

# Polymer Valley News



The Newsletter of the Akron Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers  
*Our 65<sup>th</sup> Year of Education and Service to the Plastics Industry*

~ Next Session ~

Monday, April 10, 2023  
5:30 p.m.

Goodyear Polymer Center  
170 University Avenue  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Atrium and Room 304  
Akron OH 44325

**Akron Section SPE members and University  
Graduate students – Poster Presentations**

***Excellent networking opportunity!  
Akron SPE members are looking to  
hire UA grads***

**Developed and presented by UAkron's  
Polymer Student Organization**

## Meeting Information

Member, guest, retired	\$25
Student	\$10
Poster Presenter	\$5

Gathering	5:30 p.m.
Buffet Dinner	6:00 p.m.
Poster Program	6:45 p.m.

Reservations requested by March 31 and  
can be made to Bob Weiler at 330-283-  
9024 or akronspe1@gmail.com  
Be sure to include your company  
affiliation and dietary restrictions.

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# President's Message

Hello fellow SPE members,

The Cleveland Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers hosted a fascinating tour on March 20. We toured Magnet - NE OH Manufacturing Partnership in Cleveland and we enjoyed a catered buffet at the facility. Many members of both the Akron and Cleveland sections were present. For April the Akron Section is hosting, at the University of Akron, Poster Presentations that are Student led by PESO. See how to sign up and join us on page 1, and enjoy an opportunity to see what the polymer engineering students at the University are working on, along with dinner.



Plan ahead to join us for our Annual Awards Banquet at Raintree Country Club on May 22, which is our final event of the year. We have a great speaker in Dr. James M. Eagan - Assistant Professor, The University of Akron School of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering who is speaking on the topic - From Thin Air: The Synthesis of Lightweight Composites from Carbon Dioxide. See page 9 for details and to sign up for this great opportunity to network with your SPE community.

We are looking for additional volunteers to join our Akron SPE Board. We, as a board, have continued to bring exciting technical events and engagements for many years. We invite you to join us in exploring the many opportunities to bring an excellent program to our members. As a member of the Board, you can influence the types of meetings and subjects that are brought to our section's attention. We are currently looking for a volunteer to help the board with our "House" position, and for the position of Treasurer for next year. Look forward to seeing you soon at one of our events.

Best regards,

*Joe Mattingly*

President, Akron Section  
330-208-6913  
joe@mattingly.us

## SPE National

Please click the following areas of interest:

[Contacts at National](#)

[Member Benefits](#)

[Join SPE](#)

[Akron Section](#)



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Picture your ad here .....  
And also on [www.akronspe.org](http://www.akronspe.org)

**The Akron Section is in  
need of New Board Members.**

**Please consider becoming a  
Board Member  
to help support your Section.**

**Contact anyone currently  
on the board  
if you are interested.**

**Thank You!**



Join us for next season's advertising  
– see page 20 for the order form

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# VINYLTEC®

October 10-12, 2023 • Akron, OH

Presented by SPE Vinyl Plastics Division and SPE Akron Section

## Call for Papers

SPE's *Vinyl Division* announces a call for papers for the upcoming:

**VINYLTEC 2023: “Positioning Vinyl for Tomorrow”**

**October 10-12, 2023**

**Hilton Inn, Akron, OH**

The Vinyl Division Technical Program Committee is soliciting papers and Keynote Speakers in the following areas:

- **Resin and Additives**
- **Sustainability and Recycling**
- **Megatrends** (Climate Change, Data Analytics & Digital Connectivity, Decentralized Financing, Globalization, Health & Wellness, Populations Shift, Resource Constraints, Social Responsibility, Transparency, Workforce Resilience)
- **Vinyl Industry Association Updates**

**Timeline:** ASAP! No later than April 30, 2023

**Please Contact:** TPC Chair, Raechel Sincavage at [RSincavage@dow.com](mailto:RSincavage@dow.com) with proposed talk title and author

The Akron SPE Section is happy to post local job openings in the plastics industry for 90 days for any member.

Please contact a board member if you are interested in posting.

For current postings, visit <http://www.akronspe.org/job-posting>

Open position: Polymer Testing Manager – Job ID # 13974

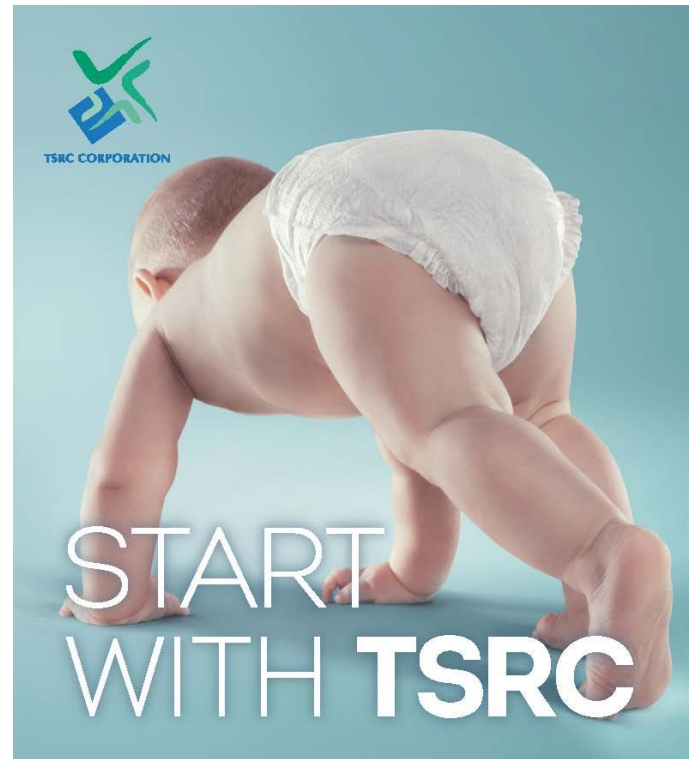
<https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/3440849412/?alternateChannel=search&refId=KCNyVvQ4cweKJTsYL3Yr0A%3D%3D&trackingId=mN730SEj9gwBYkAy6b1N8g%3D%3D>

Position Summary: Promote, manage and execute the School of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering's contract testing projects including outreach for clients, quotation of projects, test execution and reporting.

Required Qualifications: Requires a relevant Bachelor's Degree and a minimum of 2 years of experience in analytical services and a minimum of 2 years experience working in the Polymer Science field performing management and accounting functions. Strong communication skills and proper knowledge of related scientific instrumentation required. Ability to perform research and prepare and disseminate information to clients required.

Formal application to be done through the following link:

<https://www.uakron.edu/hr/job-openings/openings.dot>



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# MAGNET Tour – March 20





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# Akron Section SPE



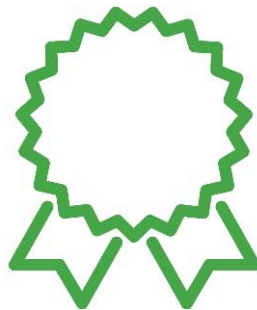
Dr. James M. Eagan  
Assistant Professor  
The University of Akron  
School of Polymer Science  
and Polymer Engineering

## ~ Upcoming Session ~

### Akron Awards Night

Monday, May 22, 2023

Raintree Golf and Event Center  
4350 Mayfair Road  
Uniontown, OH 44685



Please join us for the last meeting of the season as we present various awards and scholarships.

#### Meeting Information

Member and/or guest	\$30
Retired	\$25
Student	\$10
Honoree or Scholarship Winner plus one guest	No charge
Gathering	5:30 p.m.
Dinner	6:00 p.m.
Program	7:00 p.m.

Reservations requested by May 8 if possible and can be made to Bob Weiler at 330-283-9024 or [akronspe1@gmail.com](mailto:akronspe1@gmail.com)

Be sure to include your company affiliation and dietary restrictions.

**Dr. James M. Eagan**

Assistant Professor

The University of Akron

School of Polymer Science

and Polymer Engineering

**From Thin Air: The Synthesis of Lightweight Composites from Carbon Dioxide**

Abstract: Polymerization of high energy fossil fuel carbon feedstocks has underpinned the advances in polymer science and polymer engineering for the last century. These synthetic materials have unparalleled performance and tunable function. However, the limited supply of fossil fuels, excessive generation of durable plastic waste, and rising emissions complicate the long-term sustainability of the polymer industry. In our work, we seek to utilize carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) as a carbon feedstock for high performance advanced material applications. Specifically, we have developed systems suitable for applications in lightweight fiber reinforced composites, reprocessible thermosets, chemically recyclable elastomers, and degradable plastics. In this talk we will describe the underpinning chemistry that enables these sustainable materials and our attempts to scale their production. Additionally, the properties and their comparison to traditional technologies will be provided along with a critique of new material adoption.

James M. Eagan is an assistant professor at the University of Akron School of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering. He received his Ph.D. from Columbia University in 2014 under the guidance of Scott A. Snyder and completed postdoctoral studies at Cornell University under Geoffrey W. Coates. He is the recipient of the AAAS Newcomb Cleveland Prize, NSF Faculty Early Career Development award, LG Global Innovation Challenge Award, and the ACS Petroleum Research Foundation (PRF) New Investigator Grant. He serves on the advisory boards of Ascribe Bioscience, Seauciel LLC., and ACS Applied Polymer Materials.





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# Programs for 2022/23

- Sep. 20-22 **15<sup>th</sup> TopCon**  
 -- *Hilton Inn Fairlawn - Akron \**
- Oct. 13 **Sustainability Rocks, Part 2**  
 Helping Molders Tune In to the  
 Circular Economy – 8am to 6pm  
 -- *Corp. College East - Cleveland \**
- Nov. 9-10 **Compounding Conference**  
 -- *Huntington Center - Cleveland \**
- Nov. 21 **DODE, Dan Gisser**  
 Galaxy Restaurant -- *Akron \**
- Dec. **No meeting**  
 -- *Akron \**
- Jan. 10 **ACCESS – Polymer Consortium  
 Update**  
 Brian Anderson, VP Research  
 Greater Akron Chamber  
*R.Shea Brewery -- Akron \**
- Jan. 23 **M. Holland**  
 Debbie Prenatt  
 -- *Virtual – Akron and Cleveland \**
- Feb. 28 **Sustainability, Madison Group**  
 Melissa Kurtz, Managing Engineer  
 -- *Virtual - Cleveland \**
- Mar. 20 **Magnet Headquarters - Tour**  
 -- *Cleveland \**
- Apr. 10 **University of Akron Poster  
 Presentations**  
**Student Led by PESO**  
 -- *Cleveland \**
- May 22 **Akron Section Awards Night**  
*Raintree Country Club -- Akron \**

*Meetings are joint with Cleveland  
 Section with host section denoted by \**

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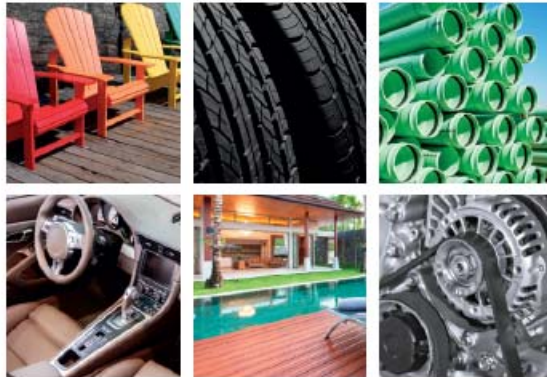
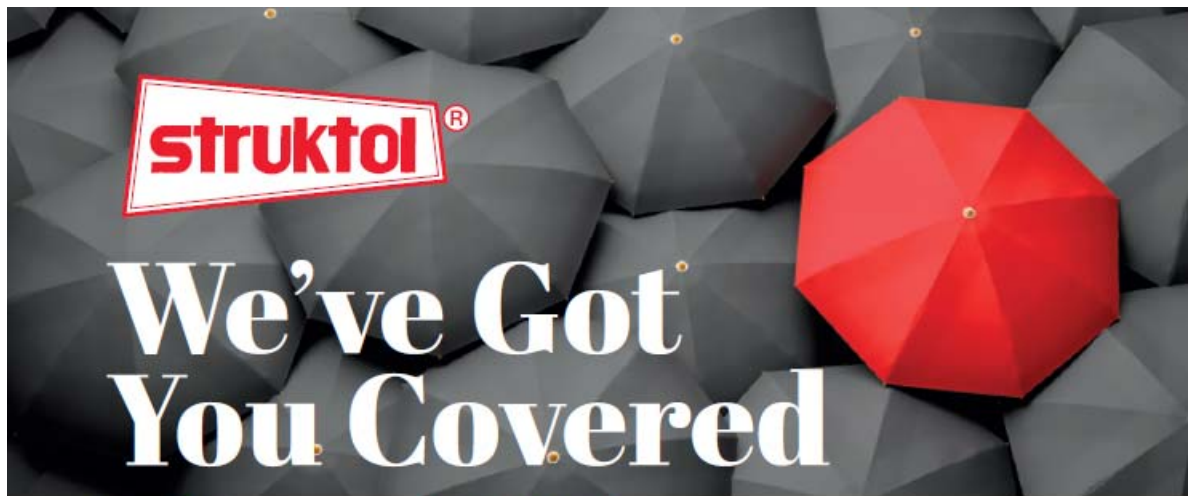


SPE Communities, formerly The Chain, is where industry professionals can participate in peer-to-peer conversations and engage in technical and non-technical discussions. Communities participants can subscribe to posts, see who else is online, receive discussion notifications, connect directly to each other via direct messaging and more. Communities are an ideal way to **stay connected with your peers** to collaborate, share advice, find solutions, and build relationships.

## Tech Talk

This is where professionals from around the world discuss the latest technical issues and innovations in range of marketplaces. Put the knowledge and expertise of thousands of plastics professionals to work for you. Ask a question. Or provide an answer. [Click here.](#)

**For technical polymer questions please use the SPE International forum “Tech Talk”**  
**For local questions please contact the officers at [akronspe1@gmail.com](mailto:akronspe1@gmail.com)**



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# Board Meeting Minutes – March 6, 2023

**Call to Order:** In person at PEAC-Univ of Akron. Meeting called to order at 5:30PM.

**Present:** Joe Mattingly- host, John Fellenstein, David Schultz, RJ Viereckl, Sherri Hart and Dan Jones

**Online:** Tony Dean, Bob Weiler, Bob Wegelin, Keith Pelfrey and Critt Ohlemacher

**Absent:** Kevin Malpass, Nicole Fraifogl, Sahil Gupta and Larry Stanek

Joe Mattingly hosted BOD

Minutes reviewed from Feb

## **In need of new BOD/Committee members to help fill key positions**

Treasurer- next SPE year

House- next year

## **Technical Program 2022/23—Larry Stanek / David Schultz / Sherri Hart**

- Feb 28- Cleve hosted Virtual meeting Madison Group- Melissa Kurtz spoke on Sustainability- hosted by Joe Mattingly- Teams went well with close to 30 attendees.
- March 20- Cleve to host a Tour of Magnet in Cleveland- Kristy Beynon details being developed flier sent off to ACCESS and SPE members.
- April 10- Akron- University of Akron- Student Poster session- RJ Viereckl-PESO Team located Polymer Science 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, invitation sent to Eve Vitale- Intl SPE Foundation. Present poster- \$5, No Poster -\$10, Members- \$25. Plan to align prize for Top voted poster working with caterer, align tables and chairs. Parking arrangement- U of Akron- John Fellenstein. Prof Weinan Xu- short Keynote.
- May 22- Awards Banquet- Raintree- Akron. Need to align Computer, Projector and Screen from Joe Mattingly- as he will not be present to MC evening or provide set-up.
- June 5- target Wrap up meeting- Galaxy being set up

## **House and Treasurer—Bob Weiler**

Bob reports we are set for April and May meeting- looks to have BOD/Committee member handle House next year. Bob reports finances are in good standing. Bob suggests that funds, as set in Budget for Edu Foundation be provided.

## **Membership—Kevin Malpass**

Sherri for Kevin reports at 172 members with several soon to expire- **NEED to align task force to follow up with expiring members.** RJ will double check the student membership progress from Sherri and take action to increase numbers if needed.

## **Councilor—Dan Jones**

Next meeting set for ANTEC later March- will inform of latest updates.

## **Student Chapter—RJ Vieredel**

Travel award available for 2023 was not used after initial alignment. Need new Scholarship applicants for Fall – new Undergraduate program at U of Akron will be a new source.

## **Public Interest / Advertising—Tony Dean**

We are up to date on information on website.

# Board Meeting Minutes – 3/6 continued

## Newsletter—Sherri Makar Hart

No report.

## Social Media—Sherri Makar Hart

Sherri to add upcoming events to FB and Linked IN.

## National Awards—Keith Pelfrey

No report.

## Section Awards—Keith Pelfrey

There will be three Lifetime awards this year - all have been notified and will attend. David Schultz will forward an official invite to Lifetime members- late March. We have identified a Hall of Honor candidate and as well a Zekan Award winner. We need to start alignment of the Awards Program flier including Speaker- Prof James Eagan- Univ Of Akron- Bio and Picture, Student Scholarships.

## Education Committee—John Fellenstein

Science Olympiad is set for (3/11) at U Akron.

WRD Science Fair set for March 18- SPE /ACCESS judges needed at U of Akron.

ACCESS- STEM event set for March 30, John will not be there but Carin Helfer- ex AGPA to handle SPE as they are requesting an activity table (make & take) for approx. 80 students, would like volunteers to run the table.

## Education Foundation—David Schultz/Joe Mattingly

Checks for scholarships are written and will mail soon. Target amount for Scholarships is 11K. The Foundation is in good standing, no meeting planned for Foundation in Q1. Suggested a possible re-work of funds- plan to review suggested proposal.

## Growth Committee—Kevin Malpass

No report.

## 2023 VINYLTEC—Bob Weiler

Planning and Committee meetings underway with large event set to celebrate- Brabender 100 Year Anniv.

Akron is hosting - David Schultz Co-Chair with Raechel Sincavage from Dow set for October 10-12 at Hilton – Akron. Interest to have a PlastiVan update informed John Fellenstein.

## ACCESS Update

BOD meeting set for Mar 15- Wed at Rubber Div ACS Office, PayPal process has been aligned and connected and tested. It is available for April and May ASPE events.

## Old Business

None.

## New Business

Dan Jones noted that Engineers week set for Feb in Akron did not take place this year- lead organization was not able to align. The IEEE society is in charge of aligning under the National ADSPE for year 2024 and SPE is set for 2025. This would entail support and developing programs. It could possibly happen that SPE may be up for 2024. Canton Engineers had their Feb meeting.



Next meeting PEAC- April 3, 5:30 PM.



# Akron Section Past Presidents

*63 years of  
excellence*

1959-1960	Donald F. Siddall	1990-1991	Geraldine R. Stromquist
1960-1961	Milan Krajcik	1991-1992	Spencer Kreiser
1961-1962	Foster J. Young	1992-1993	Robert C. Wegelin
1962-1963	Dickson L. Stoker, III	1993-1994	Anthony F. Dean, Jr.
1963-1964	Edward L. Hillier	1994-1995	Wayne Decamp
1964-1965	John R. Russell	1995-1996	Melanie Stewart
1965-1966	John R. Russell	1996-1997	Kevin Hershfield
1966-1967	Clyde H. Jones	1997-1998	David Schultz
1967-1968	Alan Corry, Jr.	1998-1999	John Raab
1968-1969	Bernard M. Saffian	1999-2000	Gary Taylor
1969-1970	Harold R. Schick	2000-2001	Kevin Malpass
1970-1971	Robert G. Hills	2001-2002	Kenneth L. Sharp
1971-1972	John J. Satterfield	2002-2003	Joseph E. Pfeiffer
1972-1973	Alexis M. Gross	2003-2004	Robert C. Wegelin
1973-1974	Francis J. Maurer	2004-2005	Joseph Mattingly
1974-1975	Leverett A. Anderson, Jr.	2005-2006	Lloyd A. Goettler
1975-1976	Robert M. Hershey	2006-2007	John Woodside
1976-1977	Richard L. Fleshman	2007-2008	Vivian Malpass
1977-1978	David Curtis	2008-2009	Joseph Mattingly
1978-1979	John A. Zelek, Jr.	2009-2010	David A. Katz
1979-1980	Gerald W. Whitnable	2010-2011	Lloyd A. Goettler
1980-1981	Kathleen N. Bechter	2011-2012	David Schultz
1981-1982	Victor E. Giuffrida	2012-2013	Kevin Malpass
1982-1983	James Steiner	2013-2014	Dan Jones
1983-1984	Robert G. Hills	2014-2015	Vivian Malpass
1984-1985	Anthony F. Dean, Jr.	2015-2016	Keith Pelfrey
1985-1986	Gene Buser	2016-2017	Robert Weiler
1986-1987	Harry J. Barth	2017-2018	Tom McQuaide
1987-1988	Judith A. Fallon	2018-2019	Nicole Fraifogl
1988-1989	William E. Tosko	2019-2020	Larry Stanek
1989-1990	Robert C. Wegelin	2020-2021	Larry Stanek
		2021-2022	Joseph Mattingly

# Akron Section Board of Directors

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RJ Viereckl <i>Student - U Akron Polymer Eng</i> 630-687-0958 T rjv28@uakron.edu	Director, Student Chapter SPE Liaison		

# Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers Educational Foundation



06-22

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, 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 1983, 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 nearly forty years that the foundation has been in existence, it has provided over 300 scholarships to young men and women totaling in excess of \$441,000 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 1983, we offered those companies who contributed a substantial donation, a perpetual annual scholarship in their name. To date we have four named scholarships, Newell/Rubbermaid, Goodyear, Ken Sharp Memorial and Jim Steiner Memorial scholarships. We are asking your company to help with the growth of well-trained individuals in the local polymer industry. Please print this page, fill out the information and mail it to David Schultz, 610 Berkshire Drive, Medina, Ohio 44256.

## Akron SPE Scholarship Donation Commitment

- \$50,000 lump sum
- \$10,000/yr. next 5 yrs.
- \$6,250/yr. next 8 yrs.
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Company name: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_

Ph. # or email: \_\_\_\_\_

Our named scholarship donors are recognized at the annual Awards Night of the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers. We invite you to present your tax deductible donation at our Awards Night held in May each year.

We look forward to your support of this very worthwhile cause by your fine company. Please contact me at (330) 283-5721 with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,  
*David Schultz, Foundation Chair*  
*Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers, Educational Foundation*





**Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers**  
Tony Dean, Advertising Manager - 330-929-9916

**Sponsorships**

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This is the 64<sup>th</sup> year of the Akron SPE Section and rates are for entire season, September 2023 – Summer 2024. **Payable in Advance. Please let me know if you need an invoice.**

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

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