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**ASME UNIT SUPPORT**  
1-800-843-2763

## January, 2009 Newsletter

### Message from the Chair

The early part of 2009 offers a lot of activities for our organization:

On January 28<sup>th</sup> we will tour the Museum of American Speed in Lincoln with dinner at Lazlo's to follow. I've heard rave reviews of this museum for all you gear-heads. Please join us – see the attached flier.

February is the time for E-week with the annual banquet on Feb 19<sup>th</sup> at Cascio's with the topic 'NatureWorks Biopolymers' – see the attached flier. The E-week expo will coincide with the Home and Garden Show at the Qwest Center on Feb 21<sup>st</sup> – stop by to see our booth.

A presentation by the National Insulation Association is being considered for late February/early March – details to follow.

Our March PD course is scheduled for the 31<sup>st</sup> at Mahoney State Park with pump war veteran Jim Healy lending his expertise on pump applications and problem solving. He is urging participants to come with issues or problems that they are facing – if you have ideas ahead of time, please contact event organizer Jay Fluehr at [jfluehr@oppd.com](mailto:jfluehr@oppd.com).

For a great time, please join us at any or all of these events.

Also, our section student scholarship applications were recently sent to local colleges/universities with a due date of Feb 27. If you know any local mechanical engineering students in need of some cash have them contact Bill Redinger at [wredinger@oppd.com](mailto:wredinger@oppd.com).

We are currently seeking candidates/volunteers for the 2009-2010 ASME Nebraska Section Executive Officers. If you know anyone with interest in sustaining our organization as a leader in the nation, send their information to me at [gruhl@oppd.com](mailto:gruhl@oppd.com).

Sincerely,

Gary Ruhl  
ASME, Nebraska Section Chair.

### 2008-2009 ASME Nebraska Section planned program is as follows:

January 28 – Speedway Museum Tour, Lincoln, NE  
February 19 – E-Week Banquet, at Cascio's Omaha, NE  
February/March – National Insulation Assoc. Presentation TBD  
March 31 – PD Course, Pumps, at Mahoney State Park  
April – Becton Dickenson Tour, Columbus, NE  
May – Magnus Farley Tour, Fremont, NE  
June – NSPE Golf Outing; OPPD Power Drive Competition

# January Meeting Announcement

## January Meeting

**Museum of American Speed**  
340 Victory Lane, Lincoln, NE

**Wed., Jan. 28, 2009, 5:00 pm**



The NE Section of ASME has arranged a guided tour of this rare collection just for our members and guests. The Museum of American Speed houses the world's largest collection of vintage and exotic racing engines and speed equipment. During this two-hour tour, we'll have plenty of opportunities to ask questions, and cameras are allowed.

It started with engines. Then the speed equipment that made the engines faster. Then the fast cars. Which led to the automobilia including gas and oil art, license plates, air pumps, pennants, radiator caps, and monkey wrenches. Pedal car models of fast cars became a pedal car collection. Then the toy fast cars which became the toy collection with toy cars including the rare tether cars and wire-controlled cars. The collection grew to include lunch boxes, the boxes the toy cars came in, and a soap box derby collection.... plus more. Be sure to visit their web site at [www.museumofamericanspeed.com](http://www.museumofamericanspeed.com) to get a better idea of how impressive this collection is.

Dinner will follow the tour at:

**Lazlo's Brewery & Grill**  
**210 N. 7th Street, Lincoln, NE**

The available menu will include:

- 12 oz. New York Strip, w/ Baked Potato
- BBQ Boneless Chicken & Baby Back Ribs, w/ French Fries
- Hickory-Grilled Fresh Salmon, w/ Wild Rice

(All meals include salad and coffee/tea/soda – sorry, you're on your own for the bar tab!)

Cost:

	<u>Members &amp; Guests</u>	<u>Students</u>
Tour Only ---	\$10	\$5
Tour & Dinner ----	\$35	\$20

Reservations:

Please make reservations by Wed., January 21<sup>st</sup>, by calling Dave Stransky at (402) 399-1258 or by email at "david.stransky@hdrinc.com". Please note your menu choice.

Directions:

You may find complete directions to the museum at:  
[www.museumofamericanspeed.com/PlanYourVisit/PlanYourVisit.shtml](http://www.museumofamericanspeed.com/PlanYourVisit/PlanYourVisit.shtml)  
(Note that the building entrance is actually on Oakcreek Drive.)

## E-WEEK BANQUET THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2009

Sponsored by the Engineer's Roundtable  
<http://www.eroundtable.unomaha.edu>

0.1 Continuing Education Units (CEU) or  
1.0 Professional Development Hours (PDH) available

### "NatureWorks Biopolymers"

NatureWorks LLC is the world's leading biopolymer manufacturer. At their plant on the Cargill campus in Blair, Nebraska, they produce a biopolymer that uses corn as a raw material. Their finished product, Polylactide (PLA), can be used to make everything from packaging and consumer goods to fibers for apparel and home furnishings. This presentation will cover an overview of PLA manufacture, applications of PLA, environmental impact and sustainability concerns.

David Miller is a Reliability Engineer for Natureworks LLC in Blair, NE. His primary responsibilities include developing and executing maintenance strategies to ensure safe and effective operation of the polymer and lactide plants. Previous to this position he spent several years in similar role maintaining locomotives for Union Pacific Railroad. He received is BSME from the University of Nebraska and is a registered professional engineer in the state of Nebraska.

***Banquet Location:***

Cascio's Steak House  
1620 South 10<sup>th</sup> Street  
South of Downtown Omaha

***Time:***

6:00 PM – Social Hour (Cash Bar)  
7:00 PM – Banquet & Speaker

***Dinner Selections & Prices:***

Entrée Choices:  
Rib Eye Steak \$26.00  
Boneless Chicken Breast \$24.00  
Grilled Halibut \$28.00  
(All dinner selections include a salad, baked potato, bread, vegetable coffee or tea, and choose from 2 cheesecake desserts)

The lead society for this year's national E-Week is The National Society of Professional Engineers and the lead company is Intel Corporation.

*Please note that this event is a **Thursday evening**. In order to provide a total attendance count to Cascio's Steak House, only advanced reservations will be accepted. Advanced reservations, menu choices, attendee's name and payment must be received by **noon, Tuesday, February 17, 2009** (Monday the 16<sup>th</sup> is a mail Holiday). Checks should be made payable to the "**E-Week Roundtable**." Please clip the reservation form below (add an additional sheet if required), attach payment and send to the address shown.*

Send to: Elizabeth Hunter, Leo A. Daly Company  
8600 Indian Hills Drive, Omaha, NE 68114, (Phone # 402-390-4473)

Attendee's Name(s)	Quantity	Menu Choice	Total Cost
_____	_____	Rib Eye Steak                    x	\$26 _____
_____	_____	Boneless Chicken Breast x	\$24 _____
_____	_____	Grilled Halibut                x	\$28 _____
		<b>Total Cost</b>	_____

Attendee's E-mail address or daytime phone number: \_\_\_\_\_



# Block Kids

Brought to you by:



**What:** Block Kids is a national building competition, where kids use Legos to build structures and are then judged on the building and why they built it. The winner in each age group (grades 1-2, 3-4, 5-6) wins a \$50 savings bond.

**Who:** Boys and Girls in grades 1-6

**When:** Saturday, February 7, 2009 starting at 10:00 am

**Where:** IBEW Hall  
8946 "L" Street, Omaha, NE

**Why:** ***It's FUN!! FREE T-SHIRT, HARD HAT AND GOODIE BAG – IT'S ALL FREE***

**How:** Get your entry form at [www.nawicomaha.com](http://www.nawicomaha.com) and turn it in by January 30, 2009 or call 720-0118 or 721-2906 for entry form

## PE License Exam Review Course Available

The Minnesota Society of Professional Engineers (MSPE) is sponsoring review courses for the PE civil, PE mechanical and Fundamentals of Engineering exams that will take place in April 2009. As a potential PE or EIT in another Midwest state, MSPE is extending the invitation to you and your colleagues to participate in these courses via live Webinar.

Courses are taught by licensed PEs and/or certified EITs with background and expertise in the various subject areas. If you don't pass the exam after taking the review course, we guarantee that you may attend a second MSPE-sponsored review course FREE, provided you attend at least 80% of the class sessions and complete at least 80% of the homework.

Registration information and additional details can be found on MSPE's Web site at [http://www.mnspe.org/professional\\_dev/pe\\_review.shtml](http://www.mnspe.org/professional_dev/pe_review.shtml)

All courses will be offered live in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area. Satellite sites outside of the Twin Cities are welcome for all three courses, allowing students to participate via live Webinar provided there are at least two participating students per satellite location. Satellite sites with a single participant are welcome for an additional fee.



Aerotek is a National Technical Recruiting and Staffing Firm. We lead the industry in total revenue and currently employ over 55,000 contractors nationwide. Here in the Nebraska and Iowa area, Aerotek currently employs over 500 contractors, at all skill levels.

At this time our client is seeking a Plant Engineer to lead the plant technical service department and to improve the reliability and performance of all plant equipment and facilities in their Omaha location.

**Responsibilities:**

Plan Engineer will follow technology and equipment developments to assist the department in developing proactive and innovative processes to increase operational reliability along with increasing the company's competitive advantage.

-Lead the PSM program for the plant to ensure regulatory compliance. Participate in corporate PSM Team to steer company regulatory policies, programs, and procedures

-Oversee plant capital activities by assisting in the development of a capital budget and assigning priorities to such budget, along with managing capital process and activities for the plant while assigning plant capital projects. Provide the technical leadership in supporting the plants initiatives in cost reduction, programs and initiatives which are imperative to the continual improvement of the business.

-Develop plant engineering and plant maintenance department budgets, KPI's, baseline current state, and utilize the data to improve department effectiveness (including safety, reliability, productivity, and quality)

-Shall be responsible for reporting and taking any necessary action to prevent food safety and food quality problems from occurring.

- Project Management experience up to 1 million dollars

Qualified candidates will have project management experience and maintenance management experience is preferred.

**Preferred Skills include:**

- Plant Engineering
- Leadership Skills
- Process Safety Management
- Refrigeration/Ammonia
- SAP

**Aerotek Contact Information**

Andrea Steffes  
Engineering Recruiter  
402-997-7637  
[asteffes@aerotek.com](mailto:asteffes@aerotek.com)

To view all Aerotek opportunities, please go to [www.Aerotek.com](http://www.Aerotek.com)

**ASME Nebraska Section  
Needs Volunteers**

It is time to start recruiting new volunteers to lead our local section. If you know of any mechanical engineers interested in a rewarding experience, contact:  
[gruhl@oppd.com](mailto:gruhl@oppd.com)

**Thomas A. Edison  
Patent Award**

Dr. Richard Jacobsen, Chair of ASME's Board on Research and Technology Development, brings your attention to the Thomas A. Edison Patent Award. The Edison Patent Award was established by the Center for Research and Technology Development to recognize eminent creative achievement in the form of a patented invention, which is broadly recognized as significantly enhancing some aspect of the practice of mechanical engineering.

This award consists of a certificate, bronze plaque, and a \$1,000 honorarium. Further information about the award and the application form may be found at:  
[http://www.asme.org/Governance/Honors/SocietyAwards/Thomas\\_Edison\\_Patent\\_Award.cfm](http://www.asme.org/Governance/Honors/SocietyAwards/Thomas_Edison_Patent_Award.cfm)

Please note that the award is given for a single patent, not the entire body of work.

The deadline for applications has been extended to February 13, 2009.

Applications should be submitted to:

Norma Johnston  
ASME  
1828 L Street, N.W. -  
Suite 906  
Washington, DC 20036-5104  
Tel. 202-785-7395  
Email:  
<mailto:johnstonn@asme.org>

### Call for Nominations: Old Guard Early Career Engineer Award

Recognize outstanding early career engineers who actively involve themselves in their profession, their communities, and the work of ASME!

The Old Guard Committee honors ASME members that have made great strides in the engineering profession, community and the work of the Society by sponsoring this Award, established in 1994. Eligible applicants must be a current ASME member who has received a baccalaureate degree in mechanical engineering between Feb. 1, 2003 and Feb. 1, 2005.

A Grand Prize of **\$5,000 cash plus an ASME prepaid life membership** will be awarded to one successful candidate at the 2009 ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition. All contestants will be notified of the Committee's final decision by July 1. Two Runner-Up Prizes of prepaid life membership may also be awarded. All prize winners will receive a plaque as a commemorative gift.

Nominations **must** be received by **Feb. 1, 2009** to be considered for the award. All applications should be accompanied by supporting documentation, a copy of the nomination form, and forwarded to Cheryl Hasan at [hasanc@asme.org](mailto:hasanc@asme.org) c/o Old Guard Early Career Award.

For the nomination application and more information visit

<http://files.asme.org/asmeorg/Communities/EarlyCareer/8026.pdf>.

### Volunteer with ASME / Find a Volunteer

Looking for a new adventure at ASME? Need a volunteer to help your group get on track? The Volunteer Opportunity Bulletin Board (VOBB) is the one-stop resource for those interested in finding open volunteer positions and groups needing enthusiastic volunteers for their ASME local, District and/or national level committees. Designed to help volunteer leaders promote and fill volunteer positions throughout ASME, the VOBB opens the door to new opportunities.

To learn more about the VOBB and the volunteer positions available, go to <http://volunteer.asme.org/vobb/>.



### ASME – ASME Auxiliary *FIRST* Clark Scholarship

Are you a *FIRST* Robotics volunteer? Did you know that the ASME Foundation and the ASME Auxiliary sponsor a scholarship specifically for HS seniors who are on a *FIRST* Robotics team? If so, this information is for you!

#### About the Award

The *FIRST* Clark Scholarship recognizes and rewards students whose *FIRST* experience has inspired the pursuit of an engineering career. In 2009, the ASME Foundation and the ASME Auxiliary will award eight \$5,000 scholarships to high school seniors active on *FIRST* teams, who are nominated by ASME members, ASME Auxiliary members, or student members who are also active with *FIRST*. These awards will be for the freshman year of study (non-renewable) in an accredited mechanical engineering or mechanical engineering technology program. The recipients will be announced at the *FIRST* National Championship.

#### Nomination and Student Eligibility

Members of ASME, including ASME Auxiliary and student members, may nominate no more than one student each. Students must be:

- Graduating high school seniors active on *FIRST* teams
- Planning to enroll full-time in an ABET-accredited or substantially equivalent mechanical engineering or mechanical engineering technology program, no later than the fall after their senior year in high school.

#### APPLICATION DEADLINE: MARCH 15, 2009

For more information, on this or other ASME financial aid opportunities, visit our web site at: [http://www.asme.org/Education/College/FinancialAid/Auxiliary\\_FIRST\\_Clarke.cfm](http://www.asme.org/Education/College/FinancialAid/Auxiliary_FIRST_Clarke.cfm)

### ***Tomorrow's ASME Leaders: Are You Ready for the Challenge?***

Do you feel strongly about the direction you would like ASME to take? Are you passionate about new ideas and initiatives? Are you ready to step up and lead? If so, why not become an ASME leader today!

Consider running in June 2009 for the following offices:

**ASME president — one-year term**

**Board of Governors member — three-year term**

In addition, the Nominating Committee is currently accepting nominations for five ASME vice president positions, each carrying a three-year term:

Vice President of Professional Development, Practice & Ethics (Centers Sector)

Vice President of Public Awareness (Centers Sector)

Vice President of Standardization and Testing (Codes and Standards Sector)

Vice President of Affinity Communities (Knowledge and Communities Sector)

Vice President of Financial Operations (Knowledge and Communities Sector)

Please visit the Nominating Committee Website for information on "How to run for a Society Office"

[http://www.asme.org/Governance/Nominating/Nominating\\_Committee.cfm](http://www.asme.org/Governance/Nominating/Nominating_Committee.cfm)

or contact RuthAnn Bigley at [bigleyr@asme.org](mailto:bigleyr@asme.org).

### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! ENGINEER YOUR LIFE**

Help Inspire the Next Generation of Young Women to  
Become Engineering Leaders!

ASME (as part of its Engineers Week collaboration) actively supports Engineer Your Life (EYL), the national campaign to encourage college-bound girls to consider engineering enrollment.

A key element of EYL outreach is collaboration with the college counseling community through the National Association for College Admission Counseling (NACAC). We are asking for volunteers – engineering and engineering students – for high school fairs throughout the U.S. this fall.

Cities, dates and locations of fall fairs can be found at [http://www.eweek.org/site/pdfs/college\\_fair.pdf](http://www.eweek.org/site/pdfs/college_fair.pdf) For more information or to sign up, contact Marina Stenos at 212 591 8614 or [stenosm@asme.org](mailto:stenosm@asme.org). For more information about Engineer Your Life, visit [www.EngineerYourLife.org](http://www.EngineerYourLife.org)

### **ASME Salary Survey**

Participate in ASME's Salary Survey get a **FREE** salary report based on your experience level and geographic area. Visit <https://asme.enetrix.com> and see how you compare! **ASME Member Exclusive!** Purchase comprehensive, custom reports at a discount price.

### **ASME E-Library**

The ASME E-Library is a members-only benefit that allows you to access online collections of engineering reference books to help you answer questions and find practical solutions to daily on-the-job problems.

As an added bonus, the ASME E-Library is powered by Knovel, whose interactive and user-friendly technology gives you the ability to manipulate and search for content across the entire collection quickly and easily.

To learn more, go to

<http://www.asme.org/Membership/Benefits/Professional/eLibrary.cfm>

### **Call for Mentors! Ementoring Opportunities for Early Career Engineers.**

Mentors are a great way to gain knowledge and learn from the experiences of experts in your field. ASME offers an e-mentoring service right at your fingers!

To learn more and sign up for mentors, or to register to become a mentor, log onto

[http://www.asme.org/jobs/mentoring/Ementoring\\_Early\\_Career.cfm](http://www.asme.org/jobs/mentoring/Ementoring_Early_Career.cfm) or contact Noel Netel at [neteln@asme.org](mailto:neteln@asme.org)

### Where Have All the History & Heritage Chairs Gone?

In 1997, Paula Cole had a top-20 hit entitled, "Where Have All the Cowboys Gone?" Though I wasn't a great fan of the song, I can't seem to stop the tune running through my mind as I lament ... where have all the History & Heritage Chairs gone?

Several years ago, I proudly served as the Regional H&H Chair for the old Region X, which encompassed Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mexico. We had a vibrant, active History & Heritage program, with designated H&H Chairs in most Sections. Over a 3-year span from 2002-2006, various Sections across Region X submitted 16 Landmark nominations, and achieved & designated seven new Landmarks; a regional pipeline that generated an average of two new Landmark designations per year. Yet, in 2007, there were none. In 2008, there was only one new Landmark designation. What happened?

"Ok..." I think, "maybe my old stomping grounds is an anomaly. I'll look at the Society in general." A short 15 minutes of research proved that Region X is not an exception, but rather the rule, as what I discovered was not encouraging.

From 1995-2005, the Society - as a whole - designated an average of five Landmarks per year. Furthermore, in this 10-year timeframe there were *never* two consecutive years in which fewer than five Landmarks were designated. However, in 2007 & 2008 only **two** new Landmarks have been designated, *in total*.

Only a few years ago, the majority of local Sections throughout the country had a History & Heritage Chair - a single history-minded individual who scanned his/her geographical area for bits of engineering that might rise to the significance of Landmark, who networked with other H&H Chairs throughout the country, and who championed the formidable yet satisfying task of identifying, nominating, and designating new Historic Mechanical Engineering Landmarks. Unfortunately, as I search Section websites today, I find to my dismay that the majority of such positions have been vacated or, worse...eliminated.

Is our Landmarking program dying?

The Landmarking program is an integral component of the Society's public awareness strategy. Landmarks serve as constant visible reminders of the rich heritage and contribution to society of our chosen profession, a profession that has shaped not only our own lives, but the lives of billions of individuals throughout the world in fields as diverse as agriculture, manufacturing, food processing, aviation, energy, transportation, recreation, and more.

It is by celebrating the past achievements of our profession that we most effectively educate the public as to the societal value of Mechanical Engineering, and inspire future generations of engineers to follow in our footsteps.

I write this article as an open call for the support of all members who have so much as a passing interest in the history of Mechanical Engineering. I know you are out there, and I ask you to join me in reviving our Society's History & Heritage Landmarking program.

Getting started is but a few mouse-clicks away. Navigate your browser over to the *ASME History & Heritage Community* on ASME Peerlink, the Society's online networking tool. Start a thread, post a question, or just join in & add your thoughts to a general discussion. Peerlink offers us the opportunity and capability to meet from half-way around the world, to learn from past experiences, share ideas & opportunities, and to create a support network to encourage and assist each other in identifying Landmark opportunities and turning them into official Landmarks.

Take the first step. Join me at <http://peerlink.asme.org/COP/HistoryandHeritage/> or email me directly at [mwpowell\\_08@yahoo.com](mailto:mwpowell_08@yahoo.com). I look forward to working with you!

Mark Powell