

# Polymer Valley News

The Newsletter of the Akron Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers  
Our 47<sup>th</sup> Year of Education and Service to the Plastics Industry

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## Awards Night

Monday, May 22, 2006

Guy's Party Centre

500 East Waterloo Road

Akron, Ohio 44319



Please join us for an evening of celebration. Our annual Awards Banquet will be held on Monday, May 22, at Guy's Party Centre. The evening will start with a social at 5:30 p.m., and dinner will be at 6:15 p.m. with the program following at 7:00 p.m.

This year our keynote speaker will be Samuel D. DeShazior, Senior Director, Business Development for the Greater Akron Chamber. In addition, Tom Womer, the new SPE President, will join us.

## Costs, Schedules, Reservations

Member	\$30.00
Member and One Guest	\$55.00
Retiree	\$25.00
Student	\$15.00
Registration/Social Hour	5:30 p.m.
Dinner	6:15 p.m.
Program	7:00 p.m.

Call Kathy Perevosnik before noon, May 18 and specify dietary restrictions.  
(330) 849-5119 T; (330) 849-5597 F  
kaperevosnik@santoprene.com



Join Us on  
May 19 –  
See Page 12 - 14

Please join us for the recognition of all of these worthy individuals. The food will be great and it's a great way to wrap up our year!

See page 4 for Mr. DeShazior's biography and page 17 for Tim Womer's announcement

Coming Up:

- Next meeting – Golf, May 19, 2006
- Board meeting – May 15, 2006, Akron Univ. Polymer Eng. Center

May, 2006, Page 1



# President's Message

To our valuable members,

A big “thanks” goes out to all of you who supported our Akron Section activities over the past months. We will wind up our program year with an Awards Banquet honoring our student scholarship, science fair and essay contest winners. Also on the program will be the conferring of our Hall of Honor and William C. Zekan Memorial awards for service to the industry and to the Section, respectively. We will have a special guest speaker, Mr. Sam DeShazor, Senior Director for Business Development at the Greater Akron Chamber, speaking on their efforts to bring new plastics businesses to the Akron area. Also in attendance will be the newly installed international President of the Society of Plastics Engineers, Tim Womer. All of this will be happening at Guy’s Party Centre on Waterloo Road in Akron on Monday, May 22.

Of course, this is not the only “activity” still to be conducted this season. Following a developing tradition, our Section will hold a joint golf outing with the Cleveland Section at Barberton Brookside Country Club on May 19. Please come out for a morning and lunchtime of fun and food. Details are available in this newsletter.

I am pleased to tell you of the lineup of officers and directors for next year’s operation of your Section. Incoming president will be John Woodside, who was the Program Chair this year, and following in his place as Program Chair will be Viv Malpass. The experience of both these gentlemen should insure another successful year of leadership. Dave Schultz has agreed to stay on as Secretary and Gary Taylor as Treasurer. And Joe Pfeiffer is switching gears to represent our Section at the international level as Councilor. Amongst the other Directors of the Section board, Cameron Fraser will be House Chair, Hemant Thakkar Education Chair and Chair of the Education Foundation, Joe Mattingly will be Membership Chair and Newsletter Editor and Amruth Puttarudraiah the Awards Chair. Tony Dean continues in his role as Public Interest Chair and Website Manager. Josh Wong is the local arrangements chair for the TOPCON on display technologies planned for next October and Viv Malpass will once again take the lead on the organizing committee for the TPE TOPCON the following year. Other directors will be Bob Wegelin, continuing to provide us with his broad knowledge of section operations and hopefully organizing future golf outings, and Kevin Malpass, a past Chair of the Education Foundation. Both are also past presidents of the Section. Kathy Perevosnik, who is doing a superb job in organizing this year’s award ceremony along with Cameron Fraser, and Dave Katz, our current House Chair, will both be retiring from the board. We thank them deeply for their years of service.

Our very capable Student Chapter President, Kaan Gunes, will be replaced by another elected student in the Fall. We thank him for his leadership and wish him the best in completing his PhD studies in Polymer Engineering at The University of Akron and beginning his career. Prof. Sadhan Jana, the Department Chair, will continue on our board in his role of Student Chapter Advisor.

As for me, I will be staying on as Past President, and also to organize a social event next fall. Although we are pleased to be able to fill out our officer and committee lineup for next year with current board members, we are in serious need of new participants. What about YOU? Please consider joining our winning team!

.... *Continued on page 11*



## Map to Guy's Party Center

500 East Waterloo Road  
Akron, Ohio 44319

\*After following most of these directions, Guy's is a very short distance from the exit on the left, just before Giant Eagle and across the street from Scorchers and the Waterloo Restaurant.

### From the North (Akron, Cuy. Falls, Hudson, E. Cleve)

Take Route 8 south until it becomes 77 south. Continue on 77 south for a little less than 2 more miles. Take the Waterloo Rd exit. Turn right at the bottom of the ramp.

### From the Northwest (Fairlawn, Montrose, W. Cleve)

Follow 77 south until it combines with 76 and then separates again, heading south (Rt 8 will head north, 77 will head south, take 77 south). Continue for a little less than 2 more miles. Take the Waterloo Rd exit. Turn right at the bottom of the ramp.

### From the East (Kent, Ravenna, Youngstown)

Follow 76 west to 77 south. Continue on 77 south for a little less than 2 miles. Take the Waterloo Road exit. Turn right at the bottom of the exit ramp.

### From the West (I-71, Wadsworth, Baberton)

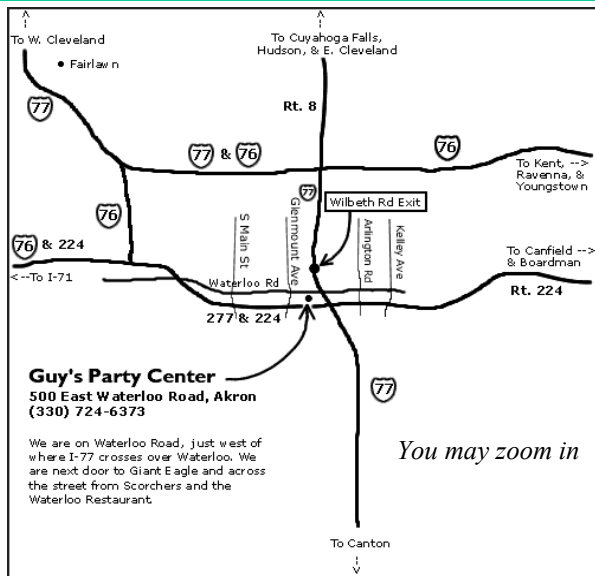
Take 76/224 east until it turns into only St. Rt. 224. Follow St. Rt. 224 east to the Main Street exit. Turn left onto Main at the end of the exit ramp. Turn right at first major intersection -- Waterloo. Guy's is about a mile up on the right, just past Giant Eagle and across the street from Scorchers and the Waterloo Restaurant.

### From the South (Canton)

This is a little strange, but the easiest way. There is an exit ramp onto Waterloo from 77 south, but NOT from 77 north, so follow 77 north to the Wilbeth Road exit. Get off on that exit, then make two lefts, thus getting back onto 77 going SOUTH. Take the very next exit - Waterloo Rd. Turn right at the bottom of the exit ramp.

### From the Southeast (Canfield, Boardman, Alliance)

Follow St. Rt. 224 west to Kelley Ave/Waterloo Rd exit. Turn right at the end of the exit ramp and then, almost immediately, left onto Waterloo Rd. Take Waterloo Rd past where it crosses under I-77.



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# Mr. Samuel D. DeShazior, Biography of Speaker

## SAMUEL D. DESHAZIOR

*Senior Director, Business Development  
Greater Akron Chamber  
Akron, Ohio*

Sam DeShazior serves as senior director, business development at the Greater Akron Chamber in Akron, Ohio. He manages an economic development team working on projects ranging from industrial business expansions to international joint ventures. In addition, he serves as Secretary of the Community Improvement Corporation, which covers three of Ohio largest counties in Medina, Portage and Summit and provides financing for Industrial and Revenue Bond projects up to \$10 Million.



DeShazior chairs the State of Ohio's marketing effort at the National Plastics Exposition in Chicago and the Society of Automotive Engineering's World Congress in Detroit. In addition, he served as Vice President and Chairman of the statewide marketing committee for the Ohio Economic Development Council (Now Team Ohio); Ohio's privately funded economic development marketing organization.

DeShazior has worked globally on investment projects and traveled worldwide to work with US investors in such places as Malaysia, Indonesia, Canada, The Netherlands, The United Kingdom, Korea, Japan and Germany. His efforts help attract more than \$40 million annually from domestic and foreign investors. He led Northeast Ohio's trade mission's team to Japan and Korea in 2001 and led the Ohio's investment efforts at the Hannover Messe and Kunststoffe Messe in Germany. The Hannover Messe is the World's largest showcase of advanced automation and technology and the Kunststoffe Messe is the Worlds largest tradeshow dedicated to the polymer industry. He is a member of both the German American and British American Chambers of Commerce, World Trade Center Cleveland, US Midwest Japan Association, Urban Land Institute the Society of the Plastics Industry and charter member of the Corenet (IDRC) a professional commercial/industrial real estate organization. He is frequently a contributor to their international publication.

Sam earned a BA in public relations/marketing from Clark College (now Clark Atlanta University) and an MA in Urban Planning/Urban Economics from the University of Akron. He is also a graduate of the Economic Development Institute of the University of Oklahoma.



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## Councilor's Corner

**Congratulations!!! The SPE membership voted overwhelmingly to dissolve the old SPE Constitution. This now allows SPE to operate under the new updated ByLaws previously approved by the Council. You can view the new ByLaws on the SPE website. Thanks to all who voted to allow SPE to move forward with the new ByLaws.**

**SPE ANTEC is coming up VERY SOON. ANTEC will be in Charlotte, NC from May 7 to May 11.** Over 600 papers will be presented. Akron Section will be financially supporting the 17 student members who will be attending. Your President, Lloyd Goettler, will be the Plenary Speaker on Tuesday, May 9. He will speak on "Emergence of Polymer Nanocomposites".

The final Council Meeting of the 2005-6 year will be at ANTEC on Sunday, May 7. This will be the last Council meeting that your current Councilor, Viv Malpass, will attend. Your NEW Councilor, Joe Pfeiffer, will attend his first Council meeting in the afternoon of Sunday, May 7. Joe has done an outstanding job as Newsletter Editor, culminating in our Section winning first place in the medium size section Newsletter Award. This makes an outstanding total of five awards for the Akron Section this year—Section Pinnacle and Star Awards, Section Newsletter Award (Medium Size Section) and the Chase and Stretch Awards to our Akron Student Chapter. Also, your Past President, Tony Dean, is becoming an Honored Member of SPE at the SPE Banquet on Wednesday night at the SPE ANTEC. You should be very proud of your Section's achievements and contributions this year.

### 2006-2007 Akron Section Officers:

**President----John Woodside**

**President Elect—Vivian Malpass**

**Secretary---David Schultz**

**Treasurer—Gary Taylor**

**Councilor---Joseph Pfeiffer**

**Past President—Lloyd Goettler**

**Prior Past President—Joe Mattingly**

### Major Upcoming Events:

Akron Section Awards Banquet on May, 22 at Guy's Party Center, Waterloo Road, Akron.

Akron –Cleveland Sections Spring Golf Outing at Barberton Brookside Country Club on Friday, May 19.

SPE EPSDIV TOPCON on "Recent Advances in Organic and Polymer Display Technologies" to be held in the University of Akron, October 23-24, 2006.

*Viv Malpass*



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## News from Student Chapter

The SPE Student Chapter at the University of Akron recently won the STRETCH and Chase Plastics Student Chapter Education Awards.

The STRETCH (STudents Reaching Excellence Through CHapters) Award is annually granted to student chapters for outstanding performance in many fields including organizing career building seminars and plant tours, good book keeping and budgeting, attendance in technical conferences, contributing to local events. This is the second year in a row that our student chapter has been presented with the STRETCH Award.

The Chase Plastics Student Chapter Education Award was granted to our student chapter to develop the first "Plastics Awareness Day" in the local school district. The event will consist of a polymer science fair for K-12 students and tours of the plastics laboratories at University of Akron, with working displays like the production of samples from injection molding machines that can then be tested at the next stop on the tour. An essay contest will be organized for students, a plastics trivia competition for K-12 students will be held, and presentations by UA students and local industry executives will be made. This project will further progress our student chapter's goals of increasing student awareness about new technologies, science education, and plastics processing.

Both of the awards will be presented to our SPE Student Chapter at the University of Akron at the SPE Awards Banquet on May 10th, 2006. 14 student presenters from our student chapter are attending ANTEC this year. The student chapter appreciates the financial aid of the SPE Akron Section for helping cover some of the travel expenses.

In March, both academic and social events were organized. Over 40 students socialized in the Bowling and Pool Night held on March 15th in the University of Akron game room. Dr. Chris Zook, from the Hoover Company, gave a talk on the role of PhD graduates in industry and effective job searches on March 23rd. The career building seminar was very beneficial for the twenty attending students.

The student chapter is currently preparing the "Spring Edition of the Graduate Student Resume Book for the Department of Polymer Engineering at the University of Akron" for printing. The Resume Book will be distributed to company representatives in ANTEC.

A Spring Picnic is scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup>, Thursday in the Monroe Falls Metro Park Main Beach Shelter starting at noon. SPE Akron section members are welcome to attend the cookout and games.

The elections for the Student Chapter offices will be carried out in May.

Kaan Gunes  
SPE Akron Section Student Chapter President



# Membership Report – March, 2006

- Akron had 6 new members join in March. Our membership number has now increased to **421!** See list at right for new members. We also had six transfers in and four out.
- Twenty Four members also renewed in March, thank you.

## Membership News from National

- Total membership is at 19, 874. Variance from 2005 is (825).
- Membership dues increase, but only \$3 to \$115 on an annual basis. Still a good deal considering all you can get with your SPE membership. Renew early and save \$5 on the dues. Also if you renew online before the deadline you can save an additional \$3. So, renew early and online and you can save some.
- See some of you at ANTEC. The Akron section is getting a number of awards and our president, Lloyd Goettler is a plenary speaker. So, show your support for our section and attend his talk and also attend the awards dinner on Wednesday evening, if you can. Hope to see many of you there!
- AIM is at a 20% conversion rate, which is still much better than other methods. See the AIM web page for details, <http://www.4spe.org/communities/1d/aim.php>.
- Know anyone interested in SPE or want to learn more about us? Just follow the directions on the webpage and AIM will do the rest. Sound too easy? Try it and let me know what you think.

Anyone interested in helping us out on the board, let us know. We could use new ideas and members. Just contact me or Lloyd Goettler, our current President.

## New Members

Say “hello and thanks for joining” if you know the following people.

**Feina Cao**  
University of Akron

**Richard Cappella**  
Formtech Enterprises,, Inc.

**Jeff Fisher**  
Buckeye Polymers, Inc.

**Matt Ruether**  
Wadsworth, Ohio

**Ron Schreff**  
Buckeye Polymers, Inc.

**Shanshan Wang**  
University of Akron

*Membership chair, Joe Pfeiffer*



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# SPE International Essay Contest 2006

Thank you to all for participating in the 2006 International "Wonders of Plastics" Essay contest, sponsored by the SPE Detroit Section.

I'm pleased to announce that this year's winning essay was submitted by the **South Texas Section**. I've attached a copy of the winning entry, should you want to post it in your own communication pieces (see page 25). We are requesting a photo and related information from the winner. If you would like to use this additional information, please contact me at your convenience.

## Tricia McKnight

Liaison, Leadership Services, Society of Plastics Engineers

## ANTEC 2006 Plenary Programs

**Monday, May 8, 2006**

**11 a.m. – 12 Noon**

**Charlotte Convention Center**

<http://www.4spe.org/conf/antec06/plenary.php>



The University of Akron

## The University of Akron Institute of Polymer Engineering

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UA's Institute of Polymer Engineering works with all types of clients in the polymer industry, large companies and small firms, well-established businesses and start-ups. Companies turn to the Institute for assistance because they do not have the capabilities (equipment or personnel) to conduct their own research and testing.

The Institute of Polymer Engineering has a wide variety of specialized equipment needed for polymer processing, characterization, analysis and testing. Some of that equipment is listed here below.

To further discuss your needs, please contact Dr Lloyd Goettler at (330) 972-7467 [lagoett@uakron.edu](mailto:lagoett@uakron.edu) or Cameron Fraser at (330) 972-6008 [cfraser@uakron.edu](mailto:cfraser@uakron.edu)

#### **Analysis and Testing**

- x-ray
- scanning electron microscopy
- atomic force microscopy
- optical microscopy
- laser microscopy
- TGA
- DSC
- FT-IR
- DMA
- APA
- stress strain testing
- rheology
- biaxial stretching

#### **Polymer Processing**

- single-screw extruding
- twin-screw extruding
- film casting
- film blowing
- fiber spinning
- injection molding
- compression molding
- vacuum molding
- blow molding
- compounding

#### **Sample Preparation**

- microtoming
- vacuum drying
- sputter coating
- particle size reducing





## Programs for 2005 / 2006

Sept. 12-14	Thermoplastic Elastomers TOPCON -- Hilton Fairlawn	Feb. 27	Diamond Plant Tour Dinner Meeting -- Guy's
Oct. 17	JSW "Twin Screw New Technology" Lunch Meeting -- Tangier	Mar. 27	Mini-Tech Joint Meeting with ORPG and Firelands Stabilization of Rubber, TPE and Plastics
Nov. 21	Prof. Renecker of Polymer Science Akron University, "Electrospinning and Applications of Nanofibers" Lunch Meeting -- Tangier		3 to 6 papers on UV and light stabilizers, A.O., color stabilization and process aids Afternoon Meeting -- Guy's
Dec. 15	Student Union -- Univ. Of Akron	Apr. 24	Master Precision Molding "MUD" Dinner Meeting -- Guy's
Jan. 23	Polymer Exchange Plant Tour (Plastic Recycler) and Eriez "Plastic Separation and Process" Dinner Meeting	May 19	Spring Golf Outing Joint Meeting with Cleveland - Barberton Brookside
		May 22	Awards Banquet Dinner Meeting -- Guy's




### Akron Polymer Training Center

Provides training classes for plastic and rubber processors taught by University of Akron faculty and industry professionals. Visit our website at [www2.uakron.edu/aptc](http://www2.uakron.edu/aptc) for a complete list of our current course offerings.

#### Customized Development and Delivery

The Akron Polymer Training Center also specializes in customized training developed specifically for your employees. Depending on your company's particular needs, our courses can be taught on site at your location, or at our state-of-the-art facility on the campus of The University of Akron.

Our programs are designed to enhance on-the-job effectiveness for all professionals working in the polymer field. If you are experiencing difficulty with polymer-related design or processing problems, contact us. Our reliable and dedicated staff will work with your team to develop a training strategy guaranteed to produce results. Contact Tayba Tahir by phone at **330.972.8661** or email Tayba at [tahir@uakron.edu](mailto:tahir@uakron.edu). If you don't see what you need, no problem! We have the resources to solve even the most vexing polymer processing and design issues.



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## Akron Section SPE Past Presidents

*45 years of  
excellence*

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1960-1961	Milan Krajcik	1983-1984	Robert G. Hills
1961-1962	Foster J. Young	1984-1985	Anthony F. Dean, Jr.
1962-1963	Dickson L. Stoker, III	1985-1986	Gene Buser
1963-1964	Edward L. Hillier	1986-1987	Harry J. Barth
1964-1965	John R. Russell	1987-1988	Judith A. Fallon
1965-1966	John R. Russell	1988-1989	William E. Tosco
1966-1967	Clyde H. Jones	1989-1990	Robert Wegelin
1967-1968	Alan Corry, Jr.	1990-1991	Geraldine R. Stromquist
1968-1969	Bernard M. Saffian	1991-1992	Spencer Keiser
1969-1970	Harold R. Schick	1992-1993	Robert Wegelin
1970-1971	Robert G. Hills	1993-1994	Tony Dean
1971-1972	John J. Satterfield	1994-1995	Wayne Decamp
1972-1973	Alexis M. Gross	1995-1996	Melanie Stewart
1973-1974	Francis J. Maurer	1996-1997	Kevin Hershfield
1974-1975	Leverett A. Anderson, Jr.	1997-1998	Dave Schultz
1975-1976	Robert M. Hershey	1998-1999	John Raab
1976-1977	Richard L. Fleshman	1999-2000	Gary Taylor
1977-1978	David Curtis	2000-2001	Kevin Malpass
1978-1979	John A. Zelek, Jr.	2001-2002	Ken Sharp
1979-1980	Gerald W. Whitnable	2002-2003	Joe Pfeiffer
1980-1981	Kathleen N. Bechter	2003-2004	Robert Wegelin
1981-1982	Victor E. Giuffrida	2004-2005	Joe Mattingly



## President's Message *(cont. from page 2)*

Lest I forget, the Section has been the recipient of yet another award from the international SPE organization, winning the honor of best newsletter from a medium-sized section. Congratulations to our newsletter committee, Joe Pfeiffer and Jenny Digiantonio! This, along with the other four awards to our Section and Student Chapter, will be conferred at ANTEC in Charlotte and recounted at our Awards Banquet.

We had a great technical meeting on April 24 at which Mike Kreitner of the MUD Master Unit Die division at D-M-E Company gave us an informative presentation on his product line. This joint meeting also gave us a good opportunity to share conversation with our colleagues from the Cleveland Section. Thanks, Mike.

I hope that you will consider attending the Awards Banquet on May 22 to support our awardees. I am also asking that each of our members, in order to enhance the functioning and effectiveness of the Akron Section, commit to attending at least one monthly meeting in the 2006/2007 year beginning next September. Without you, there would be no SPE.

Best regards,

*Lloyd Goettler*  
*President, Akron Section*



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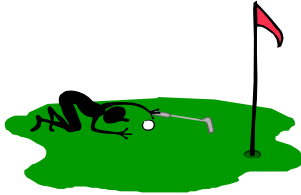




# 41st Annual Spring Golf Outing

**Akron & Cleveland Sections  
Society of Plastics Engineers**  
(Proceeds Go Towards Education)

**Barberton Brookside Country Club**  
**Friday, May 19, 2006 (Rain or Shine)**  
**No Refunds After May 19, 2006**



**Shotgun Start – 7:30 a.m.**

## AWARDS

*Longest Drive ♠ (Women) ♠ (Men Over 50)  
(Men Under 50) ♠ Closest to the Pin ♠*

*Low Gross ♠ Low Net and Wager for Accuracy ♠  
Blind Bogey and Putting Contest*

**Door Prizes!!**

**(No price increase, same as 1985)**

*Payment Must Accompany Reservations for Golf and Dinner  
Deadline for Reservations – May 12, 2006*

---

*Detach and mail with your check to: Cathy Herrin 330-849-5287 / 330-849-5594 (fax)  
Advanced Elastomer Systems 388 South Main Street Akron, OH 44311*

**Make Check Payable to: Akron Section SPE**

*Name and Company*

1. _____	*Golf \$55.00 _____	Lunch \$25.00 _____	Both \$75.00 _____
2. _____	Golf \$55.00 _____	Lunch \$25.00 _____	Both \$75.00 _____
3. _____	Golf \$55.00 _____	Lunch \$25.00 _____	Both \$75.00 _____
4. _____	Golf \$55.00 _____	Lunch \$25.00 _____	Both \$75.00 _____

*\*Includes ½ Golf Cart Fee*

*Make Check Payable to: Akron Section SPE – Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_*

**Primary Contact:** Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

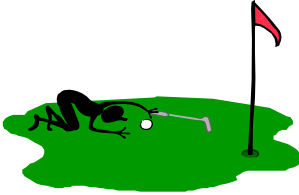
**TICKETS WILL BE MAILED TO PRIMARY CONTACT**

# 41st Annual Spring Golf Outing



Akron & Cleveland Sections  
Society of Plastics Engineers

Barberton Brookside Country Club



Friday, May 19, 2006 (*Rain or Shine*)

**SPONSOR A HOLE !!**

**\$100**

**INCLUDES:**

***A SIGN ON THE HOLE WITH YOUR COMPANY NAME  
AND A COMPLIMENTARY Deluxe LUNCH  
(PROCEEDS GO TOWARD EDUCATION)***

---

***Detach and mail with your check to: Cathy Herrin at Advanced  
Elastomer Systems 388 South Main St. Akron, OH 44311\* 330-849-5287  
330-849-5594(Fax)***

**Make Check Payable to: Akron Section SPE**

*Name and Company*

1. \_\_\_\_\_

*DeLuxe Lunch* \_\_\_\_\_ *Y/N*

*Make Check Payable to: Akron Section SPE – Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_*

**Primary Contact:** Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_



**Society of Plastics Engineers  
Akron Section 41<sup>st</sup> Annual  
Spring Golf Outing  
May 19<sup>th</sup> 2006**

Dear Akron Section Member:

*Wow! 41 years and still smacking the Surlyn!* On May 19, 2006, we will have our annual spring golf outing at Barberton Brookside Country Club. This event has always been a successful fund raiser for education. We would like to see this tradition continue.

Would you be willing to donate something from your company toward the support of this event? Donations can take many forms and can be prizes, sponsorship of a hole on the course or a cash donation. Your company name will also be included in the Polymer Valley News, the newsletter of the Akron Section, which is distributed to all of our 400+ members.

Your section needs your support and your participation. All your efforts to further education and to support the social and technical events are greatly appreciated. If you have not participated in the past and can find a way to do so, we welcome your added support. If you have items to donate for the event, please contact Dave Katz by phone at 330- 849-5139 or by email at or at the address below. Arrangements for the transportation of the items can be made. Thank you again for your past generosity and we are looking forward to your continued support for the Education Fund.

The cost to sponsor a hole is \$100. This entitles you to receive the deluxe luncheon and a sign on a hole with your company's name. The sponsorship money will go towards expenses and add to the education effort of your section. See the attached flyer for details:

Thanks in advance for your contribution. See you on the 19<sup>th</sup> at Barberton Brookside. A reservation form is also attached.

**Spring Golf Committee**

Joe Pfeiffer	Bud Seymour
Tony Dean	Cam Fraser
Dave Katz	Rae Mohan
Bob Wegelin, Chair	

# Minutes of Board Meeting – April 10, 2006

**Call to Order:** 5:35 PM at Akron University Polymer Engineering Center

**Present:** Lloyd Goettler, Cameron Fraser, Vivian Malpass, Bob Wegelin, Tony Dean (Acting Secretary) and Kaan Gunes

**Absent -** Rishi Kumar, Amruth Puttarudraiah, Sadhan Jana, John Woodside, Kevin Malpass, Dave Katz, Joe Mattingly, Dave Schultz, Josh Wong, Hemant Thakkar and Gary Taylor

**Minutes:** March minutes amended and approved.

**Added items to Agenda:** None.

**President:** Lloyd said that the student section had won two awards in addition to the section winning two awards. Cameron Frazer to mention these awards at Awards Night (May 22). Lloyd mentioned the Leadership Seminar at ANTEC. Joe Pfeiffer will be attending.

**Treasurer:** Gary Taylor unable to make board meeting. He sent a report stating that there was a positive balance in the checkbook.

**Secretary:** Tony Dean reported that he was taking minutes in lieu of Dave Schultz.

**Officers, 2006:** No report.

**Student Chapter:** Kaan Gunes reported that the student chapter had won two awards. Kaan said that a total of 17 students will be going to the ANTEC. Fourteen are presenters, two are ushers and one student who does not need any support. Approximately \$6,500 is needed to send the students to the ANTEC. Akron Univ. will partially fund the trip; however, \$3,000 is still needed. The Student chapter will apply to SPE International for funds. The board approved the student chapter be given \$2,000 for ANTEC. Check to be made out to PESO. The student chapter will come back to the board if any further monies are needed.

Kaan reported that they are planning on how to implement the Chase Award.

Kaan announced that the Student chapter picnic will be held on May 18 at Monroe Falls Metro Park. Board members are invited.

**Newsletter:** Joe Pfeiffer unable to make meeting. Newsletter articles needed by April 26. Status of Newsletter Award not known yet. It was learnt later in the week that the Akron Section had won the Newsletter Award. Congratulations to Joe Pfeiffer and his staff.

**Membership:** Joe Pfeiffer not present. His report stated that The Akron Section had 6 new members join in March, bringing total membership to **421**.

**Councilor's Report:** Vivian Malpass reported that SPE members had voted to discard the old Constitution and By-Laws. Joe Pfeiffer will take over as Councilor at the ANTEC. **Lloyd Goettler to notify SPE International that Joe Pfeiffer is the new councilor.**



# Minutes of Board Meeting – April 10, 2006 (cont.)

**EPSDIV TOPCON 2006:** Lloyd reported that Josh Wong is waiting for names of paper presenters. They now have nine papers; however, 16 to 20 are needed. Cameron said that there would be a telecon next week. The committee hoped to make contact with presenters at ANTEC. Vivian Malpass suggested that the Technical Program Chairman of the EPSDIV organize an effort to contact companies involved with displays in order to get papers. **Lloyd Goettler to look up list of companies involved with display and send it out to board members again.**

**TPE TOPCON 2007:** Vivian Malpass reported that planning meetings would start around July, 2006. Three hundred attendees are expected at the 2007 TPE TOPCON. There are no serious conflicts with other meetings in 2007.

**Education Committee:** Kathy Perevosnik reported, by e-mail, that \$19K in Scholarships were given out to 12 students. They will be notified by mail and invited (along with one guest) to the May 22 Awards Banquet. The Essay and Science Fair winners have also been invited to the Awards Banquet.

**Education Foundation:** Nothing reported.

**Advertising:** Nothing reported.

**Public Interest / Website:** Tony Dean reported that the website is up to date and that a notice of the April 24 meeting will appear in the Akron Beacon Journal on April 17.

**Program:** John Woodside not present. Program is set for April 24 at Guy's Party Center. Kathy Perevosnik to handle Award's Night.

**Fall Golf:** This event will only be a Clam Bake.

**Spring Golf:** Bob Wegelin reported that the outing is set for May 19 at the Barberton Brookside Country Club. Dave Katz will do registrations. Bob has six people to help with the outing.

**Past President's Committee:** Nothing to report.

**ACCESS:** ACCESS meeting will be held on April 27 at Tangier's restaurant. Topic will be "The Hydrogen Economy". So far only 10 people have signed up. Lloyd urged suggested attendance by board members if possible.

**Old Business:** Nothing to report.

**New Business:** Nothing to report.

**Closing Comments:** Lloyd is thinking of places to hold final board meeting of year. Nothing definite yet.

The next board meeting is May 15, 2006, Univ. of Akron Polymer Engineering Ctr. Adjourned 8:00 PM.





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**August 2005**

**TIM WOMER OF XALOY, INC. TO BECOME SPE'S NEXT PRESIDENT**

**Brookfield, CT** – With more than 25 years experience, plastics industry veteran Tim Womer, vice president of engineering and technology for machinery component and melt-processing systems manufacturer Xaloy, Inc., is in line to become the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE) next president for the 2006-2007 term.

SPE presidents' terms last one year, and commence at SPE-ANTEC, SPE's annual technical conference. Tim Womer's term will begin at SPE-ANTEC 2006 in Charlotte, North Carolina, May 7-11, 2006.

"Becoming the president of SPE requires a commitment to strengthening and improving the plastics industry which Tim has demonstrated through his many years of involvement in various capacities at SPE," explains Susan Oderwald, executive director of SPE. "This coupled with his proven track record in the plastics industry and Xaloy's extraordinary support pave the way for a smooth transition into his role with SPE."

Xaloy CEO Walter Cox commented: "Xaloy has demonstrated its commitment to the plastics industry for over 75 years. We are pleased to continue this commitment today and into the future by fully supporting the SPE and Tim Womer in his new responsibilities as president-elect."

**About Tim Womer**

Timothy W. Womer is the Vice-President of Engineering & Technology for Xaloy, Inc. A Fellow of SPE, Tim is recognized as an authority in plastics technology and machinery with a career spanning more than 25 years. He has designed over 8,000 components that have been used in all areas of single-screw plastication, such as extrusion, blow molding and injection molding. His designs have received numerous patents for innovations with screws, screw mixers and other products. His expertise also extends to topics including heat transfer rolls used in the plastic sheet and paper laminating fields.

Tim joined Xaloy with the company's acquisition of New Castle Industries in 2003. Prior to that, he served in leadership positions in engineering, research and development at Spirex Corporation, Conair, Inc. and NRM Corporation. He has also served as an independent consultant in plastics process engineering with major clients engaged in extrusion, blow molding and injection molding.

Tim has presented many lectures for both colleges and businesses around the world in the area of screw design and plastic processing, in both extrusion and injection molding. He has presented technical papers at four SPE-ANTECs and at conferences organized by The Wire Association International and TAPPI (Technical Association of the Pulp and Paper Industries).

He served SPE's Extrusion Division as Chair in 1999-2000 and has been a member of the Division's ANTEC Technical Paper Review Board for 12 years.

Tim, also serves on the Educational Committee of the Society of the Plastics Industry's 2006 National Plastics Exhibition (NPE), and has served on the Educational Committee for the NPE since 1995.

**About SPE**

The Society of Plastics Engineers, Inc. (SPE) is the premier source of peer-reviewed technical information for plastics professionals. Founded in 1942, SPE takes action every day to help companies in the plastics industry succeed by spreading knowledge, strengthening skills and promoting plastics. Employing these vital strategies, SPE has helped the plastics industry thrive for over 60 years. SPE has become the recognized medium of communication among scientists, engineers and technical personnel engaged in the development, conversion and application of plastics. For more information, please visit [www.4spe.org](http://www.4spe.org).



## SOCIETY OF PLASTICS ENGINEERS

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14 FAIRFIELD DRIVE, P.O. BOX 403, BROOKFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06804 USA  
TELEPHONE: 203-775-0471 FAX: 203-775-8490 WWW.4SPE.ORG

April 13, 2006

Lloyd A Goettler  
305 Hollythorn Dr  
Akron, OH 44321

Dear Lloyd:

It is my pleasure to inform you that the Akron Section has been selected as 1st Place, Medium Section winner of the 2006 Newsletter Contest.

It will be our honor to officially recognize your Section during the Society's 64th Annual Technical Conference (ANTEC 2006) in the Charlotte City Center Hotel, Charlotte, NC. On Wednesday evening, May 10, at 7:00 pm in the Charlotte Mecklenburg ballroom, we invite you to be our guest when SPE recognizes all award recipients during the special "SPE Celebrates" Reception and Banquet (black tie optional). The awards ceremony will begin after dinner.

In order to assist us in orchestrating the awards presentation, all award recipients will be given a table assignment. Therefore, it is important for us to know who will be picking up the award from your Section and if more than one person will be attending. One ticket is complimentary. Additional tickets can be purchased at a cost of \$65.00 each. Please return the attached reply form by April 20, 2006 so that we can reserve the appropriate number of tickets and seats. All tickets will be provided to you just prior to the start of the reception.

Please plan on arriving for the evening's events by 6:15 pm. You will need to check-in at the VIP desk, located in the promenade, just outside the ballroom. You will then be directed to a specific location for a brief photographic session prior to the start of the festivities.

Again, congratulations on this achievement. We look forward to seeing you at ANTEC.

Sincerely,

Tricia McKnight

cc: Vivian Malpass, Akron Section Councilor

## Akron Section Board of Directors

Lloyd Goettler <i>U Akron Polymer Engineering</i> President	330-972-7467 T 330-258-2339 F lagoett@uakron.edu
John Woodside <i>Everlight USA, Inc.</i> Pres-Elect/Prog. Chair	216-533-1324 T 216-741-6883 F johnwoodside@ameritech.net
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Gary Taylor <i>Myers Wadsworth</i> Treasurer	330-336-6621 T 330-334-7100 F gtaylor@po.akro-mils.com
Dave Schultz <i>Harwick Standard Dist. Corp.</i> Secretary	330-798-6535 T 330-798-9328 F schultzd@harwickstandard.com
Vivian Malpass <i>Tek-Mark International</i> Councillor	330-342-1120 T 330-342-1134 F vivian.malpass@tek-mark.com
Joe Pfeiffer <i>AES</i> Membership/Newsletter Ed.	330-849-5097 T 330-849-5589 F jepfeiffer@santoprene.com
Kevin Malpass <i>Diebold, Inc.</i> Education Foundation	330-490-4743 T 330-490-4788 F malpask@diebold.com
Kathy Perevosnik <i>AES</i> Education Committee	330-849-5119 T 330-849-5597 F kaperevosnik@santoprene.com
Hemant Thakkar <i>ARDL</i> Education Committee	330-794-6600 T 330-794-6610 F hemant_thakkar@ardl.com
Tony Dean <i>Retired - Webmaster/Public Interest</i>	330-929-9916 T francis@neo.rr.com
Dave Katz <i>AES</i> House	330-849-5139 T 330-849-5676 F david.katz@santoprene.com
Cameron Fraser <i>U Akron Polymer Engineering</i> Awards Night	330-972-6008 T 330-258-2339 F cfraser@uakron.edu
Kaan Gunes <i>U Akron Polymer Engineering</i> Student Chapter President	240-643-0184 T 330-239-2998 F kg23@uakron.edu
Sadhan Jana <i>U Akron Polymer Engineering</i> Student Chapter Advisor	330-972-8293 T 330-258-2339 F janas@uakron.edu
Amruth Puttarudraiah <i>A. Schulman</i> Director	330-972-5834 T 330-258-2339 F amrutheswar_puttarudraiah@schulman.com
Josh Wong <i>U Akron Polymer Engineering</i> Director	330-972-8275 T 330-972-6027 F swong@uakron.edu

## Contacts at SPE INTERNATIONAL

14 Fairfield Drive  
Brookfield, CT 06804-0403  
Phone: 203-775-0471 • Fax 203-775-8490

Web: [www.4spe.org](http://www.4spe.org)  
*all phones in area 203 - all e-mail @4spe.org*

<b>NAME / Function</b>	<b>e-mail / phone</b>
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Marie Salzo Executive Assistant	mcsalzo 740-5422
Deborah Daily E-Services Manager	dadaily 740-5468
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Tobi Gebauer Manager, Member Recruitment/Retention	tgebauer 740-5457
Tricia McKnight Liaison, Leadership Serv.-Section Admn.	tmcknight 740-5430
Lesley Kyle Senior Event Manager	lskyle 740-5452
Gail R. Bristol Managing Director, Foundation	grbristol 740-5447



## Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers, Inc.

The Akron Society of Plastics Engineers Educational Foundation operates exclusively for the benefit of and to carry out the purposes of the Akron Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers, Inc., which is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to plastics by making educational scholarship grants to deserving students in the field of plastics engineering and related subjects. The Organization is supported primarily by contributions from the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers, the Society's individual members and corporations like yours affiliated with the polymer industry.

Since the inception in 1988, the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers Educational Foundation has grown to its current position through the hard work of many volunteers and the generosity of the local business community. Over the twelve years that the foundation has been in existence, it has provided scholarships to over 200 young men and women, totaling in excess of \$100,000 to assist them in furthering their careers in the polymer industry.

Our goal is to continue to grow the assets of the Foundation in order to increase the number of scholarships awarded as well as the size of the awards, and to do so in perpetuity. In doing this, we hope to be able to contribute to the supply of well-trained individuals to support the growth of the polymer industry in the Northeast Ohio area today and well into the future.

When the Foundation began its fund raising activities in 1988, we offered those companies who contributed \$30,000 a scholarship in their name. To date we have two named scholarships -- ***Newell/Rubbermaid*** and ***Goodyear***. We are asking your company to help with the growth of well-trained individuals in the local polymer industry. Please check below:

\$30,000 lump sum     \$10,000 / yr next 3 yrs.     \$5,000 / yr next 6 yrs.  
 other \_\_\_\_\_

Our named scholarship donors are recognized at the annual Awards Night of the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers. We invite you to present your donation at our Awards Night, which will be scheduled in May.

I am looking forward to your support of this very worthwhile cause by your fine company. Please contact me at 216-573-7467 or e-mail at [kevin.malpass@gepolymerland.com](mailto:kevin.malpass@gepolymerland.com) with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
Kevin Malpass, Chairman  
Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers, Education Foundation



# SPE MEMBER BENEFITS GUIDE



FREE TO MEMBERS

	BENEFIT	DESCRIPTION	WEBSITE LINK
NETWORKING	Business Networking Resources	Connect to industry experts	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/cc">www.4spe.org/cc</a>
	Local Section Affiliation	Network with members locally in over 75 countries	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/communities/sections">www.4spe.org/communities/sections</a>
	Online Membership Directory	Unlimited access provides the link to fellow members	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/membercenter">www.4spe.org/membercenter</a>
	Technical Affiliation	24 Divisions represent major industry specialties	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/communities/divisions">www.4spe.org/communities/divisions</a>
MEDIA	Newsletters	News & events about specific local & technical affiliations	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/communities/newsletters">www.4spe.org/communities/newsletters</a>
	<i>Plastics Engineering (PE)</i>	The official monthly publication of SPE	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/pub">www.4spe.org/pub</a>
	SPE Online	Your 24/7 source for Society information	<a href="http://www.4spe.org">www.4spe.org</a>
	Tech Focus	Monthly electronic newsletter offering society & industry news	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/membercenter">www.4spe.org/membercenter</a>
TECHNICAL	Online Technical Library	Searchable database of technical articles & conference papers	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/membercenter">www.4spe.org/membercenter</a>
	Message Forums	Online question & answer forum	<a href="http://www.askpip.com">www.askpip.com</a>
	Special Interest Groups	Emerging areas not currently covered by technical Divisions	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/communities/divisions/#sig">www.4spe.org/communities/divisions/#sig</a>
	SPE Journals	Read abstracts from our three technical journals	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/pub/journal">www.4spe.org/pub/journal</a>
CAREER	American Management Association	Through a partner alliance, access AMA's educational resources	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/membercenter">www.4spe.org/membercenter</a>
	Awards	Outstanding contributions recognized	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/awards">www.4spe.org/awards</a>
	Leadership Development	The opportunity to improve professionally & personally	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/communities/leadership">www.4spe.org/communities/leadership</a>
	Online Career Development	Career enrichment, job openings & resume database	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/membercenter">www.4spe.org/membercenter</a>
	Professional Recognition	Distinguished grades of membership recognize accomplishments	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/membercenter">www.4spe.org/membercenter</a>
	Scholarships & Grants	Awarded by The SPE Foundation	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/foundation">www.4spe.org/foundation</a>
	Student Benefits	Over 100 Student Chapters in nine countries	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/membercenter">www.4spe.org/membercenter</a>
	Unemployment Services	Benefits for the unemployed member	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/membercenter">www.4spe.org/membercenter</a>

SAVINGS TO MEMBERS

	BENEFIT	DESCRIPTION	WEBSITE LINK
TRAINING	ANTEC	Largest annual technical conference in the industry	<a href="http://www.antec.ws">www.antec.ws</a>
	Career Coaching	For-a-fee services for career enhancement	<a href="http://www.4careersolutions.org">www.4careersolutions.org</a>
	e-Learning Center	Online self-paced courses, live & archived presentations	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/elearning">www.4spe.org/elearning</a>
	In-plant Training	Seminar instruction at member's company	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/training/seminars">www.4spe.org/training/seminars</a>
	Seminars	Expert instruction on current plastics topics	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/training/seminars">www.4spe.org/training/seminars</a>
	Technical Journals	Subscribe to peer-reviewed articles. Available online and in print	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/pub">www.4spe.org/pub</a>
	Topical Conferences	Targeted at specific technical & management disciplines	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/conf">www.4spe.org/conf</a>
	Training Products	Developed by SPE & other leading providers. Some Spanish titles	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/training/products">www.4spe.org/training/products</a>
	OTHER	Career Transition Services	Outplacement program offered to member's company
Group Health Insurance		Health, disability & life insurance at attractive group rates	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/membercenter">www.4spe.org/membercenter</a>
Online Job Posting		A source for companies to find qualified staff	<a href="http://www.4careersolutions.org">www.4careersolutions.org</a>
SPE BookStore		Discounts on 250+ reference books & training products	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/training/products">www.4spe.org/training/products</a>
SPE/MBNA Credit Card		SPE Platinum Plus Mastercard® (US & Canada only)	<a href="http://www.4spe.org/membercenter">www.4spe.org/membercenter</a>

WEBSITE LINKS SUBJECT TO CHANGE - CHECK [WWW.4SPE.ORG](http://WWW.4SPE.ORG) FOR FULL BENEFITS

## **WHY JOIN ?**

*It has never been more important to be a member of your professional society than now, in the current climate of change and volatility in the plastics industry. Now, more than ever, the information you access and the personal networks you create can and will directly impact your future and your career.*

### **Active membership in SPE:**

- **keeps you current**
- **keeps you informed**
- **keeps you connected**

**The question really isn't "why join?" but**

**WHY NOT?**



**Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers**

Joe Mattingly, Advertising Manager  
330-929-4213, ext. 1274

---

**Insertion Order 2006-07**

Polymer Valley News: Akron Section SPE Newsletter  
Delivered via email, stored at <http://www.akronspe.org/newsletter.htm>

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Please check ad size wanted. One column is 3-7/8" wide.

Rates are for entire season, September 2006 – Summer 2007. **Payable in Advance.**  
**Please let me know if you need an invoice.**

Ad format must be electronic (but we can scan your original artwork). File size should be limited based on the size of the ad ordered. Oversized ads will be charged an additional fee. Acceptable formats are .bmp, .pcx, .jpg, .tif, .gif, or MS PowerPoint or Word (if you have any issues with format, please email us and we can provide assistance). **Color is Free! Color helps your ad stand out!**

**Email artwork and this Insertion Order (completed) as an attachment to [jmattingly@americhem.com](mailto:jmattingly@americhem.com)**

If you don't include your email address, we have no way of sending you each issue!

<b>(please X)</b>	<b>Ad Size</b>	<b>Dimensions</b>	<b>Price for year</b>
	Business Card	One column by 2" high	\$200
	Double	One column, 2 to 4" high	\$300
	Triple	One column, 4 to 6" high	\$400
	Half Page	One column, 10" high	\$500
	Half Page	Page width (7.5"), 5" high	\$500
	Hotlink to company website	N/A	\$75 / year

**The cost on a per issue basis will be calculated by dividing the "Year" price by 10**

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Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail checks, payable to AKRON SECTION SPE, to:**  
Akron Section SPE  
c/o Joe Mattingly  
SPE – Akron Section  
PO Box 1417  
Akron, OH 44309



# Society of Plastics Engineers

PO Box 403, Brookfield, CT 06804-0403 USA  
Telephone: +1.203.740.5403 Fax: +1.203.775.8490  
www.4spe.org

# MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

## Applicant Information

**Name:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 first last mi

**Applicant Type:**  
 Member  
 Student (must supply graduation date \_\_\_\_\_)

**Job Title:**  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Company Name and Business Address (or College):**  
 company/college:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 address:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 address:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 city: state:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 zip: country:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Work Phone:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Phone:** ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** *used for society business only*  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Home Address:** *(please provide)*  
 address:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 address:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 city: state:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 zip: country:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Mailing Address:**  
 Home  Business

**Job Function:**  
*(choose only one)*  
 Consulting (11)  
 Design (02)  
 Education (08)  
 General Management  
 Library (10)  
 Manufacturing (04)  
 Marketing (07)  
 Purchasing (06)  
 Quality Control (05)  
 R & D (03)  
 Retired (98)  
 Student (09)  
 Tech Support (12)  
 Other (99)

**Gender:**  
 Male  Female

**Birth Date:** (mm/dd/yyyy)  
 \_\_\_\_\_

The SPE Online Membership Directory is included with membership. Your information will automatically be included.  
 Exclude my email from Online Member Directory  
 Exclude all my information from Online Member Directory  
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Society of Plastics Engineers  
2006 "**Wonders of Plastics**"  
Essay Contest  
Entry Form  
South Texas Section

Title: Precious Complexities of Plastics in Society

By: Mark Thompson Grade 11 age 16

School Humble High School  
Humble, Texas

Class Chemistry

Teacher Mr. Mascolo

**Society of Plastics Engineers**  
**South Texas Section**  
**[www.spe-stx.org](http://www.spe-stx.org)**

## Precious Complexities of Plastics in Society

Nearly everyone knows the obvious uses for plastics, but most don't realize that the varying plastic structures and uses provide infinite solutions for common problems, which go far beyond water bottles and disposable utensils. From bio-molecular engineering to deep space exploration, plastics play a crucial role in the advancement of our society. Plastics continue to make our daily lives safer and more comfortable with new developments in more affordable and reliable automobiles that rely on plastics. New innovations push our technology to extreme limits, unreachable without the varying uses of plastics. The precious complexities of plastics in society allow us to expand our capabilities and enable us to better our lives and our world.

As we look to explore the deepest reaches of space we turn to revolutionary new advances in structure and imaging components made from plastics. Newly developed solar sails, a reliable alternative to satellite propulsion, rely on plastics for strong light structural support <sup>(7)</sup>. The International Space Station is composed partially of composites, a mixture of materials bonded by high strength plastics, which allow for a much lighter stronger structure <sup>(3)</sup>. The power supply of the International Space Station, large flexible solar panels, are held together by light pliable, but strong, plastics that both decrease cost and increase efficiency <sup>(4)</sup>. Space telescopes are also beginning to incorporate plastics into not only their structure but also their mirrors <sup>(10)</sup>. These new carbon fiber plastic mirrors will be a fraction of the weight of traditional glass mirrors, reducing cost and increasing range of the telescopes <sup>(10)</sup>.

Due to their large working temperature range, plastics are essential components of almost every space mission. The wiring connected to the ignition that controls the rocket motors is covered by a polymer-based fabric, which protects the wires from the extreme heat of the flame <sup>(1)</sup>. During re-entry into the atmosphere, the extremely high temperatures a spacecraft experiences are tolerable because of the heat shields made of composite plastics <sup>(1)</sup>. Plastics are often used in the computers of satellites and other space craft to reduce the temperature of the crucial components <sup>(1)</sup>.

Some of the most important advancements in plastics with regards to outer space are those that increase the safety and comfort of astronauts. Space suits are designed to allow astronauts to tolerate temperatures ranging from  $-250^{\circ}\text{F}$  to  $350^{\circ}\text{F}$ , the shadows and spotlights of outer space. NASA uses many different plastics to make a seven layer insulating airtight suit to provide both maximum protection and maximum mobility for the astronaut <sup>(8)</sup>. The helmet of the space suit is composed of several polycarbonate layers for maximum strength, and the visor is made of a transparent plastic coated with gold <sup>(8)</sup>. The new water filtration system of the international space station uses a porous plastic that captures particles that are thirty times smaller than those a traditional filter could capture <sup>(1)</sup>. The most intriguing new plastics that will soon be used in all manned flight vehicles turn different colors when exposed to excess hydrogen or oxygen environments or even the slightest bit of neutron radiation, insuring the safety of the astronauts.

Plastics have revolutionized the medical field. Plastics have replaced traditional glass and metal parts because of their durability and their low cost. For instance, traditional syringes were expensive and therefore had to be used multiple times and would have to be sterilized thoroughly before another use. Because of their low cost, plastic syringes can be disposed of after one use, eliminating any need for local sterilization <sup>(9)</sup>. Packaging of medicines is extremely crucial, and

### Precious Complexities of Plastics in Society

before plastic, medicine companies were forced to use expensive and less airtight glass bottles. In the age of plastics, these companies now use durable plastics that are resistant to changes in temperature and allow for a more airtight seal, maintaining the effectiveness of the medicine for longer periods of time <sup>(9)</sup>. New catheters, made of Nylon, can be inserted with very little pain because the plastic does not interact with human tissue <sup>(9)</sup>. Thin strong plastic rods are used in heart surgery to help keep the surgical opening stable <sup>(9)</sup>.

Plastics play a key role in our day-to-day transportation. Plastics increase the safety and decrease the cost of modern technologies in automobiles, trains, and airplanes. Both the tail and the fuselage of Boeing's new 787 Dreamliner will be made nearly entire of plastic composites <sup>(2)</sup>. This will not only lighten the airplane and increase its efficiency, but will decrease the cost of a ticket and increase the comfort of the flight. Boeing is not the only aircraft manufacturer incorporating these new technologies into their aircraft. Airbus uses complex composite plastics in parts for many of their aircrafts <sup>(2)</sup>. Plastics are now being used more in aircraft engines, in some cases increasing efficiency up to 20% <sup>(5)</sup>. Plastics have been incorporated into the appearance of automobiles for decades but they are beginning to play a crucial role in the performance as well. Composite plastics are now being used for structural components, engine parts, and body sections, which increase the efficiency and performance of the car while decreasing the cost <sup>(6)</sup>. High-speed trains built from light composite plastics allow for quicker and cheaper land travel.

Plastics have and continue to help the technology age blossom. Plastics are an indispensable component to nearly every computer and portable electronic device. Not only does plastic provide for a hard durable outer shell for anything from CD players to laptop computers, plastics are revolutionizing the internal structure of computers. With newly developed plastic transistors, made from organic polymeric conductors, it is now possible to print circuit boards on thin sheets of plastic <sup>(11)</sup>. These printed pages of circuit boards will do everything a traditional one does but will be much cheaper and much more efficient <sup>(11)</sup>.

From deep space exploration to printed circuitry, the precious complexities of plastics in society allow for us to achieve unimaginable heights, and as we enter into the twenty first century it is obvious that plastics will continue to play an ever-increasing role in our world.

## Precious Complexities of Plastics in Society

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