



The Catalyst
PITTSBURGH SECTION
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS



Volume 21 Issue 4



January, 2007

JANUARY MEETING NOTICE

Joint Meeting with the Air & Waste Management Association, Allegheny Mountain Section

Where: Penn Brewery
Troy Hill Road and Vinial Street (North Side)
Pittsburgh, PA 15212
412-237-9402
www.pennbrew.com

When: Thursday, January 18, 2007

Time: 4:00PM Registration
4:45 Control Technology Research for
Greenhouse Gases and Technology
*Sean Plasynski and Evan J. Granite, NETL,
U.S. Department of Energy*
5:15 Questions, Answers and Discussion
5:30 Tour of Penn Brewery – *Brewmaster Tom
Pastorius*
5:45 Dinner and Social
8:00 Adjournment

Menu: A buffet dinner of German specialties.

Cost: \$38.00 Members
\$28.00 Students and unemployed members
\$45.00 Non-members

Proceeds will benefit local AIChE and A&WMA scholarship and education programs

**SPACE IS LIMITED -REGISTER BY THURSDAY,
JANUARY 11, 2007**

To: Mr. Ed Moretti, Moretti Consulting Group
314 East Main St., Carnegie, PA 15106
Fax: 412-276-2233
E-mail: emoretti@moretticonsulting.com

Your RSVP must include: **Name, Title, Company
Name & Address, Email Address, and Phone or
FAX Number.**

PLEASE SEND CHECK TO ABOVE PRIOR TO MEETING.

CANCELLATIONS: If you must cancel your meeting reservation, please do so no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Otherwise, you will be invoiced for the cost of your meal.

~ About the Presentation ~

**Control Technology Research for
Greenhouse Gases and Mercury**

This presentation will review research being done by the **U.S. Department of Energy's National Energy Technology Labs (NETL)** in Pittsburgh, PA and in Morgantown, WV regarding greenhouse gas control (i.e., carbon sequestration) and storage, as well as mercury control.

Sean Plasynski is Program Manager for carbon sequestration at the NETL in Pittsburgh.

Evan J. Granite is a Research Chemical Engineer at NETL and his research has focused on mercury and carbon dioxide removal from flue and fuel gases.

DIRECTIONS TO PENN BREWERY:

Limited free parking is available in the double deck lot behind the Penn Brewery buildings or the gravel lot across the street.

For more information, visit: www.pennbrewery.com

From Downtown:

Take Penn or Liberty Avenue to the Strip District. Turn onto 16th Street and cross the 16th Street Bridge. At the third stop light turn right to Troy Hill Road. Penn Brewery is 200 yards on the left.



LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Members:

January is here already! It's hard to believe how fast this AICHE year has flown by. Your officers and the Executive Committee are back at it again. You'll be seeing notices about the McAfee Award and Student's Night coming out soon. Jim Miller has lined up some really great meetings for us as well. All we need is **YOU** to make them a success.

If the AICHE is worth your money to become and remain a member, don't you think it is worth at least a couple meetings per year? None of us knows everything there is to know about our profession and chapter meetings present an excellent way to help maintain that extra little edge for which employers and clients look. Another advantage of attending meetings is the opportunity to network. Many of us do not give enough attention to that aspect of our lives. A functioning network is one of the most effective resource multipliers you can find – **NO MATTER YOUR POSITION, YOUR DEGREES OR EXPERIENCE!**

So multiply yourself and come to a meeting.

Along with the entire Executive Committee, Officers and Chairs let me take this opportunity to wish everyone the very best possible New Year. As always, if you wish to contact me about any AICHE issue, please feel free to do so.

Sincerely,

Gary Hall
Chairman, AICHE Pittsburgh Chapter

JANUARY MEETING

From the North:

Take I-79 to I-279 South to Exit 8B East Street. Go straight to the third stop light, then left to East Ohio Street. At the second stop light turn left to Chestnut Street, then take immediate right to Troy Hill Road. Penn Brewery is 200 yards on the left.

From the East:

Take PA Turnpike (I-76) to Exit 57. Follow I-376 West to the center of Pittsburgh then follow I-279 North to Exit 7C (Chestnut St.). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left to Chestnut Street then straight ahead to second stop light and turn right to Troy Hill Road. Penn Brewery is 200 yards on the left.

From the West and South:

Take I-376 East through the Fort Pitt Tunnels and across the Ft. Pitt Bridge, following signs to I-279 North. (Stay in left lane through tunnel and across bridge.) As soon as you pass PNC Park, take Exit 7C (Chestnut St.). At the end of the exit ramp, turn left to Chestnut Street then straight ahead to second stop light and turn right to Troy Hill Road. Penn Brewery is 200 yards on the left.

The Pittsburgh Section Executive

Committee, Officers and Chairs

Would like to wish you:





ENGINEER MENTORS

Be a Mentor for the Future City Pittsburgh Regional Competition!

The Pittsburgh Regional Future City Competition needs engineer mentors. Mentors are needed to begin work with middle school teams. Please consider volunteering as a mentor for this fun and worthwhile experience.

The Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania (ESWP) in conjunction with the Carnegie Science Center will present the 8th Annual Future City Competition in the Pittsburgh area. The Future City Competition asks middle school students to create -- first on computer and then in large, three-dimensional models -- their visions of the city of tomorrow. The Pittsburgh Regional Competition will be held at the Carnegie Music Hall, on Saturday, January 20, 2007. The Future City Competition is a national program sponsored by the engineering community to promote technological literacy and engineering to middle school students.

For additional information about volunteer opportunities contact:

Werner Loehlein
Future City Mentor Coordinator
E-mail: werner.c.loehlein@usace.army.mil
412-395-7363
www.futurecitypittsburgh.org

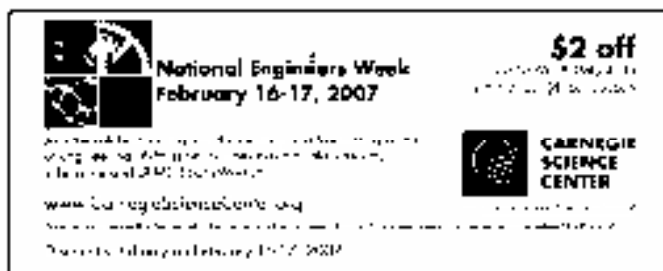
NATIONAL ENGINEERS WEEK FEBRUARY 18 – 24, 2007

In celebration of **National Engineers Week**, our Pittsburgh section will be participating in a fun-filled outreach event at the Carnegie Science Center on Friday, February 16th and Saturday, February 17th from 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM each day.

The super ball kits have been ordered! Now it's time to be involved and volunteer! We will be demonstrating how to make super balls and how to model chemical compounds using yummy gumdrops.

If you are interested in interacting with the public – especially children – please contact Nancy Hirko at nhirko@air-comp.com or at 412-826-3636. For those interested volunteers, the Carnegie Science Center will be presenting an orientation meeting on Wednesday, February 7th at 5:00 PM on the Third Floor Overlook. Pizza will be served!

Use this \$2 off General Admission coupon:



For a printer friendly version of this coupon, visit www.aichepgh.org



2007 - 2008 SCHOLARSHIPS

Two \$750 Scholarships!

Applications are now available for up to two \$750 scholarships to be awarded by the Pittsburgh Section AIChE for the 2007-2008 academic school years. Sophomore and Junior chemical engineering students are eligible to apply if:

- They are enrolled in one of the following chemical engineering programs in the AIChE Pittsburgh Section area:
Carnegie Mellon University
University of Pittsburgh
West Virginia University
Youngstown State University
- They are enrolled at any AIChE-accredited chemical engineering program in the United States provided that the student is the son or daughter of a member in good standing of both the AIChE and the Pittsburgh Section AIChE.

The deadline for submission of an application is January 19, 2007. Scholarship recipients will be notified by February 16, 2007.

For more details or to print out a copy of the application, visit our website: www.aichepgh.org.

JOB SEARCH?

Are you in job search mode? If so, then you might want to attend the following seminar presented by the:

Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh

American Chemical Society, Pittsburgh Section

Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh

American Institute of Chemical Engineers,
Pittsburgh Section

When: Saturday, February 3, 2007

**Where: ASHE Auditorium
University of Pittsburgh
219 Parkman Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA**

Fee: \$10.00
(Lunch and Parking at Soldiers and Sailors Parking Garage included)

Program:

8:00 AM *Registration*
8:30 *Welcome and Introduction*
9:00 ***Managing an Effective Job Search***
Dr. Ray O'Donnell, Career Consultant
11:40 ***Overview of the local job market***
Dr. Joseph D. Jolson
12:00 PM *Networking Lunch*
12:30 *Résumé review, personal consultation*
3:30 *Close*

Bring your parking ticket for validation and your résumé to participate in the afternoon program.

To register or to get additional information, contact Bob Theys at 724-823-3077, or
E-mail: theys@pittcon.org

A registration form has been posted on the AIChE Pittsburgh Section website: www.aichepgh.org.

Deadline for submitting registration form is January 20, 2007.

**STUDENT CHAPTER NEWS**

Chemical Engineering Car Team from Carnegie Mellon University competed against 29 other schools from across the country at the AIChE national conference in San Francisco, CA from November 10 – 13, 2006.

This was the first time Carnegie Mellon competed in this event's seven year history. Although the team did not place in the competition, they put forth a great effort in their first year, and look forward to competing again in the spring.

The team was comprised of seven undergraduate members: juniors Melissa Bartel, Carlene Ulish, and Denver Faulk; sophomores Rogaite Shafi, Youn Duk Nam, and Sudarsan Venkatachalam; and senior Justin Forbes. Advisors were chemical engineering PhD student Jeff Pierce, and faculty member Professor Jim Schneider.

The contest requires that every team have a car which is powered by a chemical reaction. Many teams use fuel cells, chemical batteries or a gas producing reaction which drives a piston. The car must run on its own power and stop within a distance between 50 and 100 feet that is specified on the day of the competition. The team stopping closest to the target distance wins the competition. Cars are not allowed to use mechanical breaking mechanisms, adding to the challenge of stopping at the specified distance. An additional challenge in the competition is that the cars must carry a load of water, also specified on the day of the competition, which is between 0 and 500 mL. In addition to the "race", a poster competition is held in the morning of the competition, with prizes being awarded for creativity and a "fan favorite."

In order to have qualified for the national competition, the team had to qualify at the regional competition which was held last spring at Penn State University. Completely taking the field

by surprise, the Carnegie Mellon team landed one inch from the target distance and thus took first place!

Due to several safety issues encountered in previous competitions, several new design constraints were announced between the regional competitions and the national meeting. These constraints forced the Carnegie Mellon team to redesign parts of their car, which led to a less accurate performance at the national competition. The team now looks to improve the current car and future cars based on what they have learned from the national competition.

For more information on the Carnegie Mellon AIChE local chapter, or the ChemE car team, go to <http://aiche.cheme.cmu.edu>. For national ChemE car news, you can check out the website <http://www.aiche.org/Students/Conferences/chemecar.aspx>.

AICHE NATIONAL NEWS

The 2007 AIChE Spring National Meeting, Global Congress on Process Safety – with CCPS International Conference, Loss Prevention Symposium, Process Plant Safety Symposium – plus other conferences will be held at Hilton Americas Houston in Houston, Texas on April 22 – 26, 2007.

For more details, visit:
www.aiche.org/Conferences/SpringMeeting/index.aspx



MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Please send all change of address notifications to the Membership Chair:

Holly Gray
412-269-6059
hgray@mbakercorp.com

If you have not already done so, please verify your updated e-mail address and post office mailing address with me so that you will continue to receive newsletters and e-mail notifications! Newsletters are posted on our website, www.aichepgh.org

Please sign me up for the Pittsburgh Section of AIChE

Name _____
 Company _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Business Phone _____
 Residence Phone _____
 Email _____

Annual Dues are \$16.00. Make check payable to "AIChE Pittsburgh Section" and send to the Treasurer:

Paul Brezovec
AIChE Treasurer
164 Taylor Avenue
Johnstown, PA 15906

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

THE DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER IS FRIDAY, JANUARY 26, 2007

Please submit newsletter information to:

E.G. Klein
724-796-3128
eg.klein@giccusa.com

SPONSORSHIPS

Are you interested in placing your company's information in future AIChE Newsletters?

Full Page	\$300
Half Page	\$175
Quarter Page	\$95
Business Card Size	\$45
1/12 Page	\$30

Place multiple sponsorships and receive a discount!

- Three consecutive ads – 10% off
- Eight consecutive ads – 30% off

Contact **E.G. Klein** at eg.klein@giccusa.com or 724-796-3128 for more information.



**AICHE PITTSBURGH CHAPTER
2006-2007 OFFICERS**

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2006 - 2007 Chapter Meeting Schedule

Date	Topic	Location
January 18, 2007	Joint Meeting with AWMA	Penn Brewery – Pittsburgh, PA
February 26, 2007	Annual Student Night	Carnegie Mellon University
March (TBA), 2007	Bruce Mansfield Power Plant Tour	First Energy, Shippingport, PA
April, 2007	Technical Presentation	TBA
May, 2007	McAfee Award Banquet	TBA

Mark your Calendars!

For the Following Dates:

January 18, 2007	Joint Meeting with AWMA	Penn Brewery, Pittsburgh, PA
January 20, 2007	8 th Annual Future City Competition	Carnegie Music Hall, Pittsburgh, PA
February 3, 2007	Job Searching Seminar	University of Pittsburgh, Oakland Campus
February 16-17, 2007	National Engineers Week Event	Carnegie Science Center, Pittsburgh, PA
February 26, 2007	Annual Student Night	Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh PA
March (TBA), 2007	Bruce Mansfield Power Plant Tour	First Energy, Shippingport, PA



The Catalyst

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Pittsburgh Section
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Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2097

Visit us on-line at www.aichepgh.org



GOD Bless The U.S.A.!