

Letter from the Chairman – December 2008

Dear Members:

Here is a summary of November's events:

The Executive Committee met on November 4, and the October newsletter was published on November 14.

On November 20, the Tallahassee Section delivered a Professional Development Course on Mechanical Insulation (See article in this newsletter).

Please give thought to the following: The Section bylaws specify that FY 2010 officers, who will serve from July 1, 2009 until June 30, 2010, shall be nominated and elected between February and April of 2009. The leadership of Tallahassee Section for several years has been a handful of committed people who have rotated in the Section Officer and Executive Committee roles. We would sincerely welcome greater participation of its other members in these roles. There is a potential for many benefits from this, not the least of which is the opportunity introduction of new ideas to make the section of greater service to the general membership. If anyone might have such an interest, please contact me.

The Executive Committee again thanks those who have participated in the programs we have organized. Your participation is our reward. Your qualms, quibbles, contributions, comments, and suggestions are welcomed.

Siddhartha Kamath, PE, FY 2009 Chair
Email: kamaths2@asme.org

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2009 CALENDAR

January - TBA

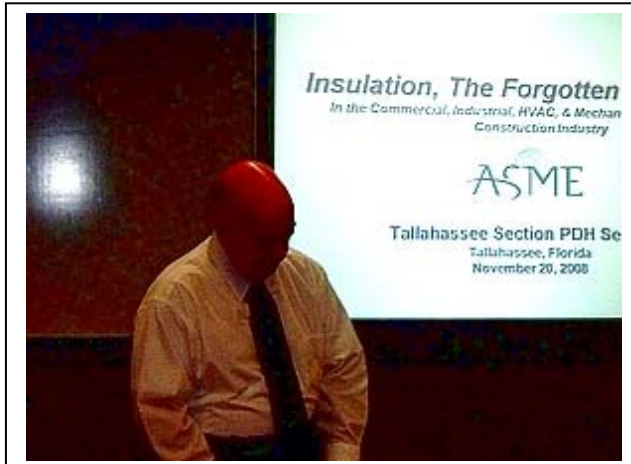
February 15-21 – Engineers Week.

TALLAHASSEE SENIOR SECTION

Professional Development Course

On November 20, 2008, the ASME Tallahassee Section hosted a professional development seminar, "Insulation, the Forgotten Technology", at Florida State University's Center for Advanced power Systems. The presenter was Ron King, former president of the National Insulation Association. Nine Tallahassee area engineers attended, of which eight were professional engineers who earned four "Area of Practice" Professional Development Hours.

Photos





STUDENT SECTIONS

TCC Engineering Club – The Club continues to work on the FSGC Rocket Competition project.

ASME INTERNATIONAL

MIT Is Winner of the 2008 ASME I•Show

A student team from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was awarded first place in the 2008



ASME Innovation Showcase, held on Oct. 31 at the International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition in Boston.

MIT took top honors over a field of nine collegiate teams that entered designs and models, which recognized them for their innovative skill as well as potential for commercial viability.

Team Robopsy (Nevan Hanumara (2nd, L) and Conor Walsh (2nd, R) won for creating a remotely controlled robot which aids in medical biopsies. The lightweight device attaches directly to a patient and aims a tiny probe at a tumor or other health abnormality, allowing a radiologist to make assessments with accuracy.

The ASME I•Show was held in collaboration with the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance and Idea to Products competitions.

Tomorrow's Leaders ...
Are **YOU** ready for the Challenge?

Do you feel strongly about the direction of ASME?
Are you passionate about new ideas and initiatives? Are you ready to step up and lead?
Become an ASME Leader TODAY!

Consider running in June 2009 for the following offices:

President – one year term

Board of Governor – 3 year term

Vice President (Centers Sector) – 3 year term

Vice President of Professional Development,
Practice & Ethics

Vice President of Public Awareness

Codes and Standards Sector

Vice President of Standardization and Testing

Knowledge and Community Sector

Vice President of Affinity Communities

Vice President of Financial Operations

Visit the Nominating Committee Website at
http://www.asme.org/Governance/Nominating/Nominating_Committee.cfm or email RuthAnn Bigley at
bigleyr@asme.org for details.

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. As a tool designed to help volunteer leaders promote and fill volunteer positions throughout ASME, it opens the door to new opportunities.

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

THE ASME FOUNDATION

The ASME Foundation launched a new fund-raising campaign, 'Engineering the Greater Good' at the 2008 International Mechanical Engineering Congress & Exposition in Boston.

The campaign will reach out to corporate and individual donors with the aim of generating funding to expand the Society's Federal Fellows program, one of ASME's most successful government relations programs.

ASME Federal Fellows provide engineering and technical expertise to policy makers in the U.S. Congress, the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, and key government agencies, such as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

"ASME federal fellows are engineering the greater good by contributing their experience on critical security issues, national competitiveness issues and on 21st century workforce preparedness," said Gov. John H. Sununu, the 85th governor of the state of New Hampshire, former White House chief of staff, and co-chair of the Engineering the Greater Good campaign.

The campaign is halfway to a \$5 million goal, and is particularly interested in engaging corporate investors. For more information on EGG, contact Judith Kearney, director of Development, ASME Foundation, at kearneyj@asme.org or 212 591 7445.



Bill Jones, EGG Campaign Co-chair addresses IMECE attendees at the Keynote address.

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 For more information or to sign up, contact Marina Stenos at 212 591 8614 or stenosm@asme.org. For more information about Engineer Your Life, visit 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!

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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 or contact Noel Netel at 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.

(Continued, next page)

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. I look forward to working with you!

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.

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/>.

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>

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Michael S. Hartman, P.E.
Principal

mhartman@H2Engineering.com

114 East Fifth Avenue
Tallahassee, FL 32303
Phone 850 224.7922
Mobile 850.509.1549
www.H2Engineering.com



P.O. Box 13931
Tallahassee, FL 32317

3071 Highland Oaks Ter
Suite 3C
Tallahassee, FL 32301

(850) 942-5300 Telephone
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If you would like to become a *sponsor* of the Tallahassee Section, please contact Siddhartha Kamath, Chair, at kamaths2@asme.org

ASME International Tallahassee Section publishes this newsletter six to eight times a year. Members are requested to e-mail newsworthy articles to Doug Jones, Newsletter Editor, jonesd2@asme.org or to Siddhartha Kamath, Chair, kamaths2@asme.org