

# ASME International Southeastern Michigan Section



January 2000 Vol. 18, No. 3

## NEWSLETTER



### Southeastern Michigan Section now World-Wide! By Dave Kramer

Have you ever wondered what the world would be like if it were not for engineers? Think of all the professions that would be directly affected. Doctors would not have surgical equipment and life-saving electronics to make them heroes. Attorneys would not have expert witnesses that can mathematically recreate an event in history to ensure his/her client receives their just recompense. Builders would not have advanced materials and products. We might still be spending half our day finding food and combustible materials to keep warm in the winter. Our productivity may drop from the heat of the summer. We might still think the moon is made of cheese. Hollywood might have never had filmed the Nerd movies, let alone been able to film.

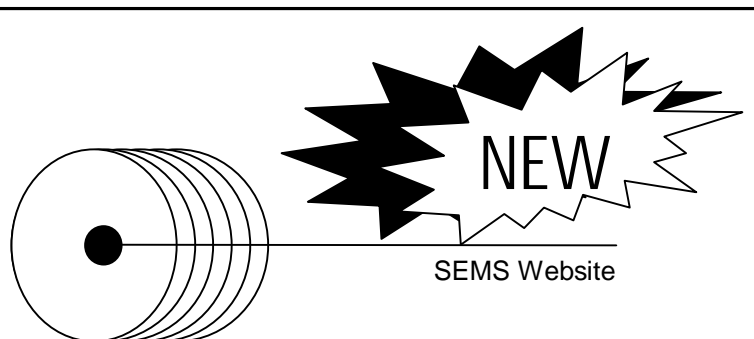
We as engineers touch the lives of everyone. In our society, however, the engineer is typically over looked and under-rated. In Germany, an engineer is not recognized as Mr. or Ms., but rather "Ing" to designate they are in an esteemed profession, similar to the high regard of the prefix of Dr. is in the United States. If you think about it, you would be hard pressed to come up with a single tangible item that the engineer has not been in some way involved in. Whether it is by design or by setting a standard, the engineer has had some input on virtually every product we see on the market today...even if it is simply the materials from which it is made. So then why is it that engineering is not looked on more favorably in our society? Why, over the years, has enrollment in engineering and other scientific curricula dropped? Why is our best representative in media known as the cartoon character Dilbert? There are a variety of answers we can attribute to these questions. Perhaps it is due to not having a unified organization, which represents all engineers, similar to the American Medical Association. Instead we have a variety of engineering societies which often duplicate efforts and sometimes even work against one another. Perhaps it is due to the primary education system, where young people are not properly introduced into the sciences in K-12 school. Perhaps it is due to the media portraying crime and punishment in police dramas as more intriguing than Bill Nye the Science Guy. Regardless of the reasons, and regardless of the lack of social status we play, the fact remains: Engineers are shaping the world we live in more so than any other profession. If you look at the officers of the most successful companies, you will find most of them to hold engineering credentials. Famous historical figures like George Washington, and Benjamin Franklin were both

engineers. There are many successful attorneys and doctors who are also engineers.

Engineering is a profession, which teaches us to think and be creative. We see the world around us and take what we know, manipulate it, and form a better world for all of humankind. It is a profession and heritage to be proud of. As an engineer entering into the millennium, you should be proud of the opportunity you have to serve the planet. While you may not have the same social status as a doctor, lawyer, politician, or musician, you are the one who can change all of that. I challenge each and every one of you to stop and think of the skills and abilities you have. Bring back that spirit of Henry Ford and Thomas Edison. Think of how they influenced the world around us. As you go to your day-to-day jobs where you have your assignments and expectations, carry them out with due diligence and exceed your employers' expectations. Do not stop there, however. In every waking moment look at the world you are in and ask yourself this question: What need exists that my talents and area of expertise can improve upon? Then make it happen.

If every engineer in the United States were to take up this challenge in this New Year, think of all we can accomplish together. Certainly the firms that employ engineers will premiere new marketable items that will make our lives more enjoyable and carefree...but what will you come up with as an individual and apart from the direction of your employer. Perhaps you are the key to the next industrial revolution. Together we can advance our profession by the contributions we make not only as a company cog, but also as individuals working for a common good -- applying science and technology for the improved living

Best wishes from all the SEMS officers for a successful and productive New Year.



[www.asme.org/sections/SEM](http://www.asme.org/sections/SEM)

Latest News and Information

- Contacts and Links
- Events and Activities
- Surveys and Feedback

## MONTHLY SECTION MEETINGS

All ASME Southeastern Michigan Section members are encouraged to attend the monthly section meetings that will be held at Lawrence Technological University (LTU) at 5:30 PM on the second Wednesday of each month, September through May.

Jan. 12, 2000    Feb. 9, 2000    Mar. 8, 2000    Apr. 12, 2000    May 10, 2000

LTU is located on the north side of 10 Mile Road, just west of Northwestern Highway and the Lodge Freeway (M-10) in Southfield. The meetings are held in the Corporate Services Complex Building, (Previously Campus Activity Center - West Building (CAAC West)) Room 46. Call one of the officers if you need more information about the meetings or any of the activities

# ASME Southeastern Michigan Section

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### Newsletter

This newsletter is published five times a year (September, November, January, March, and May) as a service to more than 2000 members in the Southeastern Michigan Section, which includes a portion of Southwestern Ontario. Members are encouraged to submit news of career and professional milestones such as job promotions, transfers, professional registration, awards, and patents obtained. Please send a copy directly to the return address that appears on the back page, or e-mail to the editor. Copies must be received by the following dates in order to be included in the issue indicated:    March issue - February 1, 2000    May issue - April 1, 2000

Advertisements for this newsletter are solicited and accepted based on their ability to appeal to the professional needs of the Southeastern Michigan Section membership. To place an advertisement contact, the newsletter editor, Prabhu Raman, at (248) 368-3017. Advertising rates are as follows:

Size	1 issue	3 issues	5 issues
1/8 page	\$50	\$90	\$130
1/4 page	\$90	\$160	\$230
1/2 page	\$160	\$290	\$420
Full page	\$250	\$450	\$650

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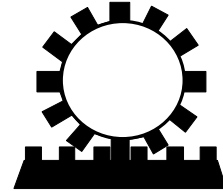


Presents

Friday, January 28, 2000, 3:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Tour of Quasar Industries
Rapid Prototyping Facility

1911 Northfield Dr., Rochester Hills, MI 48309

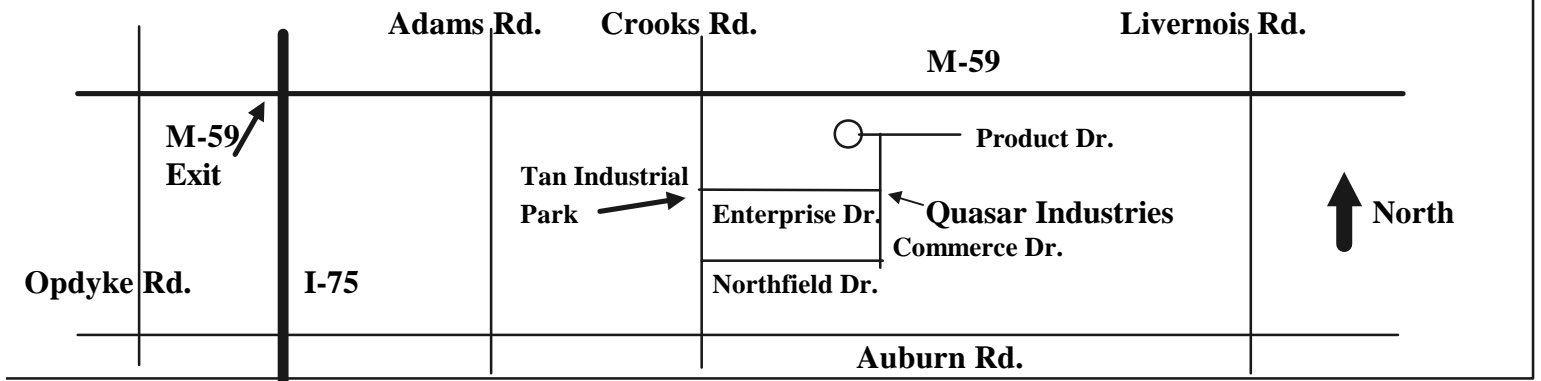


Rapid prototyping: From idea to design to finished product almost overnight

Due to fierce competition it is critical to reduce product development cycles in order to successfully compete for business. See first hand how the latest technology, along with qualified personnel, can take a concept, develop it into a design and produce a structural model for validation in a fraction of the time that it used to take using traditional methods.

Highlights: CAD/CAM design work stations, PAM Stamp: Stamping simulation software, 3 and 5 axis laser cutters and welders, Hydraulic and mechanical press ranging from 100 to 2,000 ton., Vertical and horizontal CNC stations, 5-axis wire EDM and carbon arc EDM, Abrasive water jet cutter, 400 ton injection molding machine, Robotic laser welder.

Refer to following web site for more detailed information: http://www.quasar.com. Please register in advance to secure a seat, this event is expected to fill up to capacity (20 people maximum). To register, contact Eric Braun at (248) 848-2480 (Day), or (248) 926-8230 (Evening).





## DATED MATERIAL

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### ASME INTERNATIONAL NAMES NEXT PRESIDENT

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Nov. 16, 1999 -- John R. Parker of Norwalk, Conn., has been named president of ASME International (The American Society of Mechanical Engineers) for a 1-year term beginning in June 2000. The announcement was made on Nov. 15, during the proceedings of the Society's 1999 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition in Nashville, Tenn. John Parker is a registered professional engineer and consultant to the power industry. A former director of engineering at Raytheon Engineers & Constructors, Parker supervised major development projects and prepared feasibility studies, market forecasts and financial plans supporting the company's activities worldwide.

John Parker received his education and training at Case Institute of Technology, the University of Connecticut and New York University. He holds a master's degree in business administration from New York University. Parker joined the General Dynamics Electric Boat Division in 1956, where he was involved in the design and testing of nuclear-powered submarines and other advanced propulsion systems. Among other technical achievements at Electric Boat, Parker managed the nuclear submarine industry's first research and development project for noise control in equipment.

He left Electric Boat in 1969 and joined the engineering firm of Stanley Consultants. In 1972, he worked at Universal Oil Products, where Parker was involved in the design of scrubbers and other environmental control systems for power plants. During 1974-79, Parker worked at Sanderson and Porter, before joining Ebasco Services, which was acquired by Raytheon Engineers & Constructors.

He spent 19 years at Ebasco, initially in power plant design and later in high-level management capacities in charge of budgets and strategic planning for the company's business units. Now retired from Raytheon, Parker performs consulting services for Fortune 50 and small companies.

John Parker has served ASME in the following positions: Member, Board of Governors; Senior Vice President, Council on Public Affairs; and Vice President, Government Relations. He becomes the 119th president of the Society.