA

East Penn Manufacturing makes thousands of different sizes and types of lead-acid batteries, battery accessories, and wire & cable products for virtually any application. Since 1946, they have developed an enviable reputation for world-class quality products made in their state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities.

Our host will be Mr. Ken Kristan, Manager of Equipment Design & Automation Engineering. www.eastpenn-deka.com

Tour will be limited to non-competitors of East Penn. Those with any potential conflict of interest are politely not welcome. The attendee list will be reviewed.

DINNER: Smothered Chicken, Smoked Country Ham, or Broiled Haddock. Dinner includes soup, salad, potato, and fruit pie ala mode.

COST: \$ 15.00 per Person

DIRECTIONS: Directions on following page.

TIME: TOUR: 5:30 PM CASH BAR: 7:00 PM
DINNER: 7:30 PM

PLACE: The Kutztown Tavern, 272 West Main Street, Kutztown, PA

RESERVATIONS: Tour Reservations may be made by mail, email, or phone and must be received by Monday, January 17, 2005. Dinner reservations & Cancellations not accepted after January 24, 2005.

CONTACT: TOBI MENGLE - (610) 582-4864
EMAIL: tobimengle@aol.com
FAX: (610) 404-4676

Member: _____ (Chicken ___ Haddock ___ Ham ___)

Employer / Affiliation: _____

Guest(s): _____ (Chicken ___ Haddock ___ Ham ___)

Employers / Affiliations: _____

TEL. NO: _____

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ANTHRACITE/LEHIGH VALLEY ASME
MAIL TO: TOBI MENGLE
931 LINCOLN ROAD
BIRDSBORO, PA 19508

DIRECTIONS TO: East Penn Manufacturing
Lyon Station, PA 19606

FROM ALLENTOWN AREA:

1. RT 222 toward Reading (south/west).
2. Take Kutztown exit, 737 South.
3. Make right onto Main Street and then left onto Noble Street.
4. Follow Noble Street out of Kutztown, about 3 miles to Lyon Station.
5. Make right onto State Ave. and go straight thru light.
6. About 1/2 mile, entrance to East Penn will be on the left.
7. Make left into East Penn facility and then first left. Follow road to top of hill.
8. Parking and tour are at the Central Services Building.

FROM EAST PENN TO KUTZTOWN TAVERN:

1. Make right out of East Penn onto State Ave. (Fleetwood/Topton) road.
2. Go thru first light and make the next left at the bank (Main Street).
3. Follow road into Kutztown, Main Street in Lyons Station turns into Noble Street in Kutztown.
4. At stop sign in Kutztown, make left and then first right.
5. Follow street toward Main Street. Parking for Kutztown Tavern will be on the right one block before Main Street. There is also limited parking on Main Street.

FROM KUTZTOWN TAVERN BACK TO ALLENTOWN AREA:

1. Make right onto Main Street and follow to 222 north/east to Allentown.