



# Rocky Mountain AICHE News

September 2004

Volume 14 Number 1

## September Section Meeting

The global society has come to rely on cheap and abundant energy for what fuels the global economy. This reliance has become almost a “Constitutional Right” because the public has lost an appreciation for the realities of the energy industry and society’s ability to supply this commodity. Only when energy prices spike up, or there is a perceived shortage of supply, or worse yet there is a rare and therefore dramatic environmental or reliability accident does the public act concerned about energy.

Old approaches that have resulted in hundreds of unique educational programs have not resulted in an energy literate public. This is not to say that these programs are failures. Indeed, they contain a great deal of excellent material and can become the building blocks for a foundation of energy literacy. In order to be effective, a public energy education program requires a long-term, proactive, coordinated, broad-based, national effort.

Industry and government have a vested interest in creating and maintaining a stable, sustainable energy policy that will not only ensure a secure and affordable supply of energy to the nation, but will lead to a predictable business environment regarding taxation and regulation. This predictability removes an “uncertainty premium” from the cost of doing business. This “saving” can then be passed on to the consumer in terms of greater supply and lower prices.

Such programs must be broad-based as to its message. The programs will be balanced recognizing the interlocking nature of Energy (BTUs

## September Section Meeting

- Speaker:** John C. Tobin,  
Executive Director of The Energy  
LITERACY Project, Inc
- Topic:** The Need to Have an Energy  
Literate Public and Consumer Base:  
How the Energy Industry has (or has  
not) Dealt with its Image
- Date:** Tuesday, September 28th
- Time:** 6:00 Registration  
6:30 Dinner  
7:30 Presentation  
8:30 Q & A
- Location:** Golden Hotel  
800 11<sup>th</sup> Ave, Golden
- Cost:** Members: \$20  
Non-Members: \$25  
Students & Unemployed: \$10

Please RSVP by Friday, September 24<sup>th</sup> (early RSVPs are greatly appreciated!). Indicate your name, phone number, and number of attendees by e-mailing Tom Wellborn at [rockyaiche@yahoo.com](mailto:rockyaiche@yahoo.com). Alternatively, you may leave a voice mail for Tom at 303-933-0533.

in any form, including conservation and efficiency), the Economy (the role energy plays in society’s economic wellbeing) and the Environment (the impact energy use has on the quality of life): the 3 Es.

John Tobin is the Executive Director of The Energy LITERACY Project, Inc. This program is attempting to address the public perception of the energy industry by offering a balanced educational and informational program to all of society. Mr. Tobin has also served as an adjunct instructor at the Colorado School of Mines teaching Petroleum Economics and Project Evaluation in the Petroleum Engineering Department.

His experience includes positions with ARCO, Scientific Software Corp., Martin Marietta and Eastman Kodak. He has BS (1964) and MS (1966) degrees from the University of Rochester in Mechanical and Aerospace Sciences. Mr. Tobin is a member of the IAEE (International Association for Energy Economics), NABE (National Association of Business Economists) and the SPE and has authored numerous papers on issues of uncertainty in evaluation and energy price forecasting and on the need for public energy education, including testimony in US Senate Energy Committee hearings on the merits of such education in explaining and gaining support for any policy or legislative initiative.

### **Reach Out: Engineers Without Borders**

Put your skills to work helping others. The 2004 Engineers Without Borders (EWB) National Conference, "The Engineers Role in Capacity Building for the Developing World," will be held at the CH2MHill World Headquarters and Conference Center in Englewood, CO, September 22-25. The conference will precede Sustainable Resources 2004 "Solutions to World Poverty" in Boulder, CO September 27-October 5. For more information visit <http://www.ewb-usa.org/news-conferences.html>.

### **Denver: 49<sup>th</sup> Safety in Ammonia Plants and Related Facilities Symposium**

Join ammonia plant and safety engineers and managers in Denver this fall for the latest research and real-life lessons from noted practitioners, a roundtable workshop, and keynote address by John Bresland, Board Member of the US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board. Sign up today at <http://www.aiche.org/ammonia>

## **NEW MEXICO CORNER**

*New Mexico members are getting active and organized thanks to Kerrie Pratt and other AIChE members that attended some initial gatherings. Below is a brief update from Kerrie of her efforts to make New Mexico an "official sub-section" to the Rocky Mountain AIChE section.*

Based on conversations with headquarters and the local officers in Denver, here's what is happening.

1. AIChE-NM will become an "unofficial sub-section" to the Rocky Mountain Section. Kerrie Pratt will become the official "New Mexico Member Liaison".
2. New Mexico will now have recognition with each published Rocky Mountain AIChE Newsletter and will be recognized on their website.
3. AIChE-NM will hold "official" meetings, activities, and tours.
4. If attendance is kept up and enthusiasm for our local section is sustained one year from now, the options of becoming an "official sub-section" will be pursued further.

Based on conversations at the last two activities, we're all ready to be recognized as our own entity! So hopefully this solution is one that is satisfactory to all!

Lastly, I appreciate everyone's enthusiasm and support of local AIChE activities. As we all know, AIChE is recognized all across the United States and we should all feel proud to be members!

Kerrie Pratt

### **New Mexico Meeting – October 8th**

The AIChE Student Section at NM Tech has invited AIChE members to attend a BBQ, ChemE Dept. tour, and Explosives Demonstration on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Check the flyer e-mailed to NM members, or e-mail Kerrie Pratt ([PrattKL@cdm.com](mailto:PrattKL@cdm.com)) for more information. If interested, please RSVP to Kerrie by 9/30/04. Hope to see you there!

## ***AIChE Meetings***

**2004**

Sept 20-23      Safety in  
Ammonia Plants  
Denver, CO

Oct 7-8          Engineering &  
Construction  
Contracting  
Colorado Spg, CO

Nov 7-12        2004 Annual Mtg.  
Austin, TX

**2005**

Apr 10-14      2005 Spring Nat'l  
Atlanta, GA

For further information, contact  
National AIChE.

### **National AIChE Contact Info**

#### **AIChExpress Service Center:**

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**Govt. Relations Fax:** 202/962-8699

**Web Page:** <http://www.aiiche.org>

## ***Rocky Mountain AIChE Officers***

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Rocky Mountain AIChE News is published eight times a year by the Rocky Mountain section of AIChE. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and are not necessarily those of AIChE nor the officers of this section.

The objectives of AIChE are to advance chemical engineering in theory and practice, to maintain a high professional standard among its members, and to serve society, particularly where chemical, engineering can contribute to the public interest.

## ***CHANGE IN MEETING PRICE***

*Due to increased costs, meeting prices have increased to \$20 for members, \$25 for non-members, and \$10 for students or unemployed members. We hope to deliver interesting topics and tours this year, together with the usual opportunities for networking, and look forward to continued great turnouts at the meetings.*

## **SPEAKERS FOR UNIVERSITIES**

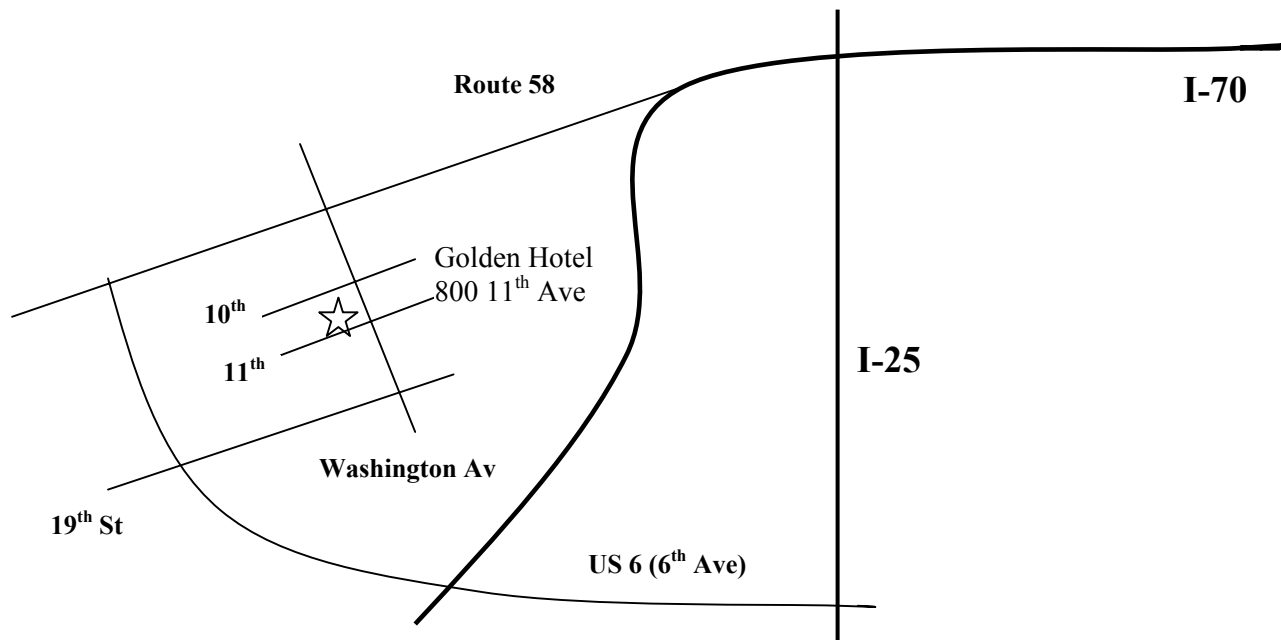
Are you willing to give a presentation to students at the local universities? The AIChE student chapters frequently request speakers from the AIChE Rocky Mountain Section. If you would be willing to meet with the students and share information about careers, job searches, industry experience or technical topics, please contact the Student Chapter Liaison Collin Greenwell at 720-497-2133.

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[mmoes@ekiconsult.com](mailto:mmoes@ekiconsult.com) to receive  
this newsletter electronically!*



**DIRECTIONS:** From I-70, take Route 58 (exit 265) west towards Golden. Take the Washington St exit and turn left at the stoplight. You will see Golden Hotel on the right side at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> and Washington Av.

From I-25, take US 6 west towards Golden. Turn right onto 19<sup>th</sup> St. Drive through one stop light, then turn left onto Washington Av. You will see Golden Hotel on the left side at the corner of 11<sup>th</sup> and Washington Av.