



Special Notes

- Tour Location: **Rice University**
- **TOURS START AT 5 PM.**
- Catered BBQ dinner starts following the tours.
- No ExComm Meeting this month
- No Workshops this month

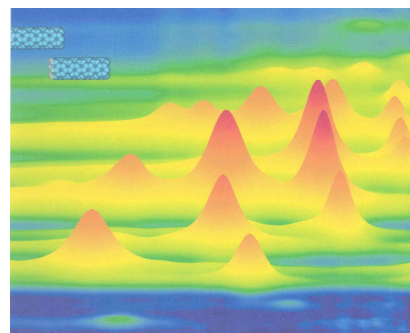
The November monthly meeting has been postponed until November 10 to avoid conflict with the Annual Meeting in Ohio.

In addition, the meeting will be held at Rice University.

Monthly Meeting November 10, 2005

Topic: Nanoscale Technology at Rice University

Wade Adams, Director of The Center for NANOSCALE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY at Rice University, will introduce us to the program and faculty will guide us on a tour of the facilities which are located in several buildings. We return to the start for a catered barbecue.



Visitors should park in Lot 20 off of Rice Blvd (See map on Pg 2). The visitor's lot is on the left. Enter Del Butcher Hall and proceed to room 180 where we will start the meeting at 5:00 pm. After the introduction, we will divide into several smaller groups to start the tour.

The tours should finish about 6:30 pm. Dinner will be served buffet style as the groups return to room 180 in Del Butcher Hall.

Inside this issue:

Tour Details	2
Susan's Links of the Month (New!)	3
Calendar of Events	3
Public Awareness Conference	5-6
From the Editor	8
Vital Links	8
Contact Information	9
Subscribe/Unsubscribe	9

Complete your reservation online:

<http://www.sts-aiche.org/reservations/sts-aichereservations.htm>

Or call (713)-295-4847 to make reservations until 4:00 PM Tuesday November 8. See page 2 for additional information **and a map.**

It's Students' Night!

Each year the local STS section of AIChE invites students from the four local universities to attend a dinner meeting for free. STS also awards scholarships to local students.

This year, Students' Night is Thursday, November 10, 2005.

Students, sign up at www.sts-aiche.org. Go to Meetings, then click on Online Reservations. Or go directly to:

<http://www.sts-aiche.org/reservations/sts-aichereservations.htm>

Please sign up one at a time (not in groups).

Tour/Dinner Registration Information

When visiting the Center for Nanoscale Science and Technology, please use Gate 20 or 21 to enter campus and follow the signs to Visitor Parking.

Refer to the map for their location on the Rice University campus. A larger online map is available at:

http://cohesion.rice.edu/Centersandinst/cnst/location.cfm?doc_id=1226.

For more information on the Center, visit:

<http://cohesion.rice.edu/Centersandinst/cnst/cnst.cfm>

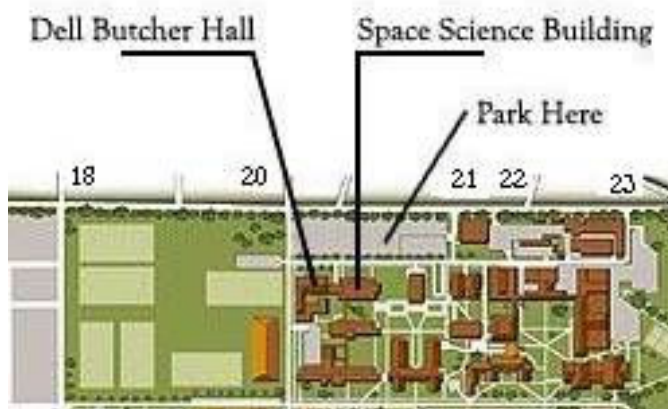
There are links to What is Nanotechnology, Who Are We, and activities at the Center, and more.

Attendees of the Tour / Dinner Meeting will earn 1 PDH for the Texas Professional Engineer Continuing Education Programs. Remember to track your hours!

If you need to **cancel a reservation** use the same link as for registration.

The cost of the tour & dinner is \$22 with reservation, \$24 without, 1/2 price if student, retiree, or unemployed.

Payments are not (yet) accepted online.



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Susan's Links of the Month

Welcome to a new feature in the online newsletter. I have gathered some useful website links over time, and am glad to share them with you. Unless otherwise noted, they provide free information for public use. This month I present some helpful links for chemical information. Have some of your own? Send them to newsletter@sts-aiiche.org.

[Los Alamos National Laboratory's Periodic Table](#). Meant for school kids, but contains all the basic information in easy-to-use format.

[Michael Dayah's HTML Periodic Table](#) - Not only is it useful, it contains links to other Periodic Table sites as well. If you are into HTML design, check out the source code.

[Illinois State University MSDS information](#), Links to various MSDS sites, such as [The Physical and Theoretical Chemistry Laboratory at Oxford University](#), [Chemical and Other Safety Information](#) - MSDS and many other types of chemical information

[MSDS Solutions](#) - You can view a few at a time for free. Requires registration. A fee is charged for additional viewings, or unlimited (Terms & Conditions state that "unlimited" is 500 viewings per month).

[NIST Chemistry WebBook](#) - "This site provides thermochemical, thermophysical, and ion energetics data compiled by NIST under the Standard Reference Data Program." Don't know the CAS number to find an MSDS? Find it here.

[Chemical Hazards Response Information System \(CHRIS\)](#) - from the DOT. Refers specifically to Coast Guard response to emergencies occurring during transportation of chemicals over water, but provides additional MSDS-type information as well.

Coming in December: Online unit conversion sites. In January, Chemical Engineering reference sites.

NOTE: The South Texas Section does not endorse or promote any product, service, or site, including these. STS has received no funding for this information. I provide these links for personal use. -S.Cannon

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Mark your calendars! Upcoming meeting dates are:

December 1, 2005	Spouse's Night - Chem E & Stem Cell Research
January 12, 2006	Possible joint meeting with ASME
February 2, 2006	Process Safety Forum
March 2, 2006	Energy Forum
April 27, 2006	Distillation-Themed Dinner meeting (<i>The Distillation Symposium is on hiatus this year. We're looking for someone to try to fill Jim Morris' shoes and chair the event next year</i>)
May 4, 2006	Awards night
June, 2006	Host National AIChE Leadership Conference



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Public Awareness Conference—Coastal Subsidence, Sea Level, and the Future of the Gulf Coast

November 3-5, 2005



Photo by A. E. Berman, San Luis Pass, Texas

The *Houston Geological Society* and the *ECH - Engineering, Science and Technology Council of Houston* have joined together to provide a non-profit, community service conference, **"Coastal Subsidence, Sea Level and the Future of the Gulf Coast"** on November 3, 4, and 5 at the Northwest Conference Center in Cypress (Greater Houston area), Texas.

The general purpose of the conference is to increase public and governmental awareness and to provide for a thorough discussion of all aspects of the subsidence issue. The desired outcome of the conference is to open lines of communication, so that policy makers, their technical advisors and the public will have a better understanding of coastal subsidence, how to quantify and predict it, as well as plan infrastructure around its effects. ***The events of the past two weeks amplify the critical nature of the conference program.***

The first day of the three-day conference will be devoted to understanding coastal subsidence, how to measure the mechanisms of subsidence and how to analyze for each component's contribution to the overall subsidence budget.

This will be in the format of a scientific technical conference. Speakers will present their data, with a special focus and description of their methodology of data collection and analysis, as well as their conclusions. The audience will contain experts in the field of subsidence, so we expect questions and comments to be on a high technical level.

On the second day, the focus will be twofold: one part on assessing the economic and cultural impact and the second part on reviewing mitigation efforts, options, and consequences. This day will be directed especially towards policy makers and the public.

A field trip on the third day will visit sites of active faulting and subsidence within the Houston area. ***This will be of particular interest to those practicing civil engineering and geotechnical engineering in the Houston region.***

Visit the Houston Geological Society website www.hgs.org for more details.

The Registration Form can be found at www.hgs.org/en/cev/?416

(Continued on page 6)

Public Awareness Conference—Coastal Subsidence, Sea Level, and the Future of the Gulf Coast

The conference will be held:

November 3-5, 2005

At the Northwest Forest Conference Center

12715 Telge Road

Cypress (NW Houston metropolitan area), Texas

Day 1 – SCIENTIFIC FINDINGS

Historic subsidence rates along the Gulf Coast from benchmarks.

Lunch - Guest Speaker: Sam Webb, Deputy Commissioner for Coastal Resources Program, Texas General Land Office

Causes of subsidence

Dinner Banquet – Guest Speaker: John Anderson, Rice University

The meaning of old shorelines and basal peat ages as constraints to the subsidence history for the western Louisiana and east Texas coast, from Calcasieu Lake to Corpus

Day 2 - SOCIETAL AND PUBLIC POLCY IMPLICATIONS OF SUBSIDENCE

The Politics and Public Policy issues of subsidence

Day 3 - Field Trip - Carl Norman (UH), Richard Howe (Terrain Solutions) and Jace Houston (Houston Galveston Subsidence District)

7 Professional Development Hours (0.7 CEU) are earned by attending each day of this conference.

The Registration form may be downloaded from

<http://www.hgs.org/attachments/calendarevents/416/SubsidenceConference.pdf> and can be faxed or mailed to the HGS office:

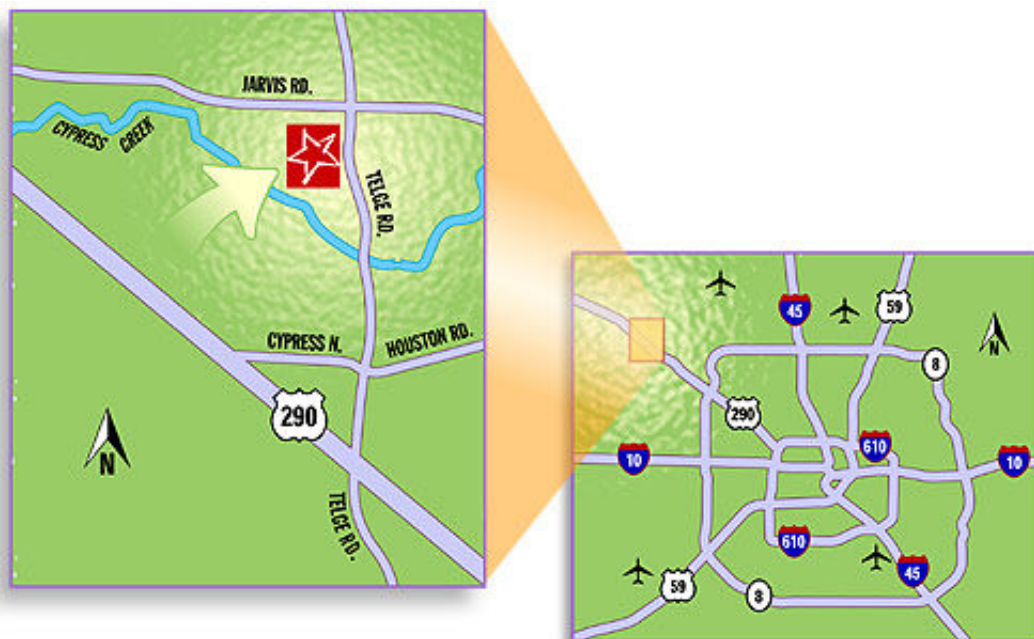
Houston Geological Society, 10575 Katy Freeway, Suite 290, Houston, Texas 77024.

Phone (713) 463-9476 Fax (713) 463-9160

Payment is due at the time of registration. Prices include continental breakfast and lunch.

REGISTRATION FEES:

	Before Oct. 27	Oct. 27 or Later
All Three Days	\$150.00	\$180.00
Thursday Night Banquet	\$30.00	\$40.00
Thursday Only (one day)	\$80.00	\$100.00
Friday Only (one day)	\$80.00	\$100.00
Thursday and Friday Only (two days)	\$130.00	\$160.00
Field Trip Only	\$30.00	\$40.00



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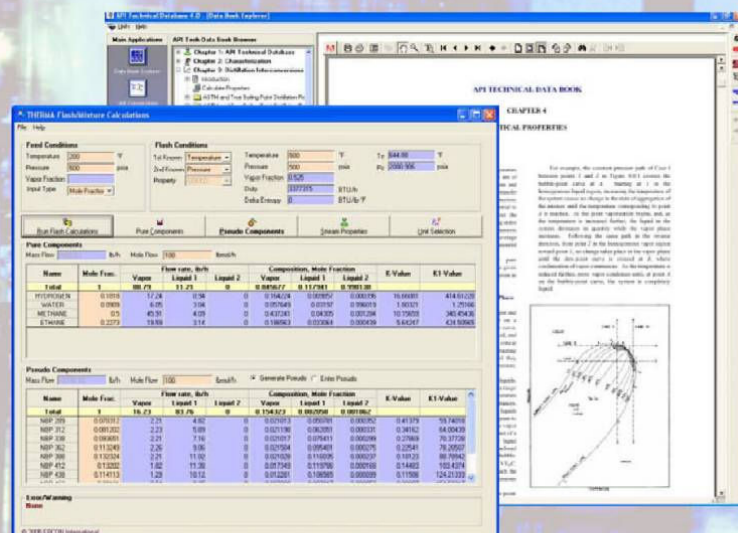
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From the Editor

It is good to breathe a little easier this month, not having to escape any disasters. The remnants of our recent experiences are still with us, and we won't forget them, but we can now look ahead to the business at hand.

First, we at the South Texas Section of AIChE are very interested in hearing from you. We've heard bits and pieces of what you think of our current newsletter. We are always interested in hearing more. Are the newsletters too long? Are the file sizes too large? Love the ads?

Second, we invite you to send in your own suggestions and articles. What would you like to see covered? You can reach us at any of the email addresses shown on the last page of this or any newsletter. My own is at the bottom of this article.

I would like to see uniquely solved problems, humorous stories, tricks you've picked up along the way, and other non-business-type articles included in the newsletter. Submit them! See your name in print! Have 2000 fellow Chem E's read what you have to say!

Third, we welcome you to share this newsletter with others. If there are other Chem E's around that don't receive it, or can't be bothered to click on our link, or are hesitant to sign up with Topica to receive it, there's still good stuff in here that we'd like all our compatriots to see. We use this forum to recognize awards, make announcements, and provide other information that isn't on the website (or is currently hard to find on the website). We provide this news in a format that doesn't require electricity (you need something to do during the blackouts after the hurricanes!), can be read on the bus or while working out, and as a bonus, will line the bottom of your birdcage when you're done.

And finally, we try our best for perfection each month. I want to know if we miss something. If there is a typo, or something isn't clear, or we forgot an important detail, let me know. I won't get upset, I promise. Well, not *too* upset anyway!

We do this for you, as we want you to be as involved - or not - as you choose to be. We all want an organization that is fun, provides information to better our knowledge and careers, and keep our small unique profession together.

Susan Cannon, Editor

SusanCannon119@aol.com or newsletter@sts-aiche.org

Rules for submission: Send me an email. Include your name and contact information (phone, email, or fax). Anonymous submissions won't be accepted. Your company name may be omitted if you prefer. Entries may be edited for length and content (grammar, punctuation, etc.).

Vital Links (Links within PDF file are *now* active!)

Main South Texas Section site: <http://sts-aiche.org>

National AIChE website: <http://www.aiche.org/> (Needs Flash Plug-in)

Earn CEP credits at AIChE functions: http://www.sts-aiche.org/Texas_PE_CEP_Rule.html

Download the CEP log form: http://www.sts-aiche.org/xls/STS-AIChE_CEP_Log.xls

Update your contact information: <http://sts-aiche.org/memberinfo.htm>

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Previous Newsletters (PDF format): <http://sts-aiche.org/newsletter/newsletter.htm>

Link to THIS newsletter: http://sts-aiche.org/newsletter/news_05/news1105.pdf



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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 2008

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

1. Increasing awareness of the South Texas Section of the AIChE
2. Improving relevancy of our programs
3. Improving our governance
4. Hospitality/Welcoming/Social

The South Texan is issued monthly, except June, July and August, by the American Institute of Chemical Engineers, South Texas Section. Opinions expressed are those of the authors and not of AIChE. The newsletter is published electronically.

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<https://www.memberconnections.com/olc/pub/CHM/>

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Select the link to View/Update Your Online Directory Listing.

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

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



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