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# AIChE® The Pipeline

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**Volume 19 Issue 6**

*Mark Kettner - Editor*

**September 2012**

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**NEWSLETTER OF THE EAST TENNESSEE SECTION OF AIChE**

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Local section website

<http://www.tnengineering.net/AICHE/>

Local section mailing address

PO Box 7448 Kingsport, TN 37664-7448

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## Perennial Wood Program and Tour

**Wednesday September 26th, 2012**

**Program: B-150 Auditorium, noon to 1pm (Pizza will be served at 11:30)**

**Tour: Perennial Wood Demonstration Plant, 5:30pm**

On Wednesday, September 26, we will be having a unique program with two events. At noon, we will have a normal lunch meeting in B-150 and hear a presentation on Eastman's exciting new Perennial Wood. At 5:30, those who have signed up will gather for a tour of the Perennial Wood demonstration plant. Eastman's new Perennial Wood looks like regular wood, but is modified by acetylation to resist weathering, shrinking, and swelling for a very long time. It is currently being test-marketed for decking and porch boards.



## Letter from the Chair

*Steve Miller*

Even a cursory review of a few editions of most any newspaper over the past few months would turn up the term “science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education.” As all of you are likely aware, there is now an official STEM platform school being jointly administered by the Kingsport City and Sullivan County school systems, and there are a number of STEM programs in existing schools throughout East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia. This relatively newly-explicit focus on STEM education is in response to a real societal need: while it is widely acknowledged that persons with science, technology, engineering, and mathematics backgrounds drive innovation and competitiveness, businesses are increasingly voicing concern over the availability of STEM workers. The good news for “sciency/mathy” people is that the U.S. Department of Commerce projects that the growth rate of STEM job demand will be strong -- nearly double that for non-STEM workers over the next decade; the challenge is that such a supply is uncertain.

The coming decade should – must – usher in innovations from STEM workers *and* innovations in the education of future STEM workers. Organizations like AIChE, founded over a century ago to facilitate the growth of the chemical engineering profession, are in a position to assist in those innovations. AIChE, comprised of over 40,000 members from 90 countries, is the world’s leading organization for chemical engineers, with a long history of providing continued education for chemical engineers, and influencing chemical engineering education around the world.

I encourage you to take a few minutes at your convenience to browse around a bit on the National AIChE web site ([www.aiche.org](http://www.aiche.org)) to learn more about National AIChE’s efforts to facilitate STEM education through programs like the *K-12 Initiative* and programs to enhance college education through sponsorships of student conferences and events such as the *AIChE Chem-E-Car Competition*. And, whether or not you will be able to attend the annual meeting in Pittsburgh October 28<sup>th</sup>-November 2<sup>nd</sup>, I encourage you to look at the breadth of topics that will be covered – topics ranging from separations and reaction engineering classics to green process engineering & sustainability to systems biology. (Yes, systems biology!)

The 2012 conference theme is “Cleaner Energy, Stronger Economy, Better Living.” That theme aptly reflects the positive impact chemical engineering has had and will have on our world and our society, and a quick review of the titles and available abstracts of the talks planned for Pittsburgh confirmed for me the ever-expanding span and continued vitality of our profession.

It may be that you, like I, will not be participating in the 2012 AIChE Annual Meeting in October, and it may be that you have not yet become engaged in National AIChE’s educational initiatives. Nevertheless, opportunities offered by National, from promoting and participating in STEM education to continuing your education and expanding your professional horizons are mirrored in our very own East Tennessee Section of AIChE. Our section has a long history of sponsoring and participating in outreach to local school systems – a role that certainly will be strengthened with the new local emphasis on STEM education, and we will continue our tradition of offering relevant and high-quality short courses and seminars.

This is a time of great opportunity for “STEM workers,” such as chemical engineers, to contribute to our society – through our work and through advocacy of and direct involvement in the education of the next generation of scientists, technologists, engineers, and mathematicians.

## Fall 2012 Program Schedule

*Noah McMillan*

Please join us for a great fall programming schedule. Here are programs and speakers for the following few meetings:

<b>Perennial Wood, Justin Murphy</b>	<b>Sept. 26</b>	<b>Noon lunch, B150</b>
Managing Change, Joanne Ward	October 31	Noon lunch, B150
Water Treatment: History and Future Trends, Bill Eicholtz	November 6	Noon lunch, B150

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## What's New at National AIChE

*Noah McMillan*

It is time once again to renew your AIChE dues for 2013. As we all know, chemical engineers have a tendency to be tight with a dollar, so receiving a dues notice in the mail is more likely to be greeted with a sigh than with an exclamation of joy. To make the process easier, it helps to be reminded of the many benefits of AIChE membership:

- Subscription to AIChE's flagship publication: CEP
- Education—Access to e-learning courses and instructor-led training, offering Continuing Educations Units and PDHs
- Discount Access to Live and Archived, on-demand webinars and conference presentations from industry and academic luminaries
- Access to CareerEngineer—a comprehensive job site tailored to chemical engineers
- Access to the AIChE eLibrary—a wealth of information from Knovel Life Sciences and the McGraw-Hill AccessEngineering Library collections
- Registration discounts to the AIChE Spring and Annual Meetings
- Online networking via AIChE's Member Community and via ChEnected, the Association's blog
- Insurance and Financial Planning Programs – discounts and coverage

Furthermore, by renewing your dues with AIChE **and** paying your local dues to the **East Tennessee Local Section – a real bargain at only \$10 per year --** you are supporting programming that you and your colleagues directly benefit from. These dues help us to organize monthly meetings (including pizza!), to reach out to Young Professionals in our region, and to provide AIChE training courses locally.

Don't wait! Click [here](#) and renew your dues today!

## Officer Elections on the Horizon

*Paul Fanning*

Now that the 2012-2013 program year is underway, it's time to start thinking about Officer elections. In our Local Section, we assemble the ballot in the September and October time frame, hold the election in November, and announce the new Officers sometime in the first half of December, typically during the December program meeting. This allows for a brief period of time for the outgoing and incoming Officers to begin to transition responsibilities. The official transfer of roles takes place in January.

In our Local Section, there are four elected positions, namely, Secretary, Treasurer, Vice Chair, and one of the three Director positions. The Vice Chair has automatic succession to the Chair position. Some key responsibilities of the Officers are highlighted as follows:

The **Chair** (a) provides strategic direction and leadership in enhancing the effectiveness of the Section toward meeting the goals of its members, (b) has authority to contractually obligate the Section within the limits prescribed by the Executive Committee, (c) interacts with the Vice-Chair and Treasurer to handle the Section finances, (d) convenes and leads meetings of the Section officers, (e) serves as an ex-officio member of all committees, and (f) has overall responsibility for the process to elect Officers for the upcoming year.

The **Vice Chair** (a) assists the Chair in key leadership duties, (b) fills in for the Chair as needed, (c) has authority to contractually obligate the Section within the limits prescribed by the Executive Committee, (d) interacts with the Chair and Treasurer to handle the Section finances, (e) serves as the Program Committee Chair (an extremely important role), and (f) drafts goals and the agenda for the following year with assistance from other Officers.

The **Treasurer** (a) collects and disburses all funds as authorized by the Executive Committee and (b) prepares all financial reports required by the INSTITUTE, Internal Revenue Service, and all other local, state and federal government agencies.

The **Secretary** (a) coordinates all Section communications including addressing any questions about membership, (b) distributes the newsletter, (c) sends out event information, (d) collects meeting RSVP's and headcounts for food, (d) circulates the meeting attendance list and inputs to electronic file, (d) types and distributes Officer meeting minutes and actions items, (e) updates member and non-member distribution lists, and (f) announces the names of the newly elected to the Section members.

Each **Director** (a) provides input about Section activities and organizational practices, (b) chairs and/or serves on special committees as necessary, and (c) assists with auditing the Section's annual financial report.

**Please consider running for one of these Officer positions;** if interested, contact our current Chair, Stephen Miller, at 423-224-7350, or email him at [smmiller@eastman.com](mailto:smmiller@eastman.com).



## 2012 AIChE Annual Meeting

Cleaner Energy, Stronger Economy, Better Living

October 28 - November 2, 2012

[David L. Lawrence Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA](#)

[Omni William Penn Hotel](#)

[Westin Pittsburgh](#)

The AIChE Annual Meeting is the premier educational forum for chemical engineers interested in innovation and professional growth. A wide range of subjects relevant to latest research and newest technologies in emerging growth areas will be covered.

Click [here](#) for more information.

## Bylaws Revisions Coming

*Paul Fanning*

An effort is underway to revise our Local Section bylaws. It's been quite some time since our bylaws have been revised, and there's some outdated information that needs to be brought into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. In practice, this revision process basically will not alter how the Section conducts business, but instead it will allow us a means to accurately capture the way we conduct Section business. Also, AIChE National recently updated its local section model bylaws template, and thus we're going to take the opportunity to align our bylaws with the model bylaws. Because there are considerable differences between the format and content of our existing bylaws and the model bylaws, the approach that has been taken is to start with the model bylaws and modify them to reflect the particulars of our Section. We'll communicate the specifics of the bylaws revisions in October and give adequate time for review and comment by our membership and the AIChE Career and Education Operating Council (CEOC), which has ultimate approval authority. If all goes as planned, voting on the bylaws revisions will occur at the same time as Officer election voting in November. We'd very much like to complete this bylaws revision work by the end of this year. With your participation, I'm confident that we can meet this target.

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## Continuing Education – Professional Development Hours Available



Eastman Employees Only: Are you a professional engineer seeking to meet state continuing education requirements for professional development hours (PDH's)? If so, please visit this website for a list of potentially eligible courses and more information: [Continuing Education for Professionals](#)

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## Calendar of upcoming events



- Perennial Wood Program and Tour, September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2012
- Managing Change, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012
- AIChE Annual Meeting (Pittsburgh, PA), October 28<sup>th</sup> – November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2012
- Water Treatment, History and Future Trends, November 6, 2012

## Keep Up With the Local Section Online

Up-to-date information about the East Tennessee Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers can be found [on our website \(www.tnengineering.net/AICHE\)](http://www.tnengineering.net/AICHE). The website includes the Local Section Bylaws, List of Officers from 1945 to present, and an archive of Pipeline Newsletters - to mention only a few aspects of the information covered. Photos from past events can be found, along with contact information for the Local Board. Review the site occasionally and keep up with the local section!

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### 2012 Local Section Officers, Directors, & Support Staff

<b>Chair:</b>	Stephen Miller	224-7350
<b>Chair-Elect and Program Committee Chair:</b>	Noah McMillan	224-8114
<b>Secretary:</b>	Lane Daley	229-3064
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Rebecca Glaspie	229-6144
<b>Directors:</b>	Paul Fanning	229-8500
	Mark Harrison	229-6952
	Lauren Moyer	229-2208
	Tim Nolen	229-8287
<b>Local Section Webmaster:</b>	Mark Shelton	229-4753
<b>Short-Course Coordinator:</b>	Joe Parker	229-3850
<b>Professional Development Coordinator:</b>	Braxton Sluder	578-6225
<b>Corporate Relations Coordinator:</b>	Mark Kettner	229-3907
<b>AICHE Pipeline Newsletter Editor:</b>	Lane Daley	229-3064
<b>ETEAC Representative:</b>		

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### 2012 Local Company Contacts

<b>Eastman Chemical Company</b>	Stephen M. Miller 423-229-7350, <a href="mailto:smmiller@eastman.com">smmiller@eastman.com</a>
<b>BAE Systems, Ordnance Systems Inc.</b>	Braxton Sluder, Process Chemical Engineer Acids Manufacturing 423-578-6225, <a href="mailto:braxton.sluder@baesystems.com">braxton.sluder@baesystems.com</a>
<b>Nuclear Fuel Services Inc., a subsidiary of The Babcock &amp; Wilcox Company</b>	Tracy Coates <a href="mailto:tjcoates@nuclearfuelservices.com">tjcoates@nuclearfuelservices.com</a>
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