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1-800-843-2763

**October 2008 Newsletter**

**Message from the Chair**

**September Meeting Recap:**

The September meeting was held at 3M in Valley, NE. In attendance were 13 members and two guests. Mr. Tom Grimm, of 3M – Valley, gave an excellent tour of their manufacturing operations. The group was able to see assembly, packaging, warehousing, and quality assurance testing of respirators, masks, welding helmets, oil sorbent materials, and other 3M products. We would like to thank Mr. Grimm for an excellent tour.

The September issue missed two important contributors to the Nebraska Section. First, I would like to thank Dave Miller, our outgoing president, for all his hard work towards keeping the Nebraska section active and successful. Also, I would like to apologize to Matt Dick, as he is not an outgoing executive committee member, but will instead continue to represent us on the Engineer's Round Table, while Frank Pruitt is away from the area on a job assignment.

The PE refresher course is underway with 19 participants. Many thanks to Dave Stransky and our course instructors for making this a success.

Coming up on October 9th will be our next tour in conjunction with the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology student section and the Society of Women Engineers. The tour will be of the OPPD North Omaha Power Station. The tour flier is attached.

The November PD course will be a joint session with the Society of Women Engineers. Save some time around the Thanksgiving holiday as this course will involve Dr. Dana Medlin from SDSM&T covering metallurgy. The course will be held at Mahoney State Park with the specific date forthcoming.

Sincerely,

Gary Ruhl  
ASME, Nebraska Section Chair.

***2008 ASME Nebraska Section planned program is as follows:***

Sept 3<sup>rd</sup> to Oct 15<sup>th</sup> - PE Refresher Course (flyer attached)  
October – OPPD North Omaha Power Station, October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008.  
November – PD Course, Metallurgy-Dr. Medlin, Mahoney State Park  
December – Mahoney Christmas Play  
January – Duncan Aviation tour or Speaker/Social Event  
February – ASHRAE Joint Luncheon; E-Week Banquet  
March – PD Course  
April – Becton Dickenson Tour, Columbus, NE  
May – Magnus Farley Tour, Fremont, NE  
June – NSPE Golf Outing; OPPD Power Drive Competition

## ASME October Meeting

### Joint Meeting with SDSM&T Student Section and SWE



## North Omaha Station

### With Unit 4 Boiler Outage In Progress

**Thursday, October 9, 2008**  
**5:30 PM**

OPPD – North Omaha Station  
7475 Pershing Drive  
Omaha, NE 68112  
RSVP Required, see below.

Omaha Public Power District's North Omaha Power Station is a five unit coal and natural gas fired generating station supplying up to 675MW of electricity to the Omaha area and surrounding communities. The station has been in service for 55 years and continues to be a base-load power generator for the publicly owned utility. Unit 4 is currently undergoing a boiler maintenance outage providing a limited opportunity to see the inside of power generating equipment as well as viewing equipment on other units that remain in operation.

Dinner to follow at Tussey's Casual Grill 9229 Mormon Bridge Plaza. Dinner choices will be Flat Iron Steak, Italian Chicken Breast, or Honey Grilled Salmon all served with salad, grilled vegetables, garlic mashed potatoes, and coffee or tea (on your own for other drinks). Prices: \$25 member, \$10 for student and retirees. Cash or check accepted.

#### Directions

**From Omaha:** Take I-680 (north side of Omaha) east to 30<sup>th</sup> Street Exit (Hwy 75), head south on 30<sup>th</sup> Street to Craig Street (Kentucky Fried Chicken on left/east side), turn left/east on Craig Street and head east on Craig to Pershing Drive (Craig Street ends), take curve right/south on Pershing Drive and power plant with large coal pile is on your left. Enter from Pershing Drive and stop at the guard shack to check in.

To enter the plant, you must have photo ID and cannot be wearing sneakers or high heel shoes. Notify the guard that you are reporting for the ASME tour. Bring your own hardhat and safety glasses if available. There will be some extras. Directions to Tussey's will be provided at the tour.

**RSVP REQUIRED:** Please contact Gary Ruhl at 402-636-2673 or by e-mail at [gruhl@oppd.com](mailto:gruhl@oppd.com). RSVP must include your full name and food choice. RSVP must be received no later than noon Tuesday, October 7, 2008.



The Eastern Nebraska Professional Section of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) is hosting the second “WOW! That’s Engineering” event on October 18, 2008. This outreach program will encourage middle and high school girls throughout the Omaha community to explore engineering and technology. In conjunction with the University of Nebraska-Omaha (UNO) collegiate section of the SWE, this event will be hosted at the UNO Milo Bail Student Center.

With the demand for engineering and technology employees growing three times faster than any other occupation, and the enrollment in colleges of engineering declining – particularly among females – we need to encourage and educate young women to consider the possibilities a career in engineering and technology has to offer.

The program will include a Keynote Speaker, several hands-on activities, and presentations. A copy of the brochure for this year’s event is at <http://www.swe-nebraska.org/2008-WOW.htm>. This year, SWE is anticipating approximately 100 young women will be participating.

Last year’s event was a great success. There were 40 girls in attendance.

We would like to make this year’s event an even bigger success. For this, we need the support of local engineering companies and organizations. Please consider being a sponsor of the 2008 “WOW! That’s Engineering” event. Review the Sponsor Form for more information.

Your support of this event is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Amanda Stahlnecker at [wow\\_event@swe-nebraska.org](mailto:wow_event@swe-nebraska.org) or 402-399-1431. For more information about this event, please visit the SWE website at [www.swe-nebraska.org](http://www.swe-nebraska.org).

## ASME SELECTS 2008 CONGRESS KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Dr. Peter H. Diamandis, a pioneer and leader in the commercial space arena, will be the keynote speaker at the 2008 ASME International Mechanical Engineering Congress, Oct. 31-Nov. 6 in Boston. The keynote will be held at the Opening Session of Congress on Sunday, Nov. 2, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. Diamandis is chairman and CEO of the X PRIZE Foundation and is changing the way the world thinks about its problems and their solutions.

He is also the chairman and co-founder of the Rocket Racing League, and serves as the CEO of Zero Gravity Corporation, a commercial space company developing private, FAA-certified parabolic flight utilizing Boeing 727-200 aircraft. Diamandis is a co-founder of Space Adventures, Inc., the company which brokered Dennis Tito and Mark Shuttleworth's flight to the International Space Station.

Dr. Diamandis attended the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he received his undergraduate degree in molecular genetics and graduate degree in aerospace engineering. After MIT he attended Harvard Medical School where he received his M.D. In 2005, he was also awarded an honorary doctorate from the International Space University. He is the winner of the Konstantine Tsiolkovsky Award, twice the winner of the Aviation & Space Technology Laurel, and the 2003 World Technology Award for Space. In 8th grade, while living in New York, Dr. Diamandis won first place in the Estes rocket design contest.

Diamandis' mission is to open the space frontier for humanity. His personal motto is: "The best way to predict the future is to create it yourself!"

## ASME Early Career Development Forum

Join us in Boston on Sunday, Nov. 2, 2008, for a chance to turbocharge your career! The **Early Career Development Forum** provides an outstanding opportunity to learn the skills necessary to get your engineering career on the fast track. Industry experts offer key advice on how to advance in both technical and management areas.

### In one information-packed day, learn how to:

Work with different groups of people to accomplish objectives and develop relationships; develop mentoring relationships with the experienced engineers around you; create a project roadmap; gain insight into how a design moves from concept to reality and how the internal and external customers drive improvements in order to make the best product available. And more!

### Forum Topics:

Systems Thinking: Managing Expectations  
Knowledge Transfer: Building Your Technical Expertise across Generations  
Energy: Renewable and Alternative  
Nanoscience & Engineering  
Design: Concept to Reality

### Get full details and get your career on the fast track!

visit:

<http://www.asmeconferences.org/Congress08/ECF.cfm?campaign=ecf08&channel=email81308>

## 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).

## The ASME Foundation Launches Major Capital Campaign

In 1973, the first ASME Federal Fellow was charged with drafting a committee staff report on "Initiatives in Energy Conservation," which laid out the rationale for possible legislative action to ease energy prices in the wake of the Arab Oil Embargo. Initial hearings on automobile fuel economy standards and appliance efficiency labeling followed and, in time, the Energy Policy and Conservation Act was signed into law.

Thus was born the ASME Federal Fellows program, which continues to offer unbiased technological and scientific insights and advice to our public policy makers in Washington D.C. to ensure that public policy based on sound engineering principles.

Today, the results of that first ASME Federal Fellow's contributions are clear: automobile fuel efficiency ratings, or CAFE standards, are in place and will increase to 35 miles per gallon by 2020. The appliance efficiency rating program – those yellow stickers on appliances large and small – has been expanded. And, of course, there is much more. The world has undergone tremendous change since 1973. At no time in history have our nation and our world confronted more technologically complex challenges requiring engineering solutions than at the present.

The ASME Foundation will announce at this year's Congress that a three-year campaign is underway to raise operating and endowment funds to ensure the future of the ASME Federal Fellows program, and of technologically sound public policy. The official launch of the campaign will take place at the beginning of the keynote address on Sunday, Nov. 2, in Boston. Don't miss hearing Governor John Sununu make the formal announcement.

### 2008-09 Diversity Action Grants now Available

Sponsored by ASME's Center for Leadership and Diversity, the Diversity Action Grants program provides awards ranging from \$500 to \$1500 to ASME Student Sections to sponsor events which:

- Promote the inclusion of women and under-represented minorities in ASME Student Sections and in mechanical engineering;
- Inspire K-12 students to excel in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education;
- Engage international participation in ASME Student Sections;
- Assist minority- and/or women-owned businesses solve engineering design problems

Projects that emphasize collaborative partnerships with other engineering societies on campus, as well as international in scope are strongly encouraged to apply. To be considered for the 2008-09 academic year, all applications should be submitted by November 10. For more information on the DAG program and an online application, contact Marina Stenos at [stenosm@asme.org](mailto:stenosm@asme.org), or visit [http://www.asme.org/Communities/Diversity/Diversity\\_Action\\_Grant.cfm](http://www.asme.org/Communities/Diversity/Diversity_Action_Grant.cfm)

### 2009 ASME I•Show -- Student Teams Wanted!



ASME's Third Annual Innovation Showcase -- I•Show -- is currently looking for creative and entrepreneurial student teams that are looking to commercialize their innovation. The ASME I•Show provides the full experience of technology product development, bridging the gap between engineering school practicum and business school theories. More than a standard business plan competition, teams with the most creative yet commercially viable ideas will be rewarded with industry recognition and seed funds.

Deadline for Team Submission: Dec. 12, 2008

The 2009 ASME I•Show is scheduled for June 13, 2009. For more details, visit:

[www.asme.org/events/ishow](http://www.asme.org/events/ishow) or contact Patti Snyder at [snyderp@asme.org](mailto:snyderp@asme.org)

**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)

**Recipient of the First Virginia Tech  
Memorial Scholarship**



Please join The ASME Foundation in presenting the first ever Virginia Tech Memorial Scholarship award to Justin Klein. Mr. Klein, who has completed his undergraduate studies at VT, will begin graduate coursework at the College of Engineering in the fall 2008.

The Virginia Tech Memorial Scholarship Fund was created with your generosity to permanently observe the tragic events of April 16, 2007. The fund is currently endowed to ensure that a VT graduate student in engineering will receive a \$5000 award in perpetuity.

Congratulations Justin! Go Hokies!

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.

**Great Opportunities, Great Work, Great People  
Engineers without Borders – USA**



Engineers Without Borders - USA (EWB-USA) is a non-profit humanitarian organization established to partner with developing communities worldwide in order to improve their quality of life. This partnership involves the implementation of sustainable engineering projects, while involving and training internationally responsible engineers and engineering students.

ASME and EWB-USA have been collaborating for several years on a variety of projects. You can get involved too! EWB-USA offers several opportunities to become involved in building a better world one community at a time, whether you are an engineering student (undergraduate or graduate; a student in some other field of study; a professional engineer or university faculty member; or, not an engineer at all!

There are several EWB\_USA workshops taking place this fall around the country. More details on these workshops are available at <http://www.ewb-usa.org/Fallworkshops.php>. To find out how your Student Section can get involved in EWB-USA, contact Marina Stenos at [stenosm@asme.org](mailto:stenosm@asme.org) or 212 591 8614.

## Enhance Your Presentation Skills at Congress

Join us on Saturday, Nov. 1 from 8:30 – 4:30 pm for the Best Practices for Powerful Presentations event in Boston.

In this hands-on and interactive session, you will explore four key best practices for presentations: appropriate content, presentation format, enhancing the overall learning experience, and fine-tuning in real time. You will engage in mini presentations to obtain first-hand experience, examine varied presentation formats and their respective value, and discuss facilitating different types of groups and participation situations.

The Best Practices for Powerful Presentations event will leave you more confident and more competent in your presentation skills. Since this is such an important skill for ASME volunteers it will be held **free** of charge to all participants. Travel reimbursement is limited and will be offered on a *first-come, first serve* basis to participants attending this 1-day event. This reimbursement will cover reasonable travel expenses (excluding rental car costs) and up to \$150 per diem for the day. To register or find out more information for this event, contact Ty Booker at [bookert@asme.org](mailto:bookert@asme.org) by Oct. 15, 2008. For more information on the event facilitator go to <http://files.asme.org/Volunteer/VOLT/15697.doc>.

## Volunteer with ASME Using the Volunteer Opportunities Bulletin Board

Have you thought about volunteering at ASME, but don't know where to start? Try the Volunteer Opportunities Bulletin Board (VOBB).

Whether you are an experienced ASME volunteer or new member looking to make a difference, the VOBB is the place for you to start. As a tool designed to help volunteer leaders promote local Section and Society-wide positions, it opens the door to new opportunities.

The opportunities for involvement include pre-college and educational activities, standards development, government relations, honors and awards selection, the development of new programs and more.

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

## Programs and Activities Training Committee

Seasoned members: Looking for a way to pass on your expertise to new members? New members: Looking for a way to increase your participation in ASME at your own pace?

The Knowledge and Community (K&C) Sector recently formed a Training Committee to work on the following:

1. Review and update existing skills and knowledge material. Volunteers use this material, called the body of knowledge (BOK), at each K&C leadership level.
2. Develop and implement an annual training plan for leaders in the K&C Sector. The training plan will include face-to-face conferences, webinars, online self-study material, and information that can be downloaded for local use.
3. Work closely with other ASME members to provide world-class leadership training and orientation for volunteer leaders, which will contribute to the quality of leadership at all levels.
4. Develop the knowledge and skills needed to lead ASME units in forming collaborative efforts, sharing best practices, providing forums for outreach, focusing programs on critical issues (students, early career engineers, industry, new technologies, etc.), encouraging more active volunteer participation, and developing new business opportunities.

Choose topics that most interest you. Contribute your special talents (speaking, teaching, editing, etc.) to enable learning at training events in your local, district or society events. We'd love to have you.

To apply, please visit the Volunteer Opportunities Bulletin Board at <http://volunteer.asme.org/vobb/> and select our position posted on the "Looking to Volunteer?" page.

**VOTE NOW !!**

***The Future of ASME is in your hands!!!***

Information about nominees for Society Office for terms beginning in June 2009 is now available online.

<http://www.asme.org/Governance/Nominating/>

Ballots are included in your September 2008 Issue of ME Magazine and are due on or before Oct. 17, 2008

***You have the power to shape the future of ASME!!***