



**Executive Committee Members
2003-2005**

Chair
Douglas Robertson
Met-Pro Corporation
215-723-8155 ext 237 (w)
robertsond@asme.org

Vice Chair
College Relations Chair
Open

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

Secretary
Open

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

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

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

Manager, Bethlehem Area
Thomas Reilly
Mack Truck
610-709-2408
reillyt1@asme.org

Manager, Anthracite Area
Alan Battaglia
Creative Design & Machining
570-587-3077 ex. 233
abattaglia@cdmi.cc

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

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

MARCH 2005 ISSUE

2004 – 2005 Meeting Schedule

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 24, 2005	Lehigh University	Student Night
April 2005		To Be Determined
May 2005		To Be Determined

Chair’s Comments:

Well I don’t know about you, but I am counting the days to spring and warmer weather. I’m ready to move on and turn the corner into the next season. I can’t wait for the chorus of lawnmowers echoing through the neighborhood.....

Speaking about sun and heat, we have a dynamic presentation lined up this month at Lehigh University. Frank Proske, President of Sun Spot Solar and Heating, Inc., will be speaking on the subjects of solar energy, trends in the industry and being an entrepreneur. This meeting is scheduled for the evening of March 24th. Please look for the meeting announcement later in this newsletter. I hope to see you there.

Also in this newsletter is a recap of our January tour at East Penn Manufacturing. I would like to thank East Penn for hosting our group and providing an interesting tour of their facility. I would also like to recognize our Tobi Mengle for his hard work in coordinating this event.

Again, see you at Lehigh on the 24th. If you can’t make Lehigh, make sure your look for our next newsletter to read about our upcoming spring events.

Doug Robertson, Section Chair

Newsletter Editor’s Comments:

This is the second formal Newsletter for this program year. In addition to the Chair’s Comments above and my comments as the Newsletter Editor, it includes a recap of the January tour of East Penn Manufacturing, in Lyon Station, PA, a summary of the Engineers Week Banquet, and the Meeting Notice for our March meeting which is Student Night at Lehigh University.

Our first formally announced meeting of the year, the tour of East Penn Manufacturing, was attended by close to 50 members. It was a great turn out for an excellent tour and it was most gratifying to see so many members at a meeting. However, our problems with participation have not been solved. The response to my comments in last month's newsletter concerning potential tours/meetings and service on our Executive Committee has not been overwhelming. In fact, I have had only two responses. Frank Proske, of Sun Spot Solar and Heating, stepped forward and volunteered to serve as our speaker at this month's Student Night at Lehigh University (see the meeting announcement). Rod Lowe sent me 5 suggestions for possible tours along with contact information for each. The Executive Committee is pursuing these leads. My thanks to Frank and Rod for responding to my call for help.

Unfortunately, the bigger question that I raised in my message last month still remains. We need help on our Executive Committee for next year. We will be sending out a ballot with our next mailing and as things stand there will be a lot of empty spaces on it with no names for many of the positions. I will not take up much space this month repeating what I said last month. Suffice it to say that now is the time to step forward and join the Executive Committee. The future of our Section depends on you.

I hope to see you at Lehigh for Student Night on March 24, 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

January Meeting Report – Tour East Penn Manufacturing:

On January 27, almost 50 members, guests, and students were treated to a tour of East Penn Manufacturing's lead-acid battery plant in Lyon Station. Despite the bitter cold weather, this was the largest turnout for a local section tour in many years. East Penn is the largest manufacturing employer in Berks County and produces and recycles millions of lead-acid batteries each year while adhering to the stringent EPA regulations for handling lead and acids. The Lyon Station plant site is over 490 acres with 2 million square feet under roof.

Tour attendees observed the automated battery assembly lines, including plate welding, acid filling, testing, and labeling. Over 80% of East Penn's products receive the private label of their customers. We thank East Penn for allowing our members to tour, and our tour hosts, Mr. Ken Kristan, Lloyd Wetzell, and Barry Frain for volunteering their time to provide an interesting overview of the state-of-the-art in battery manufacturing technology.

Many of those in attendance also enjoyed the excellent after tour dinner at the Kutztown Tavern.

Tobi Mengle – Reading Area Manager

February Meeting Report – Engineers' Week Banquet & Speaker:

The Lehigh Valley Engineering Council (LVEC) 25th Annual Banquet was held on Fri., Feb. 25th at the Green Pond Country Club. Attendance grew larger than expected due to several walk-ins, but the facility was able to accommodate. Nearly most of the area professional societies attended the event to recognize local achievements toward engineering.

Your ASME section was represented by officers, Jeff Daniels, Dr. Richard Merz, and Mike Hopstock accompanied by his wife. Also at our table were Peter and Helen Esherick (Patient Instrument Corp.). We enjoyed the presentation of recognition certificates to the member society presidents. We were given a short talk about Allen High School curriculum offering pre-engineering courses. Project Lead the Way (PLTW) was also recognized as a national pre-engineering program being used at Lehigh County Technical Institute (LCTI).

The PSPE Lehigh Valley Engineer of the Year was awarded to James P. Snyder, II, of JP Morgan Chase and prior, Bethlehem Steel. The PSPE Lehigh Valley Young Engineer of the Year was awarded to Joseph C. Hartman of Lehigh University.

The culmination of the evening was the banquet speaker, Prof. Bernard Amadei of Civil Engineering Department at the University of Colorado at Boulder. He is the founder and promoter of “Engineers without Borders” program. This program has student and senior chapters throughout the US and has grown in membership in just a few years.

Engineers without Borders organizes resources and volunteers to provide solutions to the basic needs of people and places of impoverished places throughout the world. Prof. Amadei shared stories of bringing clean water to a Belize village using a ramp pump, providing solar powered lighting to a maternity clinic in Rwanda, installing a solar powered PC into a Nepal classroom, supplying an engineering school in Afghanistan, and enhancing infrastructure of native American reserves in South Dakota.

All of these accomplishments were touching, but the biggest impression left was by seeing the smiles of the children affected by this work. A small girl goes to school instead of walking for water all day. Rwandan children taught for careers instead of war. Nepal children gathered around a PC showing what whales look like. It was an experience not soon forgotten.

Tom Reilly – Bethlehem Area Manager

Continuity and Change - Update:

ASME’s Continuity and Change initiative marches onward. The March 2005 edition of the Continuity & Change Newsletter may be found at <http://www.asme.org/change/IINEWSLTR0305.htm>. 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/>.

Celebrate ASME's 125th Anniversary!

<http://www.asme.org/anniversary>

ASME March Meeting

Anthracite-Lehigh Senior Section

Lehigh University Student Section

- PLACE:** Lehigh University Campus – Bethlehem, PA
Neville Hall (6A East Packer Avenue)
(enter building by front entrance on East Packer Ave.)
- DATE:** Thursday, March 24, 2005
- TIME:** Pizza and Soda: 5:30-6:30pm
Presentation: 6:30-8:00pm
- SPEAKER:** **Frank Proske - President of Sun Spot Solar & Heating, Inc.**
Sun Spot Solar is engaged in the sale of renewable energy products to both the retail and wholesale market.
- TOPICS:** 1) Engineers as Entrepreneurs - One Engineer's Success Story in the Solar Energy Industry. This includes the “how” and “why” of starting Sun Spot Solar Inc and tips for the would-be entrepreneur
2) “High tech” solar water heating for the home, business and industry. Today's solar thermal systems are used for everything from DHW (domestic hot water) to power absorption cycle air conditioning systems.
3) The 2005 Solar Decathlon collegiate competition.
- COST:** \$5 for ASME members
\$0 for students!!
- CONTACT:** Doug Robertson
robertsond@asme.org or (215-723-8155)
- RSVP:** By March 22nd (so we can order the pizzas...)
- DIRECTIONS:** See driving directions and map on next page

DIRECTIONS TO LEHIGH CAMPUS – NEVILLE HALL

From Interstate 78: Take the exit at Hellertown (Route 412). Follow Route 412 into Bethlehem. Follow construction detours onto Third Street. Take Third Street to intersection with Brodhead. Turn left onto Brodhead. Proceed straight through the next light and up the hill. Make left turn onto West Packer Avenue. Neville Hall will be on your left (see map below).

From Route 22: Take the Route 378 exit in Bethlehem. Route 378 heads south only; follow Route 378 south for 3.6 miles. Cross the bridge over the Lehigh River and stay in the left-turn lane marked Third Street. Bear left at the traffic light for Third Street at the south end of the bridge. Continue one block to the traffic light at Brodhead Avenue. Turn right onto Brodhead Avenue. Proceed straight through the next light and up the hill. Make left turn onto West Packer Avenue. Neville Hall will be on your left (see map below).

From the South: Take the Northeast Extension of the Pennsylvania Turnpike north to exit 32 (Quakertown). Turn left onto Route 663. Follow for 3.5 miles. Turn left onto Route 309 north in Quakertown. Continue north on 309 to Center Valley. Turn right onto Route 378 north (Bethlehem). Follow Route 378 over South Mountain. About halfway down the far side of the mountain, at the second set of yellow blinking lights, turn right onto Summit Street. At the end of Summit Street, at the stop sign, take a left onto Brodhead Avenue. Proceed down the hill and make a right onto West Packer Avenue. Neville Hall will be on your left (see map below).

Parking: Metered street parking is available on Packer Avenue. (After business hours, this parking is free.)

