



Monthly Meeting March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2012

Central Location: Brady's Landing 8505 Cypress St. Houston (Energy Forum 4 to 6 PM - register at <http://texasiof.ces.utexas.edu/tiof/tiemf-3-1-12.asp> , Social Hour at 6 PM, Dinner at 7 PM)

Satellite Location: Rico's Mexican Grill, (Sawdust Rd location in The Woodlands) Social Hour at 6 PM; Dinner at 7 PM, Technical program at 7:45 PM

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**March meeting is sponsored by HTRI, TLV/Rawson, Texas Steam & Instrumentation, Power Procurement Specialists LLC, Rossiter & Associates, Fluor, Newton's Dry Technology, and Quantum Technical Services**

## Algae: The New Green Crude

### Dinner Speakers: Barry Cohen & Will Thurmond

**Abstract:** Algae provide one solution to help the US reduce its dependence on foreign oil and create new green jobs. Algae oil is renewable, does not affect the food channel and consumes CO<sub>2</sub>. It can be made into jet fuel, biodiesel, biogasoline and bioplastics. Algae biomass can be made into many different co-products such as nutraceuticals, pharmaceuticals, cosmetics and organic fertilizer.

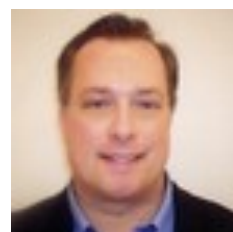
In this talk our co-presenters Barry Cohen and Will Thurmond will discuss both the technology and the commercial framework for the New Green Crude. Don't miss this exciting introduction to one of the most promising groundbreaking energy technologies of the 21st Century!

**Bio:** **Barry Cohen** National Algae Association, Founder/Executive Director The National Algae Association, a 501(c)6, is the first trade association for algae farmers, and the first non-profit algae production trade association in the US. Barry is also president of Biofuel Capital Partners. Since 1986, he has owned and operated commercial lending groups financing biofuel companies in the \$1,000,000 to \$50,000,000 range.



Barry Cohen

**Will Thurmond** : Will Thurmond is the founder and CEO of Emerging Markets Online, a market research and business development consulting firm focused on the future of global energy and biofuels markets. Mr. Thurmond brings 20 years experience to this position as a start-up entrepreneur and advisor, and has consulted dozens of Fortune 500 and emerging tech companies in global biofuels, oil, gas, electric power, telecom, international trade and cleantech commercialization. Mr. Thurmond also serves as Co-Chairman, Greater Houston Partnership's Biofuels Task Force; is an Advisor to the Houston Technology Center, the American Biofuels Council; and formerly served the National Algae Association as the Chairman of Research and Development from 2008-2009. Mr. Thurmond is frequently a keynote speaker at industry conferences, and is the author of *Algae 2020* and *Biodiesel 2020* studies. He is a contributing analyst to *Biofuels International*, *Renewable Energy World*, *Biofuels Digest* and *Forbes*. Mr. Thurmond holds an M.S., Strategic Foresight from University of Houston and B.A. in International Relations and Economics from Rollins College. Contact info: E: [info@emerging-markets.com](mailto:info@emerging-markets.com) Tel: 713 429 4905 (Houston), Web: [www.emerging-markets.com](http://www.emerging-markets.com)



Will Thurmond



*Texas Industries of the Future*

### **Texas Industrial Energy Management Forum**

#### ***Implementation: It's Where the Rubber Meets the Road***

Thursday, March 1, 2012

Brady's Landing 8505 Cypress St. Houston, Texas 77012

To register, go to <http://texasiof.ces.utexas.edu/tiof/tiemf-3-1-12.asp>

**3:30 to 4:00 pm**

**Forum Registration and Visit with Exhibitors**

**4:00 to 6:00 pm**

**Energy Management Forum (See program below)**

#### ***Implementation: It's Where the Rubber Meets the Road***

If you have been in energy management for any time, you know that it's not too hard to develop a list of projects and programs that will improve your energy performance. It's getting the projects approved, implemented and sustained that presents the bigger challenge. The speakers will describe a variety of approaches to improving implementation rates.

##### *Forum Moderator*

Frank Roberto, ExxonMobil

Chair, Chemical and Refining Advisory Committee, Texas IOF

##### *Presentations*

#### ***IMPLEMENTATION --- Everything depends on EXECUTION***

##### *Having just a Vision is No Solution*

Fred C. Schoeneborn, President, FCS Consulting Services, Inc.

Fred has managed hundreds of assessments for many Fortune 100 companies and has witnessed the challenges IMPLEMENTATION of identified energy efficiency projects represent. Ask most energy managers what their Implementation rate is for assessment projects and you are likely to get a disappointed look and a number in the mid teens.

There are a variety of reasons why energy assessment implementation rates can be low, but often it is the result of a lack of planning and formation of an implementation strategy at the end of the assessment process. Fred will outline a strategy for successful implementation of energy efficiency improvement projects.

##### *One Year Later: Results from EnMS Implementation*

Pablo Cueva, Plant Engineer, CCP Composites US Houston

CCP Composites US Houston started implementing an Energy Management System (EnMS) in 2008. An 8 member energy team was assembled to implement the program. After successfully implementing the energy management system, 7 of the 8 members of the energy team left the company. After that a new energy team was formed and not only was the management system and savings maintained from the initial year of implementation, but savings continued to grow in the following year.

##### *TPC Group's Energy Savings through Simulation Modeling of Plant Utility Systems*

Sarah Haynes, Energy Manager, TPC Group

Todd J. Willman, Director of Engineering, EPI Engineering

TPC Group Houston Operations evaluated the potential expansion of several existing production units as well as building new production units. The need was identified to assess the capacity of existing utility systems including steam, condensate, compressed air, nitrogen, natural gas, fuel gas, cooling water, and firewater systems. Simulation models of each utility system were developed and tuned to match existing plant data in order to identify available capacity of each system and understand current limitations. This detailed modeling work resulted in greater than \$500,000 in avoided capital cost from the original base case design.

The analysis also provided significant insight into energy savings opportunities

throughout the current plant operations. All plant utility systems were modeled and evaluated. The end result of the studies provided identified cost reduction opportunities of >\$5MM, of which some have already been implemented. The speakers will discuss specific examples of the analysis and show corresponding results in both the steam and water systems.



*Texas Industries of the Future*

### **Texas Industrial Energy Management Forum (Continued)**

#### ***Implementation: It's Where the Rubber Meets the Road***

Thursday, March 1, 2012

Brady's Landing 8505 Cypress St. Houston, Texas 77012

To register, go to <http://texasiof.ces.utexas.edu/tiof/tiemf-3-1-12.asp>

#### ***A Systematic Approach to Improving Heater Absorbed Duty***

Sumit Chatterjee, Refinery Energy Consultant Engineer, Houston Refinery, LyondellBasell

The presentation will describe a systematic methodology that was adopted at the LyondellBasell Houston Refinery site to identify Process Heater thermal performance opportunities. The focus was on actual process absorbed duty compared to OEM design. Discussions will also include various funding and implementation avenues that are being used for the project that is in progress.

The presentation highlights the importance of examining heaters beyond the conventional thermal efficiency improvement ideas such as excess O<sub>2</sub>, waste heat recovery, combustion air preheat etc. Rationalization of actual absorbed duty can lead to a learning experience that includes upstream and downstream process optimization.

#### ***Questions & Answers***

#### **Pre-Registration**

There is no cost for attending the Energy Forum; however, pre-registration is requested so that we can provide adequate facilities. To register, go to <http://texasiof.ces.utexas.edu/tiof/tiemf-3-1-12.asp>

Funding for the Energy Management Forum is provided by the US Department of Energy, under a contract with the State Energy Conservation Office of the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts.

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## 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. Thanks to our sponsors we have reduced pricing this month!

	Pre-Registration Members	Pre-Registration Non-Members	At the door Members	At the door Non-Members
Regular/Retired	\$15	\$20	\$25	\$30
Student/Unemployed	\$10	\$15	\$20	\$25
North Houston satellite meeting location	\$18	\$18	\$20	\$20

NOTE: You have until 4 PM CST on February 29th 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 website at:

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

## Meeting Location—Brady's Landing



This month's meeting will be held at [Brady's Landing](#) Restaurant (8505 Cypress St, Houston, TX - 77012). Double click on the map to the left for directions from your location. The satellite meeting will be held at [Rico's Mexican Grill](#), (**Sawdust location**) at 314 Sawdust Rd, The Woodlands, TX, 77380 . Double click on the map below for directions. This location provides a quiet, private room upstairs for meeting. More details are included in the next section.

## North Houston Satellite Meeting Information—Rico's Mexican Grill @ Sawdust Road

Join us without driving too far for some local networking at The Woodlands/North Houston satellite meeting! We have our own social/networking program. Due to the wonders of modern technology we have access to the great speakers provided by STS. There will be an upgraded audio system for the webcast of the main meeting. We had excellent audio and video quality at the February meeting -- the sound problems have been corrected, and our Rico's Sawdust reservation has been confirmed.

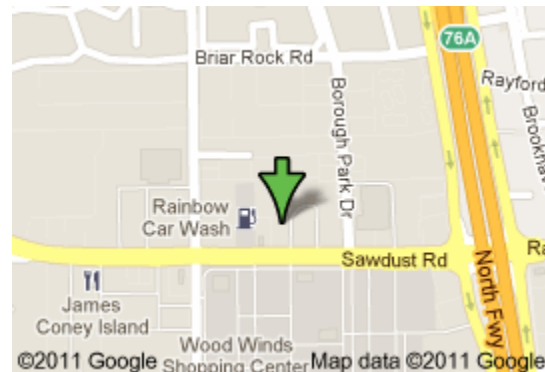
This month's meeting will once again be at Rico's Mexican Grill at 314 Sawdust Rd, The Woodlands, TX, 77380 (<http://ricosgrill.com/locations.php>). On-line pre-registration is available but not required.

Questions: [kk.walter@comcast.net](mailto:kk.walter@comcast.net) or [cctagoe@yahoo.com](mailto:cctagoe@yahoo.com) Guests are welcome!

Schedule:

- ♦ 6:00 PM Social hour with live music downstairs and \$2.00 margaritas
- ♦ 7:00 PM Dinner. (order from Rico's menu) served in private room upstairs
- ♦ 7:45 PM Remote tie-in with STS-AIChE technical program at Brady's Landing
- ♦ \$18.00 in advance/ \$20.00 at the door.

All guests are welcome!



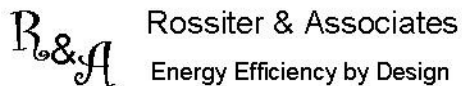
## Meeting Sponsors –We Thank You!

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### **GOLD Sponsor(s)**



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### **Bronze Sponsor(s)**



## Join the Upstream Engineering and Flow Assurance (UEFA) Forum

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Perhaps some STS members have not heard about the newest entity that AIChE has chartered. Increasing interest in the upstream sector of chemical engineering applications and practice led to the UEFA Forum being established this year (2011).

The Upstream Engineering and Flow Assurance Forum has its main focus on the promotion of educational opportunities and events that will promote the use of chemical engineering principles and practices in the upstream realm and in the special area of flow assurance engineering. As chemical engineers, we know that thermodynamics, phase behavior, solution theory, fluid dynamics, and interfacial tension applications are not limited to downstream projects.

Indeed, many STS members work for companies that have interests in energy resource development, ranging from advanced petroleum reservoir technology to design of the most difficult and technologically challenging production systems, to be installed in the Jules Verne realm, in ultra deepwater, and also in extreme environments, such as Arctic regions. The work is challenging and chemical engineering problems abound in all aspects of upstream engineering.

During 2011, the UEFA Forum members were the major driving force in developing the very successful 6th AIChE/SPE Joint Workshop on "Challenges in Flow Assurance". Many of your colleagues may have participated in that event.

At present, we have developed the technical sessions for The 1st International Conference on Upstream Engineering and Flow Assurance, which is a feature part of the 2012 AIChE Spring Meeting, to be held in Houston, at the George R. Brown Convention Center, April 1-4, 2012. For this "upstream" conference, we have 16 sessions, including five sessions on flow assurance topics, hydrates, multiphase flow, waxes, asphaltenes, scale, corrosion, emulsions, and equation of state applications, etc. For the "upstream" reservoir and petroleum production themes, we have sessions dealing with advances in drilling fluids, completion fluids, and remediation fluids, enhanced oil recovery, shale gas technology, unconventional energy resources, nanotechnology in upstream applications, Risk in FEED design for Flow Assurance projects, subsea separation and processing, etc. These sessions include nearly 100 presentations from well-known subject matter experts in the fields of flow assurance and upstream engineering.

If you share our interest in this topic area, please consider this your special invitation to join the Upstream Engineering and Flow Assurance Forum. We solicit your membership and help in getting this new entity going. Frankly, we need you.

To join us, simply call 1-800-242-4363 and tell the AIChE Customer Service representative to enroll you as a member of the UEFA Forum for 2012. Do it today!

Best Regards and Welcome!

Norman F. Carnahan

Chair, UEFA Forum

[carnahan@ccteq.com](mailto:carnahan@ccteq.com)

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## Featured YP of the Month – Carlos Salamanca

Carlos is the current vice-chair of the young professionals group for STS-AICHE, and he currently works for National Oilwell Varco in the Sales group. His company provides solutions to the Oil and Gas drilling and production markets. He works for the Rig Solutions division and focused in the offshore market for Brazil. He is originally from Bogota, Colombia where he earned a B.S. in Chemical Engineering from Universidad Nacional. He also pursued an MBA in Energy from the University of Houston. His professional interests involve Oil and Gas Economics, new Engineering technologies, Project Management, and International Business.

In his current position at NOV, Carlos enjoys learning new technologies, solving problems, working with people from different countries, teaching others, facing new challenges, and interacting with engineers from different disciplines. His responsibilities involve generating new business in the Brazilian market since Petrobras is NOV's main customer. He generates opportunities with products and services for offshore drilling, FPSOs and oil production.

AICHE has been a great learning experience for Carlos. He believes that it is a place where people can develop leadership skills, interact with colleagues, build professional relationships, and have fun at the same time. He also believes that it brings the opportunity to learn soft skills which people may not learn in the workplace. When he held the position of Secretary, it helped him organize and plan business meetings, in his previous position of Treasurer he learned about budgets and was responsible for the group's finances. In his current position of Vice-Chair, he finds it interesting to support all the roles at the same time and learn from everyone's background.

Carlos enjoys reading, teaching, riding the bicycle, and traveling; but most importantly spending time with family and friends.

When asked about advice for graduating chemical engineering students, Carlos offered the following: "Never stop learning. When looking for a job, explore different options, maximize your strengths, prepare the interview, set up clear goals, know your potential employers, find role models, and most importantly know yourself and your competencies."



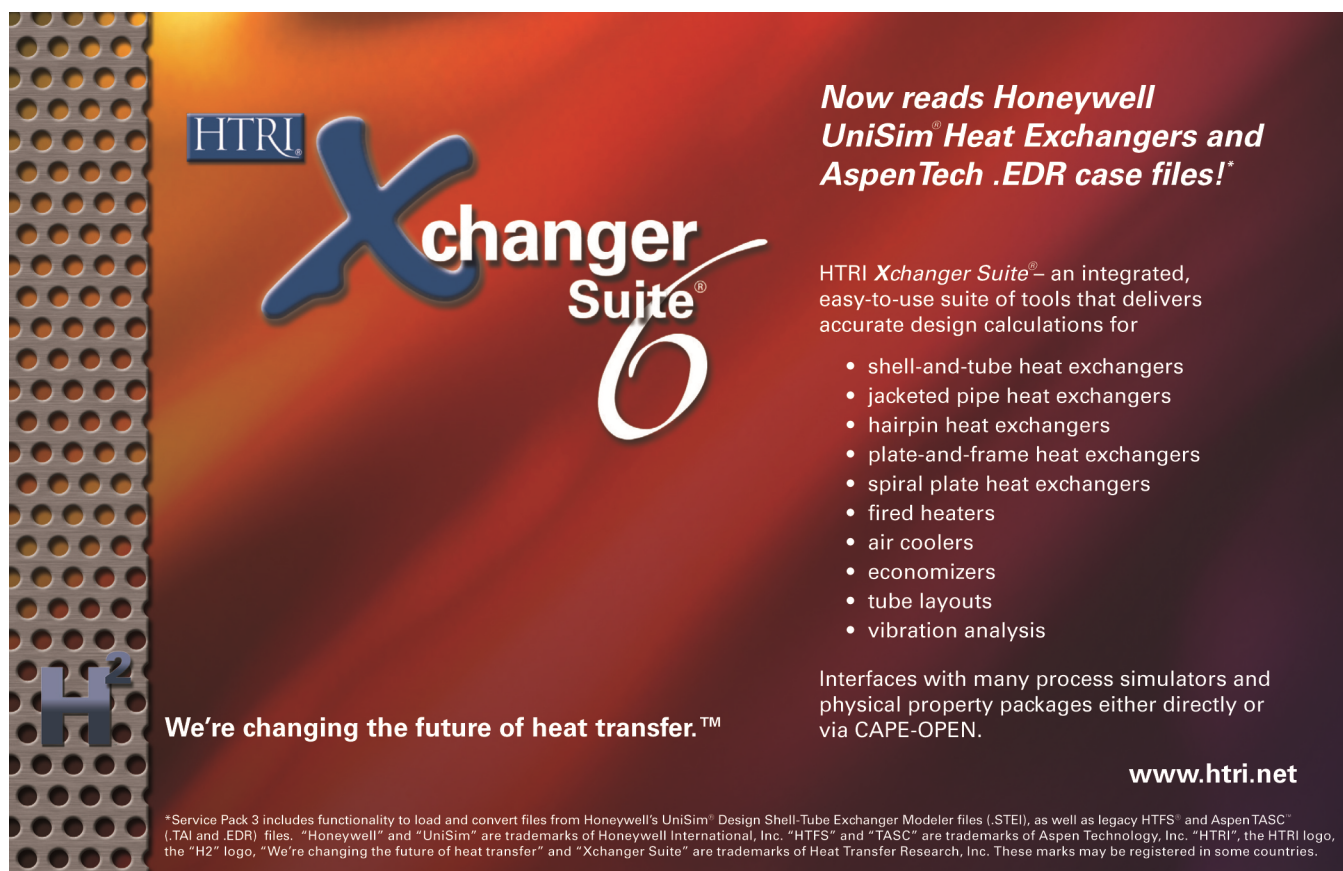
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## STS-AICHE K-12 Outreach Program

The International Sustainable World Energy, Engineering & Environment Project Olympiad (I-SWEEEP) is a unique and remarkable science competition open to the best and brightest high school students from about 70 countries worldwide and 43 US States. I-SWEEEP will be held here in Houston, TX at the Houston's George R. Brown Convention Center May 2 -7, 2012. Most talented and top-ranking science and mathematics-focused students from around the world meet in this event to compete and display their talents. Prospective of young and talented students as future engineers could someday be the solution to the earth's energy, engineering, and environmental problems. Organizers of this event in I-SWEEEP co-operate with other various local, national, and international science fair organizations to make this event a success, and are looking for support from the STS-AICHE. The STS-AICHE through its K-12 outreach program intends to support this event as much as possible, and STS members are strongly encouraged to show their support. Support could be in many forms such as providing scholarships, trophies, plaques, being judges, general volunteers, organization, etc...

For more information about the event, please visit: [www.isweeep.org](http://www.isweeep.org). Any questions, please contact the STS-AICHE K-12 outreach chair & PD chair Abraham J. Kazala at [akazala@live.com](mailto:akazala@live.com) or at 832-289-6996.

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## It's Awards Time!

It is once again time to nominate an STS member for our annual awards for 2011:

- Outstanding Young Professional Award
- Distinguished Service Award
- Best Fundamental Paper
- Best Applied Paper Award

For requirements of each award, visit the web page: <http://sts.aiche.org/content/awards>. The page provides a summary of the awards, and contains links to more detailed descriptions of each award.

To nominate a member for an award, complete the online form at the web page:

<http://sts.aiche.org/webform/award-nominations>.

If you prefer the printed form, print out the forms from the next two pages.

## South Texas Section – AIChE - 2011 Annual Awards Nomination Form (Page 1 of 2)

THIS NOMINATION FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY MAY 1, 2012 TO BE ACCEPTED! E-mail the completed form to:

Thomas E. Menn	or	Anand Nilekar, PhD	or	Saurabh S. Chaugule, PhD
P. O. Box 458		Shell Global Solutions (US) Inc.		Shell Global Solutions (US) Inc.
Pearland, Texas 77588-0548		Westhollow Technology Center		Westhollow Technology Center
Tel: 281-485-3719		3333 Highway 6 South		3333 Highway 6 South
ThomasMenn@SBCGlobal.net		Houston, Texas 77082		Houston, Texas 77082
		Tel: 281-544-6298		Tel: 281-544-6644
		Anand.Nilekar@Shell.com		Saurabh.Chaugule@Shell.com

Following receipt of the nomination that you submit, you will receive an email from the STS Awards Committee confirming receipt of your nomination.

**NOTE: ONLY ONE PERSON OR PAPER MAY BE NOMINATED PER FORM!**

NOMINATOR'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to nominate \_\_\_\_\_

(Enter Name of Nominee or Title of Paper on the above line.)

ENTER CONTACT INFORMATION FOR NOMINEE OR AUTHOR:

NOMINEE or AUTHOR'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:

STREET: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE NUMBER: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TYPE OF NOMINATION: (PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE SPACE BELOW.)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2011 STS Outstanding Young Professional Award (Under age 35)\*

\_\_\_\_\_ 2011 STS Distinguished Service Award (Over age 35)\*

\_\_\_\_\_ 2011 STS Best Fundamental Paper Award (Please complete page 2)

\_\_\_\_\_ 2011 STS Best Applied Paper Award (Please complete Page 2)

\*For STS Outstanding Young Member or Distinguished Service Awards, please state the reason you feel that this person is deserving of this award and attach it to the back of this form along with any supporting documentation, if available. (You can ignore the rest of the form.)

***For 2011 Best Paper Nominations, continue and complete page 2 of this form.***

## South Texas Section – AIChE - 2011 Annual Awards Nomination Form (Page 2 of 2)

Please enter the name of the 2011 Best Paper again: \_\_\_\_\_

(Sorry to trouble you but this is in case the sheets get separated.)

Enter the contact Author's name again: \_\_\_\_\_

(Sorry to trouble you but this is in case the sheets get separated.)

FOR BEST PAPER NOMINATIONS, LIST THE NAMES OF THE AUTHORS AND CHECK ALL BLANKS THAT APPLY:

### MEMBERSHIP

*Note: At least one author must be an STS Member.*

AIChE

STS

Co-Author #1: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author #2: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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Co-Author #3: \_\_\_\_\_

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Co-Author #4: \_\_\_\_\_

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Co-Author #5: \_\_\_\_\_

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Co-Author #6: \_\_\_\_\_

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Co-Author #7: \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_\_

Co-Author #8: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

[Add additional authors on an attached sheet if necessary.]

**For Best Paper nominations, please provide following information:**

NAME OF PUBLICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF PUBLICATION: \_\_\_\_\_

VOLUME NO. (if known): \_\_\_\_\_ PAGES: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE ATTACH A COPY OF THE ARTICLE FROM THE PUBLICATION TO THIS FORM OR IF THIS IS NOMINATION IS TENDERED BY E-MAIL, PLEASE ATTACH AN ELECTRONIC VERSION OF THE PUBLISHED ARTICLE.**

*Following receipt of the nomination that you submit, you will receive an email from the STS Awards Committee confirming receipt of the nomination.*

## South Texas Section Recognizes Three 50 Year AIChE Members

The February 2 (Thursday) South Texas Section Monthly Dinner Meeting at Brady's Landing served as a venue to recognize three STS Members who, in the year 2012, will have enjoyed 50 years of AIChE Membership. STS Chair James Turner presented the 50 Year AIChE Membership Certificates while the recipients were introduced by Tom Menn, STS Awards Chair.

Those honored were:



*Cal Birdsall ( C ) displays his 50 Year AIChE Membership Certificate. Also in the photo are STS Chair James Turner( L ) and AIChE President David Rosenthal ( R ).*

**J. C. (Cal) Birdsall** – Cal received his BSChE with a Minor in Business & Economics from the University of Texas in 1962. He is a Senior Member of AIChE and has been a Registered Professional Engineer in Texas since 1969.

Cal began his chemical engineering career with Gulf Oil Corporation and served in various engineering & management positions until 1970. He then joined ASKCO Engineering Corporation and served as President until 1979. In 1975 Cal designed a polystyrene foam packaging plant for All Containers Corporation, installed, and managed its operation until 1979. He then joined Huber Construction Company as chief engineer and a company named Galvanizing Technologies, Incorporated was created to provide auxiliary and pollution control equipment to compliment the galvanizing equipment of Huber was formed. Cal became President of G-Tech. In 1985, G-Tech purchased the galvanizing equipment portion of Huber Construction and GTI Engineering, Incorporated was formed. Since 1991, he has been President and owner of GTI.

Cal has several U S Patents in plastics processing & galvanizing and he is Past Chairman of the American Galvanizers Association Technical Services as well as the American Galvanizers Association Sustaining Members Committees. He also is a Commercial Pilot & Flight Instructor.

Cal hunts birds and loves to fish. He and his wife have four children and three grandchildren. Cal takes special pride in the fact that his son works with him at GTI. He is also a Master Mason and is also a member of several Masonic organizations.

## South Texas Section Recognizes Three 50 Year AIChE Members (Continued)



Jim Murphy ( C ) displays his 50 Year AIChE Membership Certificate. Also in the photo are STS Chair James Turner( L ) and AIChE President David Rosenthal ( R )

**James R. Murphy** – Jim attended the University of Notre Dame on scholarship from the Joseph P. Kennedy, Jr. Foundation Scholarship and graduated in 1962. He is a Senior Member of AIChE. Jim was awarded the 1999 South Texas Section Distinguished Service Award.

Upon graduation Jim joined Monsanto and in a few months he was transferred to Chocolate Bayou near Alvin, Texas. He pursued an MBA in Marketing/Finance at the University of Houston and in 1969, Jim entered the marketing side of Monsanto and was sent to St. Louis for extensive training and then transferred to New York. But he soon found a way to return to Houston as a Senior Sales Specialist in Specialty Sales soon winning the Monsanto Master Salesman Award in a sales force of 6,000 plus. Threatened with transfer to the west coast, Jim joined Church & Dwight, i.e., Arm & Hammer Baking Soda as a salesperson for Houston/St. Louis. After 15 years he retired and found the STS's C.E.O. Since then, Jim has been employed by other companies including Naylor Industries, Baytech Engineering, and Cyprus-AMAX. At the end of each job, Jim returned to C.E.O. and currently serves as STS' Director of C.E.O. He has also worked for the Census Bureau and is an American Red Cross volunteer.

Jim and his wife have two sons, a foster daughter, and seven grandchildren. He has been active in community organizations including finding time to serve as a Scoutmaster. Jim also says that while Norte Dame has only recently announced having a soccer team he was playing it while he was an undergraduate.

## AIChE South Texas Section Future Meetings & Speakers

Meeting Date	Location	Speaker	Topic
April 4, 2012	Downtown	Paul Frison, Houston Technology Center	Entrepreneurship in Houston
May 3, 2012	Brady's Landing	Somnath Basu	Water Treating

## South Texas Section Recognizes Three 50 Year AIChE Members (Continued)

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Peter Peropoulos ( C ) displays his 50 Year AIChE Membership Certificate. Also in the photo are STS Chair James Turner( L ) and AIChE President David Rosenthal ( R )

**Peter Peropoulos** – Peter received his BSChE from the University of Iowa in 1958 and his MSChE from Iowa in 1962. He is a Senior Member of AIChE and a Registered Professional Engineer in Texas.

After receiving his BSChE in Chemical Engineering, Peter worked for Collins Radio Company responsible for commercialization of acid process for chemical milling/blanking of aluminum. In 1959, he returned to Iowa for his MSChE. Upon receipt of the Masters in Ch. E. in 1962, Peter joined Ethyl Corporation as a Process Engineer Process Engineer where he conceived a novel molten salt cell analysis which was commercialized and in 1966 he became employed by Texaco, Inc. where he co-authored several patents. After two years, Peter joined Shell Oil Company as a Process Engineer. In 1969 he joined ABB Lummus Global and retired after 34 years as a Principal Process Engineer. He has two patents.

Peter liked to play basketball while his knees were good and is the senior most active member of the Houston Symphony Chorus. His wife shares an interest in shares his music hobby. The next performance of the Houston Symphony Chorus's concert is February 10, 11, and 12 at Jones Hall and Peter's voice part is Tenor 1.

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## Are you riding in the MS150 this Spring?

Are you riding in the MS150 this Spring? James Turner and Alan Rossiter are riding! If you are riding and want us to advertise your rider information in the April newsletter, let James at [james.turner@fluor.com](mailto:james.turner@fluor.com) or Alan at [alan@rossiters.org](mailto:alan@rossiters.org) know!

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## STS Recognizes Dale Embry with Shining Star Award Honorable Mention

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Dale Embry ( C ) displays his AIChE Honorable Mention Shining Star Award. Also in the photo are STS Chair James Turner( L ) and AIChE President David Rosenthal ( R )

At the February 2 South Texas Section Monthly Dinner Meeting held at Brady's Landing, Dale Embry was recognized for receiving an Honorable Mention in the LSC and CEOC Shining Star Award Competition. This was due to his efforts in behalf of the 2010 PE Refresher Course which he conceived, planned, and executed as well as other volunteer contributions to STS and AIChE.

The AIChE Local Sections Committee and Career and Education Operating Council created a new annual award named The AIChE Shining Star Award a few years ago. The Shining Star Award is designed to recognize outstanding volunteerism at the AIChE local section level and will hopefully act as incentive for others to become more involved in local section activities.

## **Volunteers Needed for the 2012 Spring National Meeting**

The AIChE 2012 Spring National Meeting will be held in Houston on April 2nd – 5th (Monday – Thursday) at the Hilton Americas and George R. Brown Convention Center. Volunteers are needed to track session attendance and for general help during the day. A parking pass and admission for the day worked will be provided. An organizational meeting will be held the weekend before the meeting.

Volunteers are needed for the following times:

Monday, April 2	7:30 am – 4 pm
Tuesday, April 3	7:30 am – 4 pm
Wednesday, April 4	7:30 am – 4 pm
Thursday, April 5	7:30 am – noon

For more information and to volunteer contact John Middleton via email [Mr45John@Yahoo.com](mailto:Mr45John@Yahoo.com), or call him at 713-861-6418 (evenings) or 713-350-1143 (work).

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## **Volunteers Needed—2012 OTC**

The 2012 Offshore Technology Conference will be held April 30 - May 3 at Reliant Park.

Volunteers will receive a complimentary OTC registration and a free parking pass (good for the entire OTC) for attending an orientation meeting the week before (to pick up badges and parking passes) and for contributing about five hours of the volunteer's time to either the Arrangements, Registration, or Student Tours Conduct Committees during the OTC.

For information contact: Thomas E. Menn, P.O. Box 458, Pearland, Texas 77588-0458. Tom's phone number is 281-485-3719 and his e-mail address is [thomasmenn@SBCglobal.net](mailto:thomasmenn@SBCglobal.net).

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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.

SEFH <http://hunstem.uhd.edu/SEFH/> Science and Engineering Fair of Houston

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).



The advertisement features a close-up of a woman with dark hair and glasses on the left. To her right is a diagram of a chemical process flow. The diagram shows three stages of a process, each with a computer monitor displaying a graph. The first stage is labeled 'Methanol Synthesis', the second 'Methanol Purification', and the third 'Methanol Distillation'. Arrows indicate the flow from one stage to the next. Above each stage is a small icon representing the process: a reactor for synthesis, a distillation column for purification, and a storage tank for distillation. The text 'We're on it.' is written in large orange letters across the middle of the diagram. Below this text is a blue button with the text 'SEE CHEMCAD IN ACTION' and a right-pointing arrow.

**We're on it.**

SEE CHEMCAD IN ACTION ►

## Letter from the Chair

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March 2012 AIChE STS Chairs Letter – James Turner

I think we are off to an exciting start with the new year. We started things off with a great dinner presentation at Brady's Landing by Mike Watts from Halliburton on hydraulic fracturing. This was followed up in February by a very interesting presentation at Pelazzio by Walt Hart from Purvin & Gertz, who explained the impact of shale gas production in the U.S. on the NGL market and the downstream petrochemicals industry. The Gulf Coast Petrochemicals Business had been stagnant for more than 10 years, but has now seen a rebirth of interest in expansions and new units. We had great turnouts, good conversation, and good food at both meetings. I have heard positive feedback from several attendees about both meetings.

For March, we are back to Brady's Landing, for another interesting presentation – this time on fuel production from algae. There will actually be two speakers sharing the podium this month, Will Thurmond and Berry Cohen – both from the National Algae Association. This promises to be yet another timely and interesting topic. The March meeting is also held in conjunction with the Texas Industrial Energy Management Forum, which is free, and takes place right before the dinner meeting, starting at 3:30 pm (presentations start at 4 pm). I hope to see another great turnout this month as well.

For the April meeting, we are planning something a little different – the meeting will be on Wednesday, April 4, and will be near the downtown convention center, at the Hilton Americas. The speaker will be Paul Frison from the Houston Technology Center, and he will speak on entrepreneurship in Houston. This meeting is held in conjunction with the AIChE Spring National Meeting, so if you are at the Spring Meeting, stay for dinner Wednesday night and a good presentation – if you are not planning to attend the Spring National Meeting, you can come out and give the visitors from out of town a warm welcome.

Speaking of the Spring National Meeting, it looks like it will have a full and interesting program. If you are a manager of other engineers, this is a good opportunity to give them some important networking and training opportunities without having to pay for a lot of travel costs or ask them to be away from their families. It is a true "win-win" when the Spring Meeting comes to Houston, so be sure not to miss it. I know I will be there! For those on a budget that don't have corporate sponsorship, you also have the opportunity to work for your admission. That's right – volunteers get free admission on the day(s) they volunteer. Contact John Middleton for more information on this opportunity.

We are also planning to have a Senior Managers Lunch at National Meeting – to give Senior Managers at local companies employing many engineers a chance to network, learn more about what STS and AIChE offer their engineers, and to get feedback on what other services they would like to see from AIChE. Contact me or Gary Gildert for more information on this meeting or if you want to nominate someone from your company to attend.

For May, we plan to be back at Brady's Landing for a presentation on Water Treating. There are multiple sponsorship opportunities planned for this meeting – contact Gary Gildert for more information.

Finally, I want to say that we are actively planning for the fall meetings right now, and intend to continue to deliver high quality speakers talking about interesting and timely topics. The highlight of the fall schedule will be the 4th Regional Process Technology Conference, which will be held at South Shore Harbor (off of Clear Lake) this year. Based on feedback from the last few years, I am sure that Alan Rossiter and his cohorts will deliver another great conference.

Please feel free to forward this newsletter and e-mails that you get from me to others that may be interested in our programs and activities. While attendance at our meetings has been good relative to historical standards, I know that there are many more professionals in the region that would benefit greatly from our events, which are open to everyone, not just Chemical Engineers or STS members.

I would also like to encourage everyone to share your ideas and suggestions with me and other members of the Executive Committee. Together, we can continue to make the South Texas Section of AIChE a place of community, fellowship and education for us all.

Best Regards,

James Turner

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## Call for Volunteers

The Career and Education Operating Council (CEOC) of AIChE (National) has studies underway in several areas of interest to AIChE members. Additional volunteers are needed for committees performing the areas listed below. Working on one of these committees teaches you about the operation of AIChE, as well as teamwork, management, and leadership. Lessons from the latter three will spill over into your job, personal life, and other nonprofit organizations. The committee topics include:

**A. Leadership development** — New options for the training and development of leaders in AIChE. Our current methods are useful, but we're looking at others, too.

**B. Fundraising** — There is a modest but significant budget gap in AIChE National, and we can better serve our members if we can shrink it. Additionally, the programming of many local sections could benefit by fund raising.

**C. Local Section Committee (LSC) Support** — Unlike the STS, many local sections are facing difficulties, and the LSC is developing projects to assist "local sections in need."

**D. Membership** — The AIChE needs to work on increasing membership of National and of local sections. We're looking for additional good ideas. This includes how to explain the benefits of membership, how to encourage more student members to become YPs and how to encourage more first-time attendees at local section meetings to return and get involved.

**E. Communication** — Many AIChE members don't seem to learn about AIChE events and programs that they later wish they'd heard about. How can we improve communications with members? This could include mailings, websites, e-mail, telephone, etc.

These studies will involve identifying and evaluating alternatives, preparing "best practices" for local sections, and executing developmental projects. If you might be interested in one or more of these areas, please contact Matt Kolodney ([mkolodney1@comcast.net](mailto:mkolodney1@comcast.net) or 713-471-8956)

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## South Texas Section AIChE

STS AIChE  
P. O. Box 2160  
Sugar Land, TX 77487-2160

*2012 Officers and Contact Information*

### Officers

**Chair** James Turner  
[sts-chair@aiche.org](mailto:sts-chair@aiche.org)

**Chair Elect** Gary Gildert  
[sts-chairelect@aiche.org](mailto:sts-chairelect@aiche.org)

**Past Chair** Ken Cox  
[sts-pastchair@aiche.org](mailto:sts-pastchair@aiche.org)

**Secretary** Kelly Richardson  
[sts-secretary@aiche.org](mailto:sts-secretary@aiche.org)

**Treasurer** Katherine Leskin  
[sts-treasurer@aiche.org](mailto:sts-treasurer@aiche.org)

### Executive Committee

**Position 1: Education**  
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[sts-position1@aiche.org](mailto:sts-position1@aiche.org)

**Position 2: Outreach**  
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**Position 3: Communications**  
Jay Chandrasekaran  
[sts-position3@aiche.org](mailto:sts-position3@aiche.org)

**Position 4: Human Resources**  
Teresa Jurgens-Kowal  
[sts-position4@aiche.org](mailto:sts-position4@aiche.org)

### Volunteers

**Arrangements:** Richard Newman,  
David Silarski

**Membership:** David Silarski

**Young Professionals:** Lisa Swanson  
([sts-yp@aiche.org](mailto:sts-yp@aiche.org))

**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.

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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](#).

Contact the New York office for PERMANENT ADDRESS CORRECTIONS:



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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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