

# The South Texan

2003 Marx Isaacs Award for Outstanding Large Section Newsletter

Voted "Best Newsletter" at 2009 AIChE Leadership Development Conference



## Highlights

- ◆ Sep 2 Meeting at Aramco Services Building and North Houston Satellite Meeting at Lone Star College
- ◆ 2010 AIChE Process Technology Conference
- ◆ Volunteering Opportunities

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Monthly Meeting Sep 02, 2010

Central Location: Aramco Services Building, Houston

Satellite Location: Lone Star College - Montgomery (The Woodlands)

Meeting Time: 7.00 pm (both locations)

(Social Hour starts at 6.00 pm at the central location)

## All You Ever Wanted to Know About Oil Well Blowouts But Were Afraid to Ask

This presentation will describe the general sequence of work conducted by a well control company during oil and gas blowout control operations. The presentation will introduce the logistics involved, the primary equipment used and operations performed to remove debris, skid the drilling rig from the wellhead and control the temperature environment for personnel and equipment,



working in the course of blowout capping and kill operation. Offshore blowout response will be discussed along with relief well drilling and design. A brief company history will be offered, including the origin of legendary blowout well control and the diverse strength of the current organization. Actual case histories will be presented, demonstrating operations for various blowout conditions in unique and unusual circumstances. Open discussion is encouraged and questions may be asked during the presentation.

Boots & Coots, Inc. (NYSE: WEL) provides a suite of integrated pressure control services to onshore and offshore oil and gas exploration companies around the world. Boots & Coots' products and services include well intervention services designed to enhance production for oil and gas operators. These services consist primarily of hydraulic work over and snubbing services. Boots & Coots' equipment services segment provides high pressure, high temperature rental tools. The company's pressure control services are designed to reduce the number and severity of critical events such as oil and gas well fires, blowouts or other incidences due to loss of control at the well. This segment consists primarily of the company's Safeguard prevention and emergency response services.

## North Houston Satellite Meeting - Yes it's here

STS-AIChE for the first time will be **webcasting** their main technical presentation, announcements and awards that are presented from the central meeting location to the North Houston satellite location. The satellite group meets at **Lone Star College - Montgomery (Building A Room A-102) at 3200 College Park Drive, Conroe (The Woodlands), TX 77384**. The satellite group will provide excellent opportunities for personal interaction and networking. See page 7 for more details.

## Workshops begin at 5:30 PM at Aramco Services Building (Workshops are free and open to public)

### PE/PO workshop

**Speaker: Julie White**

#### Process Troubleshooting- Addressing Common Oversights

**Abstract:** This process troubleshooting workshop will include fundamentals, common oversights, a class exercise, and technical resources, for use in daily process troubleshooting, near miss and incident investigations. Common oversights will be presented in the areas of data gathering, root cause analysis, management, communication and leadership. Data gathering topics will address collection and preservation of process data, field evidence, process sampling, and interviewing. Analysis includes basic analysis and statistics. Discussions will include the benefit of leading and lagging indicators, how to identify off normal events, and common oversights regarding data quality from data acquisition systems.

Whether your role is directly supporting operations or that of another field such as engineering design, process engineering, or process technology; you, your organization, and your customer will benefit from effective process troubleshooting.

*Bio: Julie White is a Process Safety Consultant for Lloyd's Register Energy (julie.white@lr.org). She has over fifteen years experience in process troubleshooting, optimization, and incident investigation working in both the private and public sectors. Julie has worked in operations, technology, and the public sector for ExxonMobil Chemical, ChevronPhillips Chemical Co. LLP, and the US Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board, respectively. Julie has led about twenty significant chemical investigations and is published in Society of Plastics Industry High Pressure Polyethylene conference proceedings. Her white paper regarding root causes of HPPE decompositions is used annually in process safety training.*

*Julie received Exxon Chemical's Wayne Wright Quality award for her contributions towards two reactor start ups following major debottlenecks. Julie has been a member of the AIChE, Center for Chemical Process Safety, SACHE Committee since 2007 and the Mary Kay O'Connor Process Safety Center Steering committee since April. Julie received her B.S. and M.S. in Chemical Engineering from Colorado School of Mines and Louisiana State University, respectively.*

### PD workshop

**Speaker: Morgan Meador**

#### The Job Seeker's Guide to Successful Social Media

**Abstract:** Today we live in a world of social and digital media and your interview begins before the employer ever calls you because of Social/Professional Media Research; Personal Branding; and Interpersonal Interaction across Multiple Platforms. As of January 2010, 88% of companies are using social media platforms like social networks to recruit and attract top talent. It has become one of the greatest tools to network as a job seeker. Utilizing your network in order to connect with the employer is very powerful. But what do you need to know in order to do this SUCCESSFULLY? The Job Seeker's Guide to Successful Social Media will inform you of How social media is evolving communication, What employers look for, How you can use social media for good, How to create a personal brand, The dark side of social media, What to do after you get the job, Tips to make your profile employer and job safe.

*Bio: Morgan Meador is the Director of Communications for Meador Staffing Services, Inc., where she launched and continues to oversee the management of all social media activity for Meador, Career Consultants Staffing Services, Teleworld Staffing, Inter-City Personnel Associates, and the McDonald's Texas Invitational High School Basketball Tournament. Morgan focuses on equipping and engaging each audience with relevant knowledge and information in support of each of their brands. Her efforts are dedicated to developing and enhancing the online presence for each brand on various social media platforms as well as implementing a social media strategy and a social media policy. She is a Gen Y'er who frequently speaks on the topic of how to use social media and how to incorporate and employ a social media strategy that generates success. In order to see successful results by using social media for business, Morgan works hard to keep the companies and basketball tournament on the leading edge of social media marketing and networking technology.*



## 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 September meeting.

STS-AIChE: September meeting at <u>Aramco Services Building</u>				
	Pre-Registration	Pre-Registration	At the door	At the door
	Members	Non-Members	Members	Non-Members
Regular/Retired	\$25	\$30	\$35	\$40
Student/Unemployed	\$15	\$20	\$25	\$30
STS-AIChE: September Satellite meeting at <u>Lone Star College</u>				
All	\$11			

NOTE: You have until 4 PM CST on Sep 1<sup>st</sup> to pre-register online. After that, you will be required to pay the higher cost at the door.

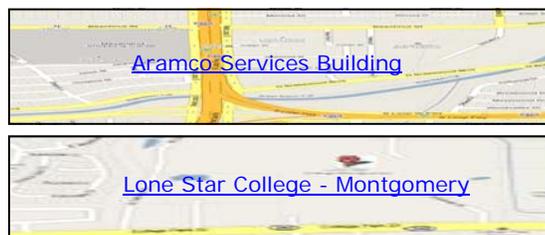
Pre-registration for the meeting is now open through our new website at:

<http://sts.aiche.org/content/meeting-pre-registration>

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

## Meeting Location—Aramco Services Building

This month's meeting will be held at [Aramco Services Building](#) (9009 West Loop South, Houston, TX - 77096) Double click on the map to the right for directions from your location. Satellite meeting will be held at [Lone Star College - Montgomery](#) (Building A Room A-102) at 3200 College Park Drive, Conroe, TX 77384.



## STS-AIChE Future Dinner Meeting Schedule, 2010

Date	Sponsor	Location	Dinner Speaker Topic	Speaker	Workshops
October 7, 2010	none	Moody Gardens	tbd	Hank Kohlbrand, AIChE President	Regional Process Technology Conference
November 4, 2010	tbd	Pelazzio Banquet Hall	tbd	tbd	yes
December 2, 2010 (subject to change)	tbd	tbd	none	Christmas Social	no

## News from Other Professional Societies

### Infrastructure DAY.

Third Annual district I Family Day welcomes "Infrastructure day" hosted by council member James G. Rodriguez in collaboration with American Society of Civil Engineers and the League of Women Voters on Saturday, **September 18, 2010 between 3:00 pm and 10:00 pm** at **Discovery Green Park and George R. Brown Convention Center, 1002 Avenida de Las Americas, Houston, TX 77010.** Visit [www.i-dayhouston.com](http://www.i-dayhouston.com) for more information

### Wanted Mentors for Future City Competition.

The mission of the National Engineers Week Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for sixth, seventh and eighth grade students that combines a stimulating engineering challenge with a "hands-on" application to present their vision of a city of the future. Mentors should have a technical background but license or degree is not mandatory. **When: September – January, Time: Generally 6-10 hrs/month, Where: A Middle School near you!** If interested, please contact Heather Gilligan, South Texas Regional Mentor Coordinator, at [hkgilligan@gmail.com](mailto:hkgilligan@gmail.com).

## **2010 AIChE Regional Process Technology Conference, Galveston, TX**

The early registration deadline for the 2010 AIChE Regional Process Technology Conference is September 3. Don't miss it!

Given the financial pressures that all of us are feeling, many companies have had to cut travel budgets and professional develop funding. Against this background, the goal of the conference is to provide an easily accessible, high-quality technical program for chemical engineers in the Greater Houston area, focused on issues that are relevant to local industries. The program includes sessions on advances in petrochemical technologies, distillation and separation, thermodynamics, process safety, reaction engineering/catalysis, energy efficiency, environmental issues, and oil refining. There will also be an exhibition, and a separately ticketed conference dinner on Thursday evening (October 7), which will also serve as the STS-AIChE monthly dinner meeting. The conference website contains additional information, including the meeting program - see: <http://www.aiche.org/Conferences/2010Regional/Galveston.aspx>. The conference will be held at Moody Gardens Hotel in Galveston, October 7 & 8, and we hope to see you there. And don't forget the early registration deadline, September 3.

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## **Thank you! ExxonMobil Foundation for your donation for K-12 activities**

STS-AIChE would like to thank ExxonMobil foundation for their generous donation of \$500 given for K12 activity. We would also like to thank Heather Gilligan for getting for helping STS get the donation.

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## **Business Etiquette Tip of the Month**

"Business Etiquette Tip of the Month" by <http://clubetiquette.com/>

Defrost a conversation freeze. What is it that we all know more about than anyone else? Answer: Ourselves. If you remember the simple formula of asking the other person at least three questions about themselves and listen with sincere interest, you will find that your words will be warmly received and the conversation will begin to flow.

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## From The Chair - Webcasting and Satellite Meetings

AIChE provides unique professional development opportunities for chemical engineers. These consist not just of the technical information that we share, but also the personal interactions that we have at our meetings. That "personal touch" is one of the key benefits of active participation in a local section.

The South Texas Section covers a very large geographical area, stretching 250 miles north to south and east to west. This makes it very difficult for many of our members to attend meetings. Even within the Greater Houston area, which is just a part of STS's territory, commuting times prevent many from coming regularly to our events. We have been using multiple venues in different parts of the city to encourage people to attend at least some of our meetings, and this has definitely increased overall attendance. However, travel times continue to be a problem.

Enter the Internet Age. We now have the technology to share information across the city – and across the world – in real time. Starting in September, STS will be webcasting our meetings to allow satellite groups within our territory to share the benefits of membership. The webcasts will include the main technical presentation and also announcements and awards that are presented at the central meetings. The satellite groups themselves will create opportunities for personal interaction and networking. I believe this will be a great "win-win" for everyone, and a model that other AIChE local sections will want to emulate.

Many people have contributed to the development of this new venture. Two of our members from The Woodlands, David Keyes and Connie Carroll, started the ball rolling by pointing out that their part of our territory is under-served, and they have taken the lead in setting up a satellite organization in their area. AIChE nationally has been providing webinars for several years, and the East Tennessee local section and others have used webinars for their section meetings. Our plan to webcast section meetings is simply a logical progression, building on prior experience and existing technology to serve our members better.

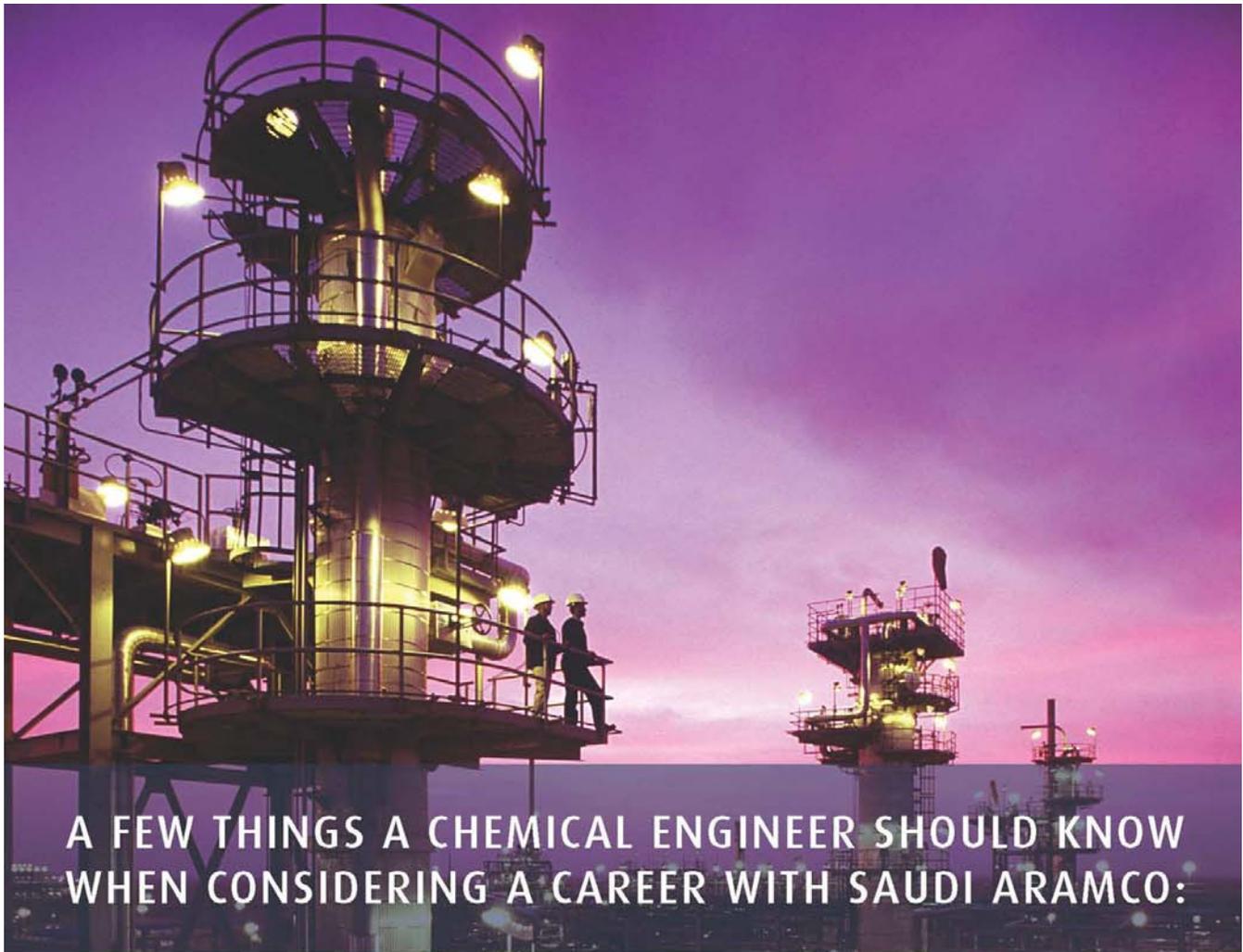
We will need a few computer-savvy individuals to look after the webcasting activities. A couple of volunteers have already come forward, but we need more. There is also the possibility of additional satellite meeting locations, and each of these will require volunteers. If you are interested in these opportunities please let me know.

Webcasting, together with the development of satellite meetings, has the potential to dramatically extend the reach of STS and other AIChE local sections. No doubt there will be a steep learning curve over the next few months, and I am excited that we are in the forefront of this new endeavor. I look forward to seeing you at the September meeting – in person or virtually!

Alan Rossiter

alan@rossiters.org

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## A FEW THINGS A CHEMICAL ENGINEER SHOULD KNOW WHEN CONSIDERING A CAREER WITH SAUDI ARAMCO:

- 1. The company's massive hydrocarbon operations are expanding.*
- 2. Saudi Aramco is a place where you can find a long and rewarding career.*
- 3. Energy is our #1 export...Adventure stories a close second.*

**In other words,** working for Saudi Aramco and living in Saudi Arabia offer satisfaction on a whole different level. It is an opportunity to participate in a world-scale hydrocarbon program, use the most advanced technologies and team up with top-notch professionals dedicated to a secure energy future. It's also an opportunity for you and your family to experience international travel and work-life balance, develop friendships that last a lifetime, and enjoy a highly competitive compensation and benefits program.

**Enrich your life.**  
Visit [www.Aramco.Jobs/CE](http://www.Aramco.Jobs/CE)

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## Chemical / Engineering Opportunities (C/EO)

**Are you unemployed and looking for work?** The STS provides a service that finds engineers work.

Since it began in 1983, Chemical/Engineering Opportunities (C/EO) has provided more than 1,000 chemical engineers and chemists to chemical manufacturing companies, analytical chemical laboratories, environmental firms and process design firms seeking such individuals to meet their technical needs.

C/EO is sponsored by South Texas Section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. The charter of the committee is to facilitate the re-employment of chemical engineers in the Houston area.

Chemical engineers wanting to participate in C/EO must meet the following criteria:

- \* You are unemployed.
- \* You are a member of both the National AIChE and the STS Local Section. When you visit our office, have your membership card available.
- \* You must volunteer a minimum of 3 hours per week in the C/EO office, helping answer the phones, indoctrinate new Volunteers and, most importantly, help in the mailing of the Profiles.
- \* Volunteers must reside in the Houston Metropolitan area. Volunteers who fail to show are delisted.
- \* Provide addresses, phone numbers and contact names of 14 companies which typically employ chemical engineers or chemists. This ensures our database remains current.

For more information, please contact the C/EO Director, Jim Murphy, at [jrmurphy2@aol.com](mailto:jrmurphy2@aol.com). The C/EO page on the STS website is: <http://sts.aiche.org/content/ceo-chemical-engineering-opportunities>.

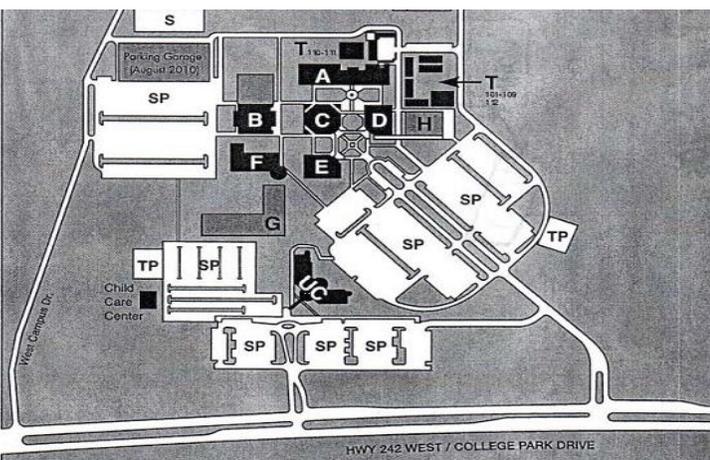
The C/EO Office is located at:

c/o Halliburton Co. USA                      10200 Bellaire Blvd., Suite BNW 3                      Houston, Texas 77210

Telephone: (281) 575-4348                      Fax: (281) 575-5258

## North Houston Satellite Meeting Information

- ◆ Where : 3200 College Park Drive, Conroe (The Woodlands), TX 77384 (Building A Room A-102)
- ◆ When : Sep 2<sup>nd</sup> from 7:00 pm to 9:15 pm
- ◆ Large screen and pre-wired audio.
- ◆ Catered dinner: Deli sandwich, chips and a cookie.
- ◆ North Houston members can pre-register online at <http://sts.aiche.org/content/meeting-pre-registration> for only \$11.



## 2010 Offshore Technology Conference A Success for South Texas Section - AIChE

### OTC Committee Volunteers

The 2010 Offshore Technology Conference was a success for South Texas Section despite a change in the customary OTC Conduct Committee assignment rotation. Faced with the OTC Board of Directors' decision to do away with the tradition of assigning staffing of the OTC Conduct Committees to local sections of the OTC Sponsoring Societies and going instead to another method of staffing, the STS decided to re-double its volunteer recruiting efforts. This was done by e-mailing the "call for volunteers" to STS members and those AIChE members in the area who do not belong to STS. The results were spectacular with 61 AIChE and some non AIChE members volunteering. These 61 volunteers provided a portion of the staffing for the Arrangements, Registration, and Student Tours Committees and worked a total of 62 shifts. *(Note: Some volunteers served more than one shift while others could not fulfill commitments due to work requirements, person or family illness.)*

For supplying more than 40 shifts of volunteer effort, the STS received an honorarium of \$1000 from the OTC. It is hoped that STS will be able to repeat this feat in future years. The funds are to be used to provide handouts and career guidance materials to the High School Students and Teachers taking part in the OTC Student Tours.

Those who volunteered to serve one or more of the Arrangements, Registration, and Student Tours Committees are: Robert Alexander, Charles Allen, Bharthwaj Anantharaman, Sebastian Arango, Edmond Barrique, Charles Batey, Melody Bizego, Wayne Booth, Carl Bradow, Jim Bridgett, Norman Carnahan, David Carpenter, Humbert Chu, Milea Cosby, Rita DeClariss, Mark Demark, Andrew Egerega, Samer Farjo, Denny Fegan, Amro Gaber, Jerry Greenbaum, James Grubb, Andy Hoffman, Marcia Hohmann, John Hotovy, Leif Hsieh, Joe Karas, Jim Keller, Mark Landrum, Elaine Lange, Yan-Xin Li, Jerald Linsley, Uday Mahagaokar, Ric Massie, Donald May, Jim Menn, Tom Menn, Cedric Modoufeh, James Murphy, Diana Norstrom, Stephen Ostrow, Stephen Ozuruigbo, Izzy Perez, Syamal Poddar, George Redd, Kelly Richardson, Martha Rojas, Mirelle Rosca, Phil Ruziska, Carlos Salamanca, Corina Sandu, Darren Saxton, Bindal Shah, Tencha Shoemaker, David Silarski, Mark Smith, Roger Trandell, Paul Valdez, Soheyla Valleie, Walter Worth, and Marc Young.

### STS and AIChE Provide Handouts for Student Tours and Teachers (Energy Education) Workshop (A Need Program).

The STS and AIChE provided goodie bags to the High School Students who participated in the Student Tours and Teachers who participated in the Teachers (Energy Education) Workshop. The bags were provided by AIChE with career guidance materials, pens, pieces of candy, and other items that were given to the High School Students participating in the OTC Student Tours program. The bags were stuffed by STS Young Professionals. Additionally, the YP's stuffed shopping bags provided by AIChE with the same goodies plus a STS coffee mug and these bags were given to the School Teachers participating in the Teachers (Energy Education) Workshop *(A Need Program)*. The STS Young Professionals who gave of their time and effort were Carol and Nathan Schmidt *(who hosted the bag stuffing party)*, Kelly Richardson; and three other STS Young Professionals.

### STS Volunteers Aid in Staffing AIChE Booth At 2010 Offshore Technology Conference

AIChE OTC Booth: Joe Cramer (AIChE – NY) was present for the entire OTC and Kristine Chin was present on Monday and Tuesday. The following STS Members assisted in staffing the booth to provide breaks for Joe and Kristine: Ernie Althaus, Norman Carnahan, Jim Murphy, Syamal Poddar, Dave Silarski, Walter Worth, and Tom Menn.



Joe Cramer (AIChE – NY) awaits booth visitors on Monday morning.

## STS Volunteer Opportunities

**General considerations.** It would be great if AIChE had an implantable chip to distribute to members giving them instant chemical engineering expertise. Unfortunately, AIChE National says that's a long way off. Additionally, thinking back to engineering school, if we wanted to learn to be an engineer, we had to go to class and do homework. As STS members, we can benefit from attending meetings, from networking, and from reading CEP, but even greater benefits are the experience and the contacts that come from being an active volunteer.

At STS, we have a number of opportunities to volunteer and grow. You can exercise your current skills or learn new skills. You can ask for and choose a job you want (would enjoy doing). Your volunteer job can help prepare you for a paid job. Others will be happy to assist you in learning and performing it. We want you to succeed and grow. We have found that if you do something you enjoy, you'll do well. It's a win-win situation, for you and for us. This is also an opportunity to try something new, to see if you like it, and to do so without risking your current job.

**K-12 Outreach Committee.** An excellent opportunity for engineers who want to work with others. You can experience different ideas and methods in educational outreach, and help AIChE plan the upcoming STS K-12 outreach program. Interface with AIChE (national) SIOC, work with other technical people, with other local societies, with students and parents, and with teachers. Other people have already developed the outreach activities. We can provide contacts in school systems, contacts with various local outreach programs, pre-developed activities, and examples of outreach in other local sections. For now, you get to show up for a day, get the experience, and report back to us at AIChE. If and when you like, you can try out some of your own ideas. The contacts, experience, and understanding you have developed will help your own program to succeed.

**Custom-Designed Opportunities.** If you'd like to get involved, but none of these opportunities is close enough to what you want, contact the STS Volunteer Recruiter (me), and we'll try to design an opportunity to meet your individual needs. It has been done successfully in the past.

**If you're interested contact our STS Volunteer Recruiter, Matt Kolodney, [mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us).**

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## K12 Volunteer Opportunities

AIChE and STS are working to start up K12 outreach programs. We are encouraging STS members to attend various local outreach events and report back to STS and AIChE on their experience. We are encouraging STS members to report back to Matt Kolodney ([mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us)) with one-page descriptions of their K12 outreach experiences, what worked well and what didn't. These will be reviewed locally and passed on to the AIChE National K12 program. Some local K12 opportunities are listed below.

HUNSTEM web site: <http://hunstem.uhd.edu/> Already has a wide range of educational resources for use by interested teachers and volunteers. AIChE (national) is encouraging cooperation with organizations such as HUNSTEM.

IEEE [http://www.ieee-houston.org/Committees/SAC/Brochure\\_IEEE%20Houston\\_7\\_Oct\\_2007.pdf](http://www.ieee-houston.org/Committees/SAC/Brochure_IEEE%20Houston_7_Oct_2007.pdf) This ongoing Houston Area program assists local schools with teacher training demonstrations.

Houston Museum of Natural Science (<http://www.hmns.org>) has ongoing outreach programs and could use more volunteers.

The Houston Children's Museum (<http://www.cmhouston.org>) also has outreach programs.

For more information, contact Matt Kolodney (713-471-8956) or [mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us](mailto:mkolodne@tceq.state.tx.us).

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## South Texas Section AICHE

South Texas Section  
P. O. Box 820252  
Houston, TX 77282

*2010 Officers and Contact Information*

### Officers

**Chair** Alan Rossiter, Rossiter & Assoc.  
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**Past Chair** Todd Willman, Epcon International  
[sts-pastchair@aiche.org](mailto:sts-pastchair@aiche.org)

**Secretary** Carol Schmidt  
[sts-secretary@aiche.org](mailto:sts-secretary@aiche.org)

**Treasurer** Hiren Patani  
[sts-treasurer@aiche.org](mailto:sts-treasurer@aiche.org)

### Executive Committee

**Position 1: Education**  
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**Position 2: Outreach**  
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**Position 3: Communications**  
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**Position 4: Human Resources**  
John Super  
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### Volunteers

**Arrangements:** Richard Newman,  
David Silarski

**Membership:** David Silarski

**Young Professionals:** Kelly Richardson

**Awards:** Tom Menn

### 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 2013

<<To be developed>>



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Our newsletter subscription list is by invitation only.

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### — MAINTAIN YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION WITH STS —

Maintain your contact information with the South Texas Section using the online community:

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

To update your information, log in, then select [Member Directory](#).

Select the link to [View/Update Your Online Directory Listing](#).

Contact the New York office for PERMANENT ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:

 [xpress@aiche.org](mailto:xpress@aiche.org)  
 1-800-AICHEM (1-800-242-4363)  
 AICHEXpress Service Center  
3 Park Avenue  
New York, New York 10016-5991

## The South Texan Newsletter Crew

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

Contact us at [sts-newsletter@aiche.org](mailto:sts-newsletter@aiche.org) with comments, questions, suggestions, and ideas for next month.



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