

February Meeting

What: Egg Drop Contest

When: Saturday the 24th, 1-3pm

Where: Belk's court area, Ft. Henry Mall, Kingsport

See page 5 for more details on entering the contest, being a volunteer, or just come out and observe.

Get Involved in ASME...

Holston Section is currently accepting nominations (yourself or others) for 2007-08 leadership positions; submit your nomination to Mary Bailey: mkbailey@eastman.com

January Meeting Recap – Distinguished Lecturer Program

Write-up by Ron Dailey

In January, the Holston Section was honored to have Dr. Leighton Sissom provide a lecture on product liability. Dr. Sissom has uniquely served Tn Tech as a student (undergrad at TTU, graduate studies at Georgia Tech), professor, Dean of Mechanical Engineering, and Dean of the College of Engineering. As taken from one court document, "Although Sissom remains affiliated with Tennessee Tech, he established a consulting firm in 1978 called Sissom & Associates, Inc., and spends considerable time serving as an expert witness. As the magistrate judge noted in his report and recommendation, since 1978 Sissom has 'testified in hundreds of product liability lawsuits involving everything from car seat belts to manure spreaders.'" (Pride v. BIC, 1998)

For the lecture, Dr. Sissom condensed his many years of practical courtroom experience into three fundamental teachings through some very colorful (and vivid!) anecdotes. Through these illustrations, Dr. Sissom communicated the following messages: 1) liability can come by not engineering a product at all (failure to engineer), 2) liability can come through poor engineering, and 3) liability can come through misapplication or poor execution of good engineering. Dr. Sissom also pointed out that misuse or abuse of a product does not necessarily offer liability rights to the consumer.

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ASME To Hold Three Industry-Focused Conferences on Biotechnology

Leaders in the science and engineering communities will assess the latest technology in bioprocess engineering, biomechanics and medical devices and instrumentation at three ASME conferences in June 2007.

The ASME Bioprocess Technology Seminars and Exhibits will be held June 4-6, 2007, at the Radisson-Dublin St. Helens Hotel in Dublin Ireland. The second conference, Frontiers in Biomedical Devices 2007, is scheduled for June 7-8, at the Hyatt Regency Irvine in Irvine, Calif. The 2007 Summer Bioengineering Conference will take place June 20-24, at the Keystone Resort and Conference Center in Keystone, Colo.

The three conferences will examine the progress and future directions in biotechnology research, and provide practitioners with the latest tools and training to advance commercial applications in the field. ASME's objective in presenting the conferences is to provide the fast-growing biopharmaceutical industry with useful resources to solve technology challenges.

For more information, visit:

http://www.asme.org/Communities/Technical/BPE/Bioprocess_Activities.cfm

Call for Nominations: 2007 Old Guard Early Career Engineer Award



Recognize an outstanding early career engineer actively involved in their profession, their communities, and the work of the Society. Submit Nominations Today! Visit <http://files.asme.org/asmeorg/Communities/EarlyCareer/8026.pdf> for more details. The deadline for all nominations is March 1, 2007.

2007 Leadership Training Conference is Connecting Communities

Plan on attending the 2007 Leadership Training Conference (LTC) to be held at the Wyndham Greenspoint hotel in Houston, Texas from March 2-4, 2007. The theme of this year's LTC is "Connecting Communities," and its purpose is to provide ASME members soon to become unit leaders an opportunity to develop their leadership knowledge and skills, share best practices, form partnerships with other units, and focus on critical issues important to the success of the Society.

The LTC will provide:

- A first-time-unit-leader workshop – the basics
- An overview of the Society's organization, activities and resources
- Information and methods to help leaders succeed in leading an ASME unit
- An opportunity to network with other leaders and ASME staff
- A forum for interchange of ideas and development of program plans

One of the goals for LTC is for each participant to formulate a plan for briefing their units on the information learned at LTC, so you may be hearing more about it at a section meeting soon.

LTC is open to leaders throughout ASME who are invited by their sector leadership to attend. Also attending the LTC will be a special contingent of Early Career Engineers and students, whose presence will add extra excitement to the conference. If your section hasn't yet selected a delegate, or you'd like an additional member to attend, please contact your District leader as soon as possible.

For additional information on LTC, visit:

<http://www.asmeconferences.org/ltc07/index.cfm>

The Fellow Grade recognizes significant engineering achievements and contributions to the engineering profession. ASME takes great pride in its Fellows Program and encourages the nomination of ASME members to Fellow Grade. Any ASME member can submit a nomination for Fellow.

For additional information on ASME's **Fellows Program** visit:

<http://www.asme.org/Governance/Honors/Fellows/Fellows.cfm>

More Local Section News

ASME Endowed Scholarship Update

During the most recent NSTCC Pre-Engineering Advisory Board Meeting held on January 29th, 2007, Katie Yates, Director of Institutional Advancement at NSTCC thanked ASME for their huge, lump sum donation in May 2006. This lump sum donation created the new endowed ASME scholarship. She then introduced Brittany Harris and recognized her for her academic excellence and being the 1st recipient of the new ASME Endowed scholarship: "I would like to introduce to you the 2006-2007 ASME Endowed Scholarship recipient, Brittany Harris. Brittany is a 19-year-old sophomore here at Northeast State. She is a member of the Northeast State Student Ambassador program, Phi Theta Kappa, and the Pre-Engineering Club. Her future plans are to transfer to Tennessee Tech and major in Civil Engineering. Brittany has asked me to say that she is honored to be the recipient of this scholarship and thanks to all of the ASME members who made it possible."



Picture above is of our first ASME Holston Section Endowed Scholarship Winner, Brittany Harris, and her parents Gary & Donna Harris (flanked to Brittany's right and left). Behind Brittany is Ron Dailey (NSTCC Pre-Engineering Advisory Board President and ASME Holston Section VP), and Dr. Mark Pollock (ASME member and Pre-Engineering Faculty at NSTCC).

Northeast Tennessee Science Bowl Competition – Volunteer High School Takes 1st Place

ASME Holston Section, along with corporate sponsors Eastman Chemical and Weyerhaeuser, joined forces to facilitate the first annual Northeast Tennessee Science Bowl Competition at Eastman's Toy F. Reid Employee Center. Seven teams representing four high schools (Volunteer High, Cherokee High, Dobyms-Bennett, and Maryville) participated in the half-day competition held on February 8th

Volunteer High School took 1st place receiving a \$300 cash prize and a trophy. 2nd place \$200 w/trophy was awarded to Cherokee High, and 3rd place \$100 w/trophy was awarded to Dobyms-Bennett. See pictures on page 4.

Over 40 students participated in the fast-paced academic competition that offered a chance for teams to match their wits in math and science. The competition covered several disciplines: astronomy, biology, chemistry, earth science, general science, mathematics, and physics. The competition was open to any school and solicitations of schools began in October 2006. Schools were allowed to have more than one team. ASME is hoping that, due to the success of this inaugural event, we can continue the Northeast Tennessee Science Bowl as an annual event and add even more schools in 2008.

Your local ASME Holston Section was instrumental in bring this competition to our area. In addition to facilitating the event, ASME provided 3 model fuel cell car kits (\$165/ea) to the first three local schools to register for the competition. Special thanks to ASME members Larry Carvagno, Chris Suresh, Mary and Larry Bailey, as well as Scott Crowe, Randy Elam, and Cheryl Harvey, for the highly valued donation of their time.

Local Section News



Science Bowl, 1st Place – Volunteer High School



Science Bowl, 2nd Place – Cherokee High School



Science Bowl, 3rd Place – D-B High School

Volunteer Opportunity with Kingsport Science Fair Development

Helen Whittaker, Kingsport Public Library manager, needs your help to form a regional Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF). She is looking for 4-6 people to form an organizational committee, which will work on hosting a Science Fair in the Spring of 2008.

Contact Helen at: 423-229-9488 or hwhittaker@wrlibrary.org. Also, you can go to the following link for more information: <http://www.intel.com/education/isef/participate.htm>

Volunteer Opportunity with ASME International

Dear ASME Friends and Colleagues,

We need your help.

Two new, exciting ASME volunteer opportunities are now open - on new Committees that are just now being formed within the ASME Programs & Activities Board under Vice President John Wesner. I believe the members who serve on these committees will have opportunities to make truly profound and unique contributions to the future of ASME, by quickly influencing and improving the way that we serve our members and the profession.

Volunteers are needed for these two Committees:

- Best Practices Committee
- Local Sections Committee

If you are interested, willing, and able to serve as a member of either committee, **please nominate yourself by contacting Philip.Carpentier@shell.com**. You are also invited to extend our invitation to other ASME members who you believe may be interested.

ASME's EGG DROP Contest

SATURDAY, (1:00pm-3:00pm), Belk's Court area, Fort Henry Mall, Kingsport.

This super event is E-WEEK's GRAND FINALE! Check the E-WEEK website (www.tnengineering.net/eweek) and (www.asme-eggdrop.org). Sponsors include: Eastman Chemical Company, BAE Systems, Day & Zimmermann, ASME, Mark Freeman and Associates, AIChE, ASQ, Eastman Credit Union, Weyerhaeuser, QK4 Engineering, TSPE, Food City, and the Fort Henry Mall. Contact person is Mary Bailey (marybailey@eastman.com), 423-967-5164. Volunteers are still needed to help make this event super. Contact Lauren Moyer (lmoyer@eastman.com), 423-229-2208 (Office) or Todd Athon (tathon@eastman.com), 423-229-6423

→ The EGG DROP CONTEST encourages local students to put their math and science skills to work in a fun and challenging way as they design protective cases for eggs, and then drop the eggs from 22 feet onto a target. Contestants earn points based on how many parts their cases comprise, how close to the target the egg lands (and, of course, whether the egg lands safely), and how much the case weighs. The top 3 winners in each of 5 categories will be receiving cash prizes.

→ Anyone in the community is invited to participate. There will be 5 competing categories:

- Elementary School (K-5th grade),
- Middle School (6-8th grade),
- High School (9-12th grade),
- Adult,
- Teams

→ The Team category can include any age person, and any number of people can be on a team. Each entry will receive a t-shirt at the competition, and entries in the Team category will receive up to 4 t-shirts with their entry fee. Additional t-shirts will be available for purchase at the competition for can be ordered in advance on the website (www.asme-eggdrop.org).

→ In keeping with the spirit of Engineers' Week, there will also be a MENTORING TABLE for informing the public (especially students) about the role of engineering in the Egg Drop contest and in everyday life.

→ This year's contest is expected to attract approximately 100 entries and a crowd of over 300 spectators!!

→ Contact Mary Bailey if you are interested in attend the last few planning meetings...