

## The Physics of Baseball

As baseball season is approaching soon, why not talk about it at our annual DED-ASME meeting scheduled for March 7, 2005 at the Greek Islands Restaurant in downtown Chicago? We will have the pleasure of guest speaker, Porter Johnson from the Illinois Institute of Technology who will answer some interesting questions about baseball.

In his talk, baseball, our national game, is examined from the viewpoint of the basic physical principles involved. Such questions as why lighter bats are in vogue, why Denver CO is a home run Mecca, and why pitching seems to be stronger in the World Series are considered from the viewpoint of physics. In addition, the impact of advances in technology on baseball is examined. Several experiments will be employed to illustrate basic ideas.

For additional information, see the following locations on his website:

<http://www.iit.edu/~johnsonp/baseball.html>

<http://www.iit.edu/~johnsonp/argtalk.html>

<http://www.iit.edu/~johnsonp/smart00/lesson3.htm>

PORTER W. JOHNSON, our guest speaker for the event, is originally from Chattanooga, Tennessee. He holds a B.S. from Case Institute of Technology, an M.A. from Princeton University and a Ph.D. from Princeton University. Porter Johnson is currently Professor of Physics in the Mathematics and Sciences Education department at the Illinois Institute of Technology. Prior to this, he has been chairman of the Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences department at IIT as well as Chairman of the Physics Department at IIT. He also held the position as Interim Chair as the new Mathematics and Science Education department was being created. He has written three books, including Quantum Field Theory: A Self-contained Approach with David Atkinson. In addition, he has written over 70 published papers in the field of physics throughout his career.

6:00 Registration & Networking

6:45 Dinner

7:45 Technical Presentation

The Greek Islands 200 South Halsted St.  
Chicago, IL (312) 782-9855

The Greek Islands provides complimentary valet parking.  
There is also parking for a small fee across the street.

Meeting Fee (includes dinner)

\$27 Members \$10 Students \$30 Non-Members

Menu (Choose one):

Mousaka (Eggplant Casserole), Grecian Chicken, Orange  
Roughy

Register on line at: <http://sections.asme.org/chicago>, or  
phone with name and meal choice: (847) 646-6054. The  
deadline for registration is Friday March, 4th 5:00 PM



ASME Chicago Section  
c/o Tom Peterson  
807 W. Catino St.  
Arlington Hts, IL 60005

### **April 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting: Nanotechnology!**

Dr. Horacio Espinosa of the Northwestern University Institute for Nanotechnologies will be our guest speaker for our April section meeting. For location and information, please see our section website at <http://sections.asme.org/chicago>

### **Don't Forget to Vote!**

With the new year well underway, it's time for election of section officers. This year, ballots may be submitted via email, fax, or snail mail. The offices up for election are the Section Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary. For a list of the candidates names and qualifications, please see our section website at <http://sections.asme.org/chicago>. As a reminder, several other offices are not filled. If you want to become more involved in your ASME section (and earn PDHs), check the website and drop one of the officers a line, or speak up at the next section meeting!

### **Celebrating 125 Years of ASME**

Log onto [www.asme.org/anniversary](http://www.asme.org/anniversary) for up-to-date information on events for ASME's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, as well as how your local section can become involved.

### **ASME Mega-RAC**

Regions V, VI, and VII are holding a Mega-RAC in the Chicagoland area March 18-20, 2005. All activities will be held at the Westin O'Hare Hotel, located at 6100 River Road, Rosemont, IL. A partial listing of the lectures and presentations to be offered includes:

***Application of Quality Concepts to Engineering*** with Distinguished Lecturer Dr. Amos Holt;

***From Engineer to Manager: A Road Map for a Successful Transition*** with John Bozewicz, ASME Management Division;

***Structural Integrity in Marketing: A Solid Foundation for Promoting Your Business*** with Brian Pelletier, Green Cardinal Communications;

The following optional Professional Development Courses have a separate registration fee and offer Professional Development Hours:

***Spring Design*** with Thomas Pimmler of the Monticello Spring Corp. is offered from 1:00 to 5:00 PM on Friday, March 18, and provides 4 PDHs.

***Career and Business Protection*** with Richard Beem and Mark Partridge is offered from 1:45 to 5:15 PM on Saturday, March 19, and provides 3 PDHs.

There is also a Town Hall Meeting with top ASME officers to discuss Continuity and Change, and several other topics. For more information, see the conference website at <http://regions.asme.org/mwro/mrindex.htm>. For topics of local interest, see Bill Medcalf's articles at <http://sections.asme.org/chicago>.