

Southeastern Michigan Section



<http://sems.asme.org>



Section Newsletter, September 2004



2004-05 SEMS Officer Team

Please extend a warm welcome and congratulations to the new 2004 – 2005 Executive Team! We are planning for a great year filled with exciting and fun events. We look forward to sharing the experience with the rest of the section and encourage members to be active in these upcoming events.

Chair – Executive Committee

Kent Alverson 248-506-7125 kwa@comcast.net

Vice Chair – Membership / Outreach Committee

Hastings Wyman hastingsiii@comcast.net

Treasurer – Industry Committee

Tom Libertiny 248-877-2535 libertinyt@asme.org

Secretary – PR & Marketing Committee

Rob Iera r_iera@yahoo.com

Opening September Event

Nachi Robotics Tour

Date: Tuesday, September 28th

Time: 6:00 PM Appetizers included

Take a tour of the Nachi Robotics Facility where they build and test their robots. As noted from their website:

The Nachi product line has been designed with customer needs in mind to optimize robot speed, work envelope, payload capability, accuracy, size, weight and reliability. The capacity range is comprehensive, with common load capacities from 5kg to 700kg. Work envelopes are typically 30% larger than competitive models.

Lightweight designs for quick acceleration also allow for easy robot movement and mounting. And by packing more capabilities into a highly compact unit, Nachi robots effectively shorten the installation space requirements – more robots can operate in a given area.

Location:

Nachi Robotic Systems Inc. (NRS)
North American Headquarters
22285 Roethel Dr.
Novi, MI 48375-4700 U.S.A.
Tel: 248-305-6545
Fax: 248-305-6542
www.nachirobotics.com/

RSVP: Rebecca King
rhk77@yahoo.com or 313-323-6716

See page 2 for a tentative schedule of future events

Message from the Chair

Dear ASME members:

This will be an exciting year for the Southeastern Michigan section as we continue to build on an established history of successful programs. The second annual Young Engineers Forum, expanded Engineers Week events and joint meetings with student sections are just a few of the activities the board is working hard to plan.

In this month's newsletter, you will find four volunteer opportunities with which your help and support is requested. Do you enjoy working with young students? Would you like to help young engineers navigate through career choices? Or would you rather help plan a marquee event? Whatever your interests, we can accommodate your experience and enthusiasm.

The average age of ASME members has risen steadily over the years, which is good in the sense that experienced members are being retained but bad in that a younger generation of engineers is choosing not to be a part of the organization. In response to this reality, the Continuity and Change initiative has been approved by the governing board to transform ASME into a more dynamic organization that appeals to a broader cross-section of engineers. Our local section plans to continue to be a trendsetter within the organization by developing events that appeal to members of all ages and interests.

We welcome feedback and involvement from all members. Please don't hesitate to share your ideas for future events and services. If there is a specific area that you'd like to help with, we encourage your active involvement.

With your support, let's make the upcoming year one to remember.

Best regards,
Kent Alverson
AlversonK@asme.org

ASME Tribe Community Goes Global

With 71 members and growing, the ASME online tribe community (<http://GrassrootsEngineer.tribe.net>) continued its rapid growth. Members from our Asian and European sections were recently invited to join and have begun to do so. Tribe.net is a free service that allows folks with similar backgrounds to communicate with each other via an easy to use web-based system.

The topic primarily being discussed this month is the Continuity and Change initiative. Reports from the three presentations to date (Washington D.C., Toledo Ohio, and Storrs Connecticut) have been posted. We highly recommend that you join and contribute your ideas prior to the March 2004 Board of Governors meeting.

Tentative Calendar of Events for 2004-2005

October 2004

Event: Professional Development

November 2004

Event: Joint Event with other Engineering society

December 2004

Event: Recognition/Holiday Banquet

January 2005

Event: Region V Young Engineers Forum

February 2005

Event: Engineer Week

Feb 2005

Event: Hands-On Manufacturing Processes
Location: Kettering University (Flint, Michigan)

March 2005

Event: Ferrari Dinner
Location: Cauley Ferrari (West Bloomfield, Michigan)

Apr 2005

Event: Government event (Homeland Security)

May 2005

Event: End of Year Manufacturing Tour

June 2005

Event: Track day

Member 2 Member REFERRAL

Refer a friend or colleague to ASME in two simple ways:

Send a personalized email invitation or send us their contact information and ASME will contact them on your behalf. Visit www.asme.org/membershipdrive for complete details.

Partners In Mechanical Engineering Grants Available

The Board on Diversity and Outreach is accepting applications for Partners in Mechanical Engineering grants. All ASME Sections are eligible to apply. Grants are made on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, go to <http://www.asme.org/communities/diversities/bdo/partners.html>

SEMS ASME Volunteer Opportunities

Opportunity: [E-week 2005 Planning Committee member](#)

Minimum Commitment: [a few hours per month through February](#)

Description:

SEMS plans to once again participate in National Engineers Week that runs February 20-26, 2005. This year we plan to continue our middle school outreach programs as well as add a marquee event featuring high profile speakers from the automotive industry.

Opportunity: [Young Engineers Forum Committee member](#)

Minimum Commitment: [a few hours per month through January](#)

Description:

SEMS plans to build on our highly regarded Forum last year and expand to include young engineers and college students from throughout the region. This event is designed to help engineers prepare for a successful career, featuring appealing speakers and networking opportunities.

Opportunity: [Engineers in the Classroom speaker](#)

Minimum Commitment: [1-hour classroom presentation\(s\) plus preparation time](#)

Description:

As part of our community outreach initiatives, the SEMS is pleased to continue our Engineers in the Classroom program. This exciting opportunity allows members of our section to educate grade school students throughout the metro Detroit area about the field of engineering. Volunteers prepare a presentation on engineering or related fields using available materials and/or their own ideas. Just a few hours encouraging and inspiring a child can have profound ripple effects that change the child's future goals forever.

Opportunity: [First Lego League team mentor](#)

Minimum Commitment: [1 hour for 6 weeks](#)

Description:

SEMS is pleased help teams from Detroit Public Schools prepare for 2004 competition

From the FLL website at <http://www.firstlegoleague.org/>:

“The FIRST LEGO League (FLL), considered the ‘little league’ of the FIRST Robotics Competition, is the result of a partnership between FIRST and the LEGO Company. FLL extends the FIRST concept of inspiring and celebrating science and technology to children aged 9 through 14, using real-world context and hands-on experimentation.”

As a team mentor, you should expect to give at least an hour per week for 6 weeks acting as a technical advisor to a team of middle school students led by a teacher advisor. They will be designing and programming electro-mechanical systems using Lego kits. The regional tournaments are held at the end of November. Most of the teams meet after school and the schools are located throughout the city of Detroit.

This is a rewarding experience for all involved and you will be impressed by the creativity, enthusiasm and problem solving abilities of these young students.

Searching for Active Participation in SEMS

In addition to the volunteer opportunities available, the Southeastern Michigan Section is actively recruiting members to help the section put on successful programs. As you can see SEMS has a full calendar planned, and it can only be a success if members help to make it so. The Executive Committee is seeking help from the section members to chair market, advertise, manage, and run the numerous events that are planned for the year. Please contact any of the Executive Committee if you are interested in helping to make this year the most successful year yet.

Also, if you have any programs or advice for the section the Executive Committee welcomes any feedback that you would have. We look forward to a great year with your help!

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Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

<http://sems.asme.org>

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“Stump the Engineer” - Monthly Trivia Question

In an effort to encourage members to visit the website and read the newsletters, a monthly Engineering Trivia Contest has been established. Each month a question will appear in the newsletter. Participants must go to the website and log-in their answer, along with their e-mail address. A winner will be chosen each month and receive a free ASME polo shirt.

September Trivia Question

The first bullet train by Central & West Japan Railways on the Tokaido & Sanyo Shinkansen from Tokyo to Osaka and Hakata was first introduced when?

To answer this question and enter the prize drawing, go to <http://sems.asme.org/>
Click on **“Stump the Engineer” – Monthly Trivia Question**

Southeastern Michigan Section Young Engineer of the Year Award

Congratulations to Howard Berkof who was awarded the 2004 Young Engineer of the Year Award for the Southeastern Michigan Section of ASME. Howard played a critical role in the section's executive board this past year, participating in the planning and execution of a challenging event schedule and continuous membership development. Howard organized and led a team to present our sections first Young Engineer's Forum for college students and recently graduated young professionals. Also, as Secretary for the section, Howard worked tirelessly to edit and publish monthly newsletters and assist with advertising for all our 10 events held during the year. In addition, Howard entered the Southeastern Michigan Section for the Earl V. Fisher Award which the section won. The award is given to the section that is the most active and innovative sections in the nation. Howard has done all this while working and living hundreds of miles away from Detroit in upper New York! He is currently the Industrial & Process Solutions, Channel Sales Manager for the Northeast region of Ingersoll-Rand. Howard will continue to be active in the upcoming year on the National level. We would like to extend a heartfelt thanks and congratulations to Howard for his dedicated service to ASME.