#### Volume 118 Number 2

October 2017

# The South Texan



Thursday, October 12, 2017 Monthly Meeting @ Moody Gardens Convention Center (1 Hope Blvd, Galveston, TX, 77554) in conjunction with 2017 SPTC

6:30PM - 6:45PM Social/Networking Time 6:45PM - 8:00PM Dinner and STS Announcements 8:15PM - 9:00PM Dinner Presentation/Speaker <u>Register</u> for the monthly dinner meeting! Check us out on <u>YouTube</u>!

# **October Dinner Meeting**

Dinner Speaker: Michael J. Moore, Regional Vice-President (Houston), Texas Central Partners, LLC.

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Title: Transforming the Way Texans Travel

Abstract: Texas Central Partners, LLC (Texas Central) is a private company bringing a transformational project to Texas that advances the economy, respects Texan values and keeps our state on track for future growth. Texas Central will deploy Central Japan Railway Company's (JRC) "N700-I Bullet" high-speed rail system based on their "Shinkansen" system that has been refined over more than 50 years of operation into the most reliable, comfortable and safe high-speed rail system in the world. Nearly 50,000 Texans, sometimes called "super-commuters," travel back and forth between Houston and Dallas/Fort Worth more than once a week.



Many others make the trip very regularly. The approximately 240-mile high-speed rail line will offer a total travel time of less than 90 minutes, with convenient departures every 30 minutes during peak periods each day, and every hour during off-peak periods – with 6 hours reserved each night for system maintenance and inspection. Texas Central has identified and analyzed potential routes that follow alongside existing rights of way. Texas Central closely examined many such rights of way, including interstates, freight rail corridors and power and utility corridors, all with the goal of minimizing impacts on private property. They anticipate stations in Dallas/Fort Worth, the Brazos Valley and Houston will provide easy access to each region's excellent highways, thoroughfares and expansive public transit networks. Mr. Moore will expand our knowledge of this exciting project for our region during his dinner meeting talk.

# **Meeting Registration Information**

Membership in STS-AIChE is a bargain at \$20/year. If you wish to become a member, you may join at the registration desk at the meeting.

	Pre-Registration	Onsite
Member	\$32	\$40
Non-Member	\$40	\$48

NOTE: Please bring your receipt. You have until 4PM CST on October 11th, 2017 to preregister online. After that, you will be required to pay the higher cost at the door.

Pre-registration for the main meeting is now open through our website.

# **Meeting Location— Moody Gardens Convention Center**



This month's meeting will be held at Moody Gardens Convention Center (<u>1 Hope Boulevard, Galveston, TX</u> 77554).

Double-click on the image to the left for directions from your location. For more details and information, please check our <u>website</u>.

# **October Meeting Dinner Menu**

A Modified Old School Italian Evening!

Moody Gardens - Galveston, TX

Buffet Dinner:

Classic Caesar Salad with Shaved Parmesan and Croutons

Grilled Salmon with Lemon , Capers and Wild Mushrooms

Grilled Chicken with Red and Yellow Grape Tomatoes, Garlic, Olive Oil, White Wine, Basil and Sprinkled with Pecorino Romano Cheese

Farfalle Pasta with Marinara and Alfredo Sauce

**Roasted Italian Vegetables** 

Assorted Breads and Rolls

Desert:

Tiramisu

Italian Cheesecake

Non-Alcoholic Beverage:

Freshly Brewed Iced Tea

Coffee Service upon Request

Alcoholic Beverage:

Cash Bar

# **October 2017 STS-AIChE Chair's Letter – David Rosenthal**

#### Dear Fellow Members of South Texas Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers,

Our area was traumatized by Hurricane Harvey and its aftermath. Many of our members were affected. Your local section and National organization was there to help those affected. Both organizations issued letters of support. Our local section organized and formed the Hurricane Harvey Cleanup Crew! We attended to helping members clean up their homes and helped out at shelters. The National organization organized a lifeline for members needing financial help with a small donation. We continue to help our community, we offer our services of our cleanup crew, spaces for those needing office space, and donations for those needing financial assistance. Please contact me for any assistance you might still need!

Over the summer many of us enjoyed the our program with Houston Ship Channel tour in June and our Executive Board met in July to discuss our plans for the remainder of the year and the strategy for 2018. We will welcome Carlos Salamanca in January as our incoming Chair of the section. We also continued our First Friday meetings in July and August. I attended the July meeting and met many of our members from the Energy Corridor. Our attendance at these meetings is growing!



Our October 12th our dinner meeting as part of the Southwest Process Technology Conference will feature Michael Moore from Texas Central Rail Partners speaking about "Changing the Way Texan Travel" The meeting will be held at the Moody Convention Center. I encourage all of you to register for the Southwest Process Technology Conference to be held at Moody Garden from October 12 to 13th.

Please note that Brady's Landing experienced significant damage from Hurricane Harvey and is not available till April, 2018. Our November meeting will not be held at Brady's landing so stay tuned as to the alternative location.

Our Dinner meeting program for the first half of 2017 has been a success! Our talks this year included:

January - Improving Operational Resilience Using Dynamic Simulation February - The Oldest Bioreactor - Wastewater Treatment March - Port Of Houston Authority April – Pressure Relief Systems: Case Studies and Design Tips May - Good Engineering Practice for Emergency Relief System Design June – Houston Ship Channel Tour October- Changing the Way Texans Travel November- Water Forum – with Dinner speaker from the Houston Subsidence District

# **October 2017 STS-AIChE Chair's Letter – David Rosenthal**

These events are dedicated and part of the membership benefits to our local section and National AIChE members. Attendance does require one to be either a member of the local section or the National AIChE organization. If you are not a member of the local section, you can sign up as a member and get a two year period before you must become a National AIChE member. I ask each of you to review your membership status and either renew or become a member before the next dinner meeting.

We continue to look for sponsoring companies for our meetings. We have three levels of sponsorship. Your company has an opportunity to speak to our Dinner meeting attendees, provide literature, and attend the meeting complimentary. Your sponsorship lowers the price of our Dinner meetings for our members. Please consider being a Bronze, Silver or Gold sponsor! Contact the Chair for more details.

We are also looking for Dinner meeting locations. Can your company host a Dinner meeting? All we need is space for 100 people, workshop space, catering, and parking. We will even provide the speaker!

Our section also provides value in many other ways to our members. We are committed to assisting those looking for work through many different approaches. We continue to hold First Friday meetings at the Omni Westside in Houston each month for those who need to network for jobs. We have recently held a similar meeting in LaPorte for outreach on the East side.

Remember, any member can attend our Executive Committee meetings held on the second Thursday of each month at La Madeleine at 10001 Westheimer Rd, Suite 2123, Houston, TX 77042 to either observe or volunteer to help. We are currently looking to fill board positions for 2018. If you are interested, let me know.

In closing, I again take this opportunity thank you for your past support and I look forward to meeting each of you at an AIChE STS event.

David Rosenthal 2017 Chair AIChE STS



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# **Upcoming Events Information**

# **Southwest Process Technology Conference**

# 9th Southwest Process Technology Conference, Call for Volunteers

### October 12-13, 2017

#### Moody Gardens Hotel and Convention Center

The South Texas Section of the AIChE, in partnership with AIChE HQ, is hosting its Ninth Annual Southwest Regional Process Technology Conference at the Moody Gardens in Galveston, TX on October 12 & 13, 2017. The conference provides technical sessions, industry solutions in process technology, and networking opportunities for the nearly 500 chemical engineers and students that attend. Contact: <a href="mailto:sptc17@aiche.org">sptc17@aiche.org</a> for more detail about the conference.

The conference keynote will be Robert W. Ivester, Ph.D, Deputy Director of the EERE Advanced Manufacturing Office at the U.S. Department of Energy.





Southwest Process Technology Conference

# CALL FOR 2017 SPTC VOLUNTEERS:

Volunteer duties typically include working at registration, as session aides for the technical presentations, assisting exhibitors, working meal lines and collecting event tickets.

Volunteers will receive free registration for the day or days they volunteer. If you are interested contact David Silarski at <u>sts-membership@aiche.org</u> and let him know if you can work one or both days.

Further information including confirmation and a schedule will be sent out later. It will be a greater conference because of your assistance.

For more information about the conference, use the following link:

http://www.aiche.org/conferences/southwest-process-technologyconference/2017



# **Upcoming Events Information**

# Southwest Process Technology Conference

# CALL FOR 2017 SPTC PAPER/PRESENTATION JUDGES:

The duties include attending the paper presentation and judging the papers on pre-defined criteria.

Judges (Volunteers) will receive registration fee discount for the day or days they volunteer and attend the paper presentations. If you are interested contact Jayce Mathews at <u>Jayce.Mathews@kbr.com</u> and let him know if you can work one or both days.

Further information including confirmation and a schedule will be sent out later. It will be a greater conference because of your assistance.

For more information about the conference, use the following link:

http://www.aiche.org/conferences/southwest-process-technology-conference/2017

## **Upcoming Events Information**

# **SPTC Conference Registration Update, Adjustment because of Harvey**

Many of our members were affected by the devastating effects of hurricane Harvey. In recognition of this, the AIChE, the STS Executive Committee and the SPTC committee have extended the deadline for early registration for the SPTC conference to Oct 11.

Moreover, the AIChE South Texas Section (STS) members, who had their home flooded are eligible for a 50% discount on the Early Registration Fee (a value of \$115). A proof of flooded home will be required at the registration desk to become eligible for the discount. This could be the FEMA form or picture of the flooded home.

# **STS Summer Intern Houston Museum of Natural Science**

# **Erin Brown: In Her Own Words**

Interning at the Houston Museum of Natural Science (HMNS) has been an amazing opportunity. It enhanced my knowledge of science and I developed passions in scientific fields that were new to me. In my first few days I learned the "Great Planet Adventures" show for the Discovery Dome (a portable miniature planetarium used extensively in K-12 outreach.) I presented this show, which involved planets, spacecraft, constellations, and other celestial bodies, to youth groups as well as the general public.

In preparation for the solar eclipse (as well as future educational purposes) I made sun funnels, which magnify the telescope image. The other interns and I also learned about the different types of lenses, took apart the telescopes, and tested the telescopes to find the best funnel design. We continually developed problem solving and teamwork skills as we faced challenges such as fixing the Digistar Discovery Dome program.

My favorite internship experience was developing a new simulation to explore the deep ocean. While creating this mission simulation, the interns researched the dangers that might be present in a corresponding real mission.

Thank you so much for awarding me this internship. I enjoyed working at HMNS and it enriched my life and understanding of science.





# **STS-AIChE 2017 Monthly Dinner Meeting Schedule**

Date	Location	Meeting Details (Speaker/Company/Topic)
January 12	Brady's Landing	Julie D. White, SIS-TECH. Improving Operational Resilience Using Dynamic Simulation
February 2	Brady's Landing	The Oldest Bioreactor - Wastewater Treatment
March 2	Brady's Landing	Port of Houston Authority State of the Port, Global trade, and Environmental Stewardship
April 6	Brady's Landing	Energy Forum Overpressure Protection
May 4	Bougainvilleas	Good Engineering Practice for Emergency Relief System Design
September 7	Bougainvilleas	Process Safety
October 12-13	Moody Gardens	SPTC Transforming the Way Texans Travel
November 9	Bougainvilleas	Water Forum - Houston Subsidence District

# South Texas Section-American Institute of Chemical Engineers (STS-AIChE) Season Pass

The STS-AIChE Season Pass for the 2018 technical monthly dinner meetings is being offered for \$131.

The STS-AIChE Season Pass offers the convenience of a single sign-up and single payment for all eight technical meetings in the 2018 season. The meetings included are the January through May and September through November technical monthly dinner meetings. The December Social meeting is not included in the Season Pass. Season Pass holders also get priority sign-up for all special events. The schedule of topics and venues will be posted on the website (<u>sts.aiche.org</u>) once finalized.

Season Pass holders are recognized as patrons on the STS-AIChE website and in our newsletter. This is a great way to show your support for your section at no additional cost. Season Pass holders will be issued a permanent name tag – no need for sticky paper name tags. Your fellow members will recognize you as a patron and regular attendee.

# STS-AIChE 2018 Season Pass

#### General Comments

The STS-AIChE Season Pass offered the convenience of a single sign-up and single payment for all eight technical meetings in the 2018 season. Season Pass holders also received priority sign-up for all special events.

Season Pass holders receive a significant savings when comparing the on-site cost of the dinner meetings. No need to continue to monitor when meeting registrations are open. Save the hidden costs of multiple transactions and tracking the payments and reimbursements, if applicable.

#### Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

#### As a Season Pass Holder do I need to register for each dinner meeting?

No, there is no need to register or RSVP for the individual meetings once you have made your payment to become a Season Pass holder. We do however ask that you sign in at the registration table during the day of the event at the meeting venue.

#### What if I cannot attend a dinner meeting?

Guests and visitors are always welcome. Feel free to send someone else in your place and just let the people at the registration table know of the substitution.

#### What if I cannot attend the meeting and cannot find a substitute?

Even the most dedicated members cannot make every meeting. The season pass is priced assuming that you will miss a meeting. If you can provide at least a one week notice, by e-mailing the Chair-Elect at <u>sts-chairelect@aiche.org</u>, we can give you a guest pass for the next meeting. That way, you can invite your boss to the next meeting to see what you missed!

# I am a big supporter of the section, but I don't want my name posted all over the web. Can I opt-out of the publications?

Yes, just let us know and we will not put your name on our list so that you can continue to fly under the radar. You always have the option of hand writing a name tag.

#### Will I still get in if I forget my name tag at home?

Yes. We keep a master sign-up list at the door. Patrons are at the top of the list!

#### I normally sign up in advance. Am I still saving money?

Yes. The Season Pass is eight meetings for the price of seven. You will also save the time and effort of multiple payments.

# STS-AIChE 2017 Season Pass

ZULT STS-AICHE Fallons			
Name	Affiliation		
Dale Embry	ConocoPhillips		
Yurika Díaz Bialowas	Chemstations Inc.		
David Rosenthal	Reliability Strategy and Imple- mentation Consultancy, LLC		
Erin Green Colaco			
Gary Miller	Air Liquide		
George Redd	S&B Engineers		
George Vourazeris	Air Liquide Industrial U.S. LP		
Gus Georgeton	Stress Engineering Services		
Irvin Osborne-Lee	Prairie View A&M University		
Jack Chosnek	KnowledgeOne		
Jeffrey Melland	Melland Consulting LLC		
Matt Kolodney			
Morgan Reed			
Ravindra Saxena			
Sheena Reeves	Prairie View A&M University		
Syamal Poddar	Poddar & Associates		
Thomas E Menn			
Thomas Rehm	TERehm Consulting LLC		
Travis Fixmer	Huntsman		
Jordan Pearce	Process Systems Enterprise (PSE)		
Dimitrios Georgis	Process Systems Enterprise (PSE)		
Victor Edwards	VHE Technical Analysis		
Ronald Lutz	Braskem America		
Carol Schmidt	SGL Group		
Joseph Ramey	Westchase Design, L.L.C.		

# 2017 STS-AIChE Patrons

### **STS-AIChE 2017 Season Pass**

Name	Affiliation
Sanjay Sharma	Honeywell
Matthew Clark	Armstrong Engineering Associates
Trevor Rice	Chemstations
Phillip Purpich	Johnson Controls
Lawrence Chriswell	
Wendy Reed	
Paul Waits	
Julie White	SIS-TECH
Nicholas D'Ambrosio	En-Fab, Inc

### 2017 STS-AIChE Patrons



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• Ammonia Absorption Refrigeration (AAR) • Liquefied Petroleum Gas / Compressed Natural Gas
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# **Pipeline Networking Forum**

The inaugural lunch of a new South Texas Section networking program was held at September 22nd at The Pipeline Grill, 10003 Spencer Hwy, LaPorte TX. Rafiq (Rick) Khadimally spoke on "Refineries and Chemicals Pre-Turnaround Activities Via Interface Management." He presented an efficient method for tracking pre-turnaround activities of refinery & chemical plant maintenance projects, and unit upgrades, via a web-based interface management system similar to that used for offshore mega-projects.

The next Pipeline Network Forum lunch will be held on October 20th. A registration link will soon appear in the South Texas Section newsletter.

Rafiq (Rick) Khadimally (center-front), presenter for the inaugural Pipeline Network Forum lunch on September 22, with many of the attendees from the event

Rafiq (Rick) Khadimally, PMP Consultant, Houston Consulting Group, LLC has managed the crucial aspect in Project Management and Engineering capacities on several oil refinery maintenance projects during turnarounds at LaGloria Refinery in Tyler Texas, Aramco-Petromin Jeddah Refinery & PRL. Throughout his career of nearly three decades of project management & interface in USA and international he has performed this role on Offshore Jacketed Platforms, TLP, Refinery & Chemicals Pre-Turnaround Activities Via Interface Management. Rick holds an MBA degree in Global Energy from Bauer College of Business (University of Houston), an Executive Development Project Management program from Rice University, and a BS degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Engineering & Technology where he topped the list with two medals. Rick is PMP-certified (Project Management Professional). https://www.hcgllcus.com/about



# Volunteer Outreach Hurricane Harvey











# **STS-AIChE YP**

Calling all young professionals! Get involved and participate in happy hours, planning meetings, and other fun activities! Check out the new <u>STS-AICHE YP Website</u> for more information.

#### Fun and competition are brewing!

The first annual AIChE Beer Brewing Competition is being held at this year's Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, thanks in large part to the Young Professionals Committee. Among the competitors will be a team from Chemstations, Inc., in Houston.

On October 29<sup>th</sup>, the Chemstations crew will join other teams in presenting a poster detailing their beer's recipe, brewing process, and other specifics. Beers in two different categories (dark and malty, light and hoppy) will be judged on taste, and the winners in all areas will be awarded prizes. To learn more about the competition, check out <u>www.aiche.org/brewbeer</u>.

*If you're attending the Annual Meeting, come by and cheer on your Houston-area Young Professionals!* 

# **Job Inquiry and Posting**

AIChE-STS will start a post listing chemical engineers seeking employment and companies to fill positions.

If you are a member seeking employment provide a few sentences of the position you seek and the email attached to your AIChE membership for the response. You will be listed anonymously.

If you are a company provide a few sentences of the job description you seek to fill and your contact information. You will be listed anonymously.

Contact STS Chairman David Rosenthal at <u>sts-chair@aiche.org</u> with this information.

# **South Texas Section Corporate Liaison Program**

The intent of the program is to have a liaison contact at companies in the region that employ a large group of Chemical Engineers, so that the liaison can pass on information on upcoming events, and encourage attendance at STS-AIChE Events.

This program will make it easier for Chemical Engineers to learn about meetings and events that may interest them, and by providing a "personal touch" and intra-company networking opportunity, overcome potential fears or objections to participating. The program will also provide a potential opportunity for employees to be recognized as leaders within their company.

Responsibilities and benefits are listed in the table below.

STS-AIChE	Liaison	Company	
Responsibilities			
<ul> <li>Provide meetings and events</li> <li>Maintain list of liaisons</li> <li>Send out special emails to liaisons</li> <li>Advertise program and recognize liaisons and com- panies</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Forward STS-prepared emails to department/group</li> <li>Create meeting invitations for coworkers</li> <li>Try to set up carpools where able</li> <li>Attend meetings where possible</li> <li>Interface with Company Management on STS activities and sponsorship opportunities (as applicable)</li> <li>Provide feedback to STS Officers on company interests and comments</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Support the liaison</li> <li>Advertise where applicable</li> </ul>	
Benefits			
<ul> <li>Higher attendance</li> <li>Better corporate relations</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Personalized Nametag for meetings</li> <li>Demonstrated leadership within company</li> <li>Increased networking ability within corporation</li> <li>PDH credits/technical education</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Recognition at meetings</li> <li>PDHs / education for employees</li> <li>Networking/team building opportunities</li> </ul>	

In early 2016, Travis Fixmer, a Process Optimization and Design Engineer with Huntsman Performance Products, developed an intranet website which promotes our Section and its activities within Huntsman. He offered to be a resource to individuals who would like to do the same. If you would like to promote our Section, Travis can provide you with guidance on how to proceed.

Others in our section send intra-company emails promoting the South Texas Section. This can be easily done by simply forwarding the STS monthly meeting notice email to employees in your company.

There is no cost for liaisons or companies to participate. Participation as a liaison is completely voluntary, and companies can transition to a new liaison or end their participation at any time.

If you have any questions, please contact STS Human Resources Director, Tom Rehm, at tom@tomrehm.com or 832-331-6491.

# South Texas Section AIChE

STS-AIChF P.O. Box 421373 Houston, TX 77242

2017 Officers and Contact Information

#### **Officers**

Chair	David Rosenthal sts-chair@aiche.org	
Chair Elect	Carlos Salamanca sts-chairelect@aiche.org	
Past Chair	Syamal Poddar sts-pastchair@aiche.org	
Secretary	Chaitanya Gottimukkala sts-secretary@aiche.org	
Treasurer	Yurika Díaz Bialowas sts-treasurer@aiche.org	
Executive Committee		

Position 1: Education Sanjay Sharma sts-position1@aiche.org

Position 2: Outreach Sheena Reeves sts-position2@aiche.org

**Position 3: Communications** Kevin Allen sts-position3@aiche.org

Position 4: Human Resources Tom Rehm sts-position4@aiche.org

#### **Volunteers**

Arrangements: Awards: Membership: Webmaster: Young Professionals: Morgan Reed

John Middleton Tom Menn David Silarski Phil Purpich

#### SOUTH TEXAS SECTION MISSION STATEMENT

As a section of AIChE, we serve chemical engineering professionals in the South Texas region through education, professional development, and networking.

#### Vision 2017

We will become an organization with strong and active membership. We will accomplish this through:

- 1. Increasing awareness
- Improving relevancy of our programs
- Improving our governance
- 4. Hospitality/Welcome/Social

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MAINTAIN YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION WITH STS Maintain your contact information with the South Texas Section using the online community: http://www.aiche.org/

Contact the AIChE for PERMANENT ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:

- http://www.aiche.org/contact/form
  - 1-800-AIChemE (1-800-242-4363)
  - **AIChE Home Office** 120 Wall Street, FL 23 New York, NY 10005-4020

AIChE Customer Service Center 100 Mill Plain Rd 3rd Fl Danbury, CT 06811

# The South Texan Newsletter Crew

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE NEWSLETTER? We want to know!

Contact us at sts-newsletter@aiche.org with comments, questions, suggestions, and ideas for next month.

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**Newsletter Editor** 

Kevin Allen Seeking Employment kevin.r.allen7@gmail.com Peta Williams Velocys peta.williams@gmail.com Submit an article! Contact:

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