



American Institute of Chemical Engineers

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In This Issue:

- Message from the Chair
- Next Meeting:
March 10th 6:00PM
- Opportunities to Assist
- 2025 Officers and Executive Committee
- 2024-25 Calendar of Events

Contact Information

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Message from the Chair

I want to thank Clemson, Dr. Norfolk, Dr. Cat Majors, and Andy Seren for hosting our February meeting. I was impressed with Dr. Majors work on disease detection and wish her all the best in her work. It reminded me of DuPont's old slogan, "better living through chemistry".

For our March meeting Bob Mussro will be speaking on his work to automate the stripping and inspection process used on military jets to protect against corrosion and maintain a safe airplane. This includes cleaning in confined spaces. I'm looking forward to what he has to say. At my facility we have to enter confined spaces and use high-pressure jets to remove deposits. We've thought much about how great it would be to automate that process to reduce labor and improve safety.

When I was thinking about the March message, I found that George E. Davis presented the first of his 12 ground-breaking lectures on industrial chemical processes and chemical engineering in March of 1888. He is considered the "father of chemical engineering" based on these lectures and other work. He also wrote A Handbook of Chemical Engineering published in 1901 which was the first comprehensive treatise on the subject of chemical engineering. He worked in industrial chemistry for about 10 years before becoming an alkali inspector for Britain's Alkali Act of 1864 which was passed to reduce pollution from the Leblanc soda works and other chemical plants of those days.

The Leblanc soda process released copious amounts of hydrogen chloride directly to the atmosphere and that Alkali Act required condensing 95% of that acid. Davis' job as inspector

would make him one of the first environmental protection agents. He was appalled by the pollution, waste, and safety problems that he encountered which colored his later work to advocate for a chemical engineering profession. Which brings me back to DuPont's slogan "better living through chemistry". As professional chemical engineers we need to take the lead in telling the public that chemistry and chemicals aren't bad words. Our homes, our clothes, our transportation, our medicines, the very fabric of our lives are indeed made better through chemistry and it's our job to make sure that's done economically, safely, and pollution-free.

Bill Thompson, Chair, WSC AIChE

March Meeting Information

TITLE:	Robotic DePainting F-15 Fuel Tanks, Part I by Bob Mussro
DATE:	Monday, March 10th, 2025
Event timing:	Social Starts at 6:00pm Dinner Starts at 6:30pm Presentation starts at 7:00pm
LOCATION (in-person event):	Jacobs Engineering 1041 E Butler Rd, Greenville, SC 29607
LOCATION (virtual event):	Virtual event Link on Website Meeting will open at 6:45pm
COST	No Charge for Dinner
RSVP by 3/8/25	RSVP HERE if you plan to attend

RSVP [\[HERE\]](#) - by March 8th.

Opportunities to Assist

We welcome your participation on any level in this organization. Please reach out to Devon Clymer, sec@wscaiche.org, if you have any feedback on any of the following:

- You or someone you know would like to give a technical presentation at an upcoming meeting.
 - Provide meeting topic or location recommendations to the leadership team.
 - Provide recommendation or access for a plant tour (usually in the spring).
 - You have interest in joining our Officers or Executive Committee.
 - Any general question or comments on meeting times, locations, and topics
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2023-2024 Officers and Executive Committee

POSITION	NAME	COMPANY	E-MAIL
Chair	Bill Thompson	Ortec	bthompson@ortecinc.com chair@wscaiche.org
Vice-Chair	James Young	Fluor	James.H.Young@fluor.com vchair@wscaiche.org
Secretary	Devon Clymer	Jacobs	Devon.clymer@jacobs.com sec@wscaiche.org
Treasurer	Kevin Pait		kipait100@gmail.com treasurer@wscaiche.org
Webmaster	Conny Walker	Independent	connyw@earthlink.net
Scholarship Coordinator	David Hine		dpkjhine@gmail.com
Newsletter	(open)		
Historian	(open)		
Executive Committee	Karl McCaleb		kmccaleb2@bellsouth.net
	Anil Wagle	Retired	Anilwagle123@gmail.com
	Anastase (Tasso) Ghionis	Omega Chemicals	

2024-2025 Calendar of Events

DATE	LOCATION	TOPIC
March 10, 2025	Jacobs Engineering	Robotic DePainting F-15 Fuel Tanks, Part I
April 2025	Nicca Chemical	Nicca Chemical Presentation and Plant Tour
May 2024	TBD	WSCAICH E May Social