



# The South Texan

2003 Marx Isaacs Award for Outstanding Large Section Newsletter

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**MONTHLY MEETING • DECEMBER 2, 2004**

## South Texas Section-AIChE Dec 2004 Dinner Meeting and Workshops

Thursday, December 2, 2004

*Workshops will run at 5:30pm – 6:30pm The program follows • Executive Committee Meets at 4:30pm – 6:00pm  
Happy Hour starts at 6:00pm • Dinner is served at 6:45pm • Dinner Speaker (on Project Management) at 8:00pm*

- All events held at the Park Plaza Hotel at Reliant Center (formerly Radisson Hotel Astrodome), Kirby Drive at 610 South Loop, (Northwest Corner of Intersection)
- Make dinner reservations on the STS website: <<http://www.sts-aiche.org/reservations>, or by telephone at 713-295-4847.
- For further information, see our website: <http://www.sts-aiche.org>
- If you haven't already done so, please go to the national website at [www.aiche.org](http://www.aiche.org) and provide your updated e-mail and snail-mail address to receive future mailed and electronic meeting notices of general interest.
- Updates to your name, workplace, or addresses should be made at the national website, as STS receives updates monthly from National.
- You should also sign up on our e-mail newsgroup on the STS home page.
- Confirmation helps our e-mails get through firewalls at home and work.
- Confirmation of your subscription and changes to your profile can be made via e-mail at the bottom of this newsletter.
- The Executive Committee will meet at 4:30pm. Officers please come on time, as we have a full agenda.
- Learn how STS members can earn PDHs for The Texas Professional Engineer Continuing Education Programs at: [http://www.sts-aiche.org/Texas\\_PE\\_CEP\\_Rule.html](http://www.sts-aiche.org/Texas_PE_CEP_Rule.html).
- *On several occasions in the past two years, too many people have sent in reservations for the dinner meeting and failed to attend it. In prior years, we generally had more than enough walk-ins to cover for the registered people who did not show up. On several occasions, this has not been the case, resulting in STS paying for up to 40 uneaten meals at \$25 each. While we appreciate the stresses that chemical engineers face in their everyday life, this is not proper stewardship of your dues money.*
- *Starting this month, we have regretfully added a reservation cancellation feature on our web site. Members who have reserved have until 6:00 p.m. the day before the meeting to cancel their reservation. (After that point, the hotel is not obliged to accept reduced reservation numbers from the STS.) So, STS reserves the right to charge members who reserve and then do not attend dinner meetings. People who cancel their reservation at a later time will receive additional consideration but may or may not be charged.*

### Dinner Speaker

#### **Murphy's Law in Capital Project Management**

The majority of Chem. Es get involved in capital construction projects at some point in their career as a project manager, a project sponsor, or a project team member. Many of us have seen how difficult it is to do a project well.

This difficulty is tied to two important facts about capital project management that are not generally recognized. The first is that the capital project manager must master the theory of project management before he can efficiently manage a project. Project management is a legitimate field of its own.