



CONNECTION

Greater Kansas City Chapter #92

April 2006

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1 – MAY MEETING DETAILS: UNION CEMETERY COMMUNITY SERVICE



Help IIE Make a Difference! IIE will have a workday at Union Cemetery on Saturday, May 13th at 10:00 a.m. We will work from 10:00 to noon, followed by lunch. Feel free to bring along any family members or friends. This is a great way to meet fellow IIE members, get some exercise, and help a worthwhile cause—all for just a few hours of your time!

The Union Hill Historical Society is still prioritizing their wish list, but whether it be cleaning tombstones, helping with digital photography needs, database support, or re-organization of one of their storage vaults, they are looking forward to our help.

IIE began work with the Union Cemetery Historical Society in 1999, when we received a \$5,000 grant from the KC150 Project. The cemetery was started in 1857 and got its name because it was established to be a “union” between the cities of Westport and Kansas City. It is the burial site for approximately 55,000 former Kansas City residents.

Date: May 13, 2006

Time: 10:00 to 1:00 (lunch will be provided at noon)

Location: Union Cemetery located just south of Crown Center at approximately 28th and Grand.

Cost: None

RSVP: Please RSVP by Friday, May 5th to Beth Kelley at (913) 599-2384 or bethkelley@hotmail.com if you are planning to attend. Directions will be e-mailed after all RSVP’s are received.

2 – APRIL MEETING REVIEW: KANSAS CITY STAR TOUR

April Tour (4/12/06) – The Kansas City Star

We had a great turnout for the April 12 tour of the new Kansas City Star production and distribution facility located at 1601 McGee Street in downtown Kansas City. We had 13 members and 16 non-members attend. The tour started with general information about the facility with production employees from the Kansas City Star. Following the opening discussion, members from the



Construction Management office of Burns & McDonnell took us on a “behind the glass” tour of the complete facility. We were able to walk on the production floor and see the presses up close. This was an exciting tour of the brand new almost \$200 million facility.

When the decision to build a new Kansas City Star facility was decided, the owner of the paper wanted it to be produced “in town,” so a downtown location was chosen. This choice meant that the new facility would have a limited footprint to be built on (only about 6 acres versus typically about 40 acres). Another interesting design feature of the facility is the use of glass for the walls of the facility. Glass was chosen so that the general public would be able to see the paper being published. To help maintain temperatures, the glass walls have automatic shades that raise and lower.

Some additional interesting facts about the new facility include:

- The new presses are rated over 80,000 copies per hour with the plan to run at 70,000 copies per hour.
- The individual “H” sections weigh about 35 metric tons and were brought over from Germany.
- The press height in the production room is 87 feet high.
- The facility includes an automated storage and retrieval system (ASRS) with 5,280 pallet positions that will store newsprint, inserts, and other supplies.
- The presses communicate with the ASRS so that it can automatically request newsprint to minimize potential downtime to change newsprint rolls.
- The HVAC system was designed to be maintained a temperature of 72 degrees plus or minus 2 degrees and a relative humidity of 45 to 50% plus or minus 5%.

3 – PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Happy Spring! Our officer team has gone through a few changes since the last newsletter. I want to thank Keith Johnson for his service as President and wish him and his wife the best as they relocate to Georgia. He will be missed! I also want to welcome three members to the officer team: Rachel Dubbert of Hallmark, Liz Meyer of Hallmark, and Mike Niedenthal of MAMTC. The full officer listing is at the end of the newsletter, and this team will remain in position for the rest of 2006.



Thanks to all of you who attended one or both of the recent tours at Payless and the Kansas City Star. I was unable to attend the Payless tour but was told the guides were very knowledgeable and shared information on the company and branding in addition to giving the more typical tour facts. At the Kansas City Star, our guides from Burns and McDonnell took us out on the production floor – an opportunity that I expect will be rare once the full paper is in production at this new building. Many thanks to Amy Martens, Anita Ranhotra, Robert Stillwell, and our members at Payless for their efforts in planning these great events!

I know May weekends are busy with weddings and graduations, but if you are in town, please block off a couple of hours for our Union Cemetery Workday. The Historical Society is always glad for our efforts, and the event is a good way to give back to the community, meet other members in an informal setting, and build arm muscles – all at the same time! Also, be watching upcoming newsletters for details on a summer networking and recruiting event.

Finally, I want to thank you for this opportunity to serve as your President. Please don't hesitate to send me an e-mail at jennifer.albers@yrcw.com if you have questions, comments, or concerns throughout the year!

Sincerely,
Jennifer Albers

4 – MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Region 5 Chapter 92 Membership 107

Welcome new members – Deanne Baker, Todd Easton, Richard James, Shuting Lei, and ZJ Pei

MEMBERSHIP PROFILE:

Dr. Todd Easton – Todd is an Assistant Professor in the Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering Department at Kansas State University. Todd received his BS in Mathematics from Brigham Young University, his MS in Operations Research from Stanford University, and his PhD in Industrial and Systems Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. His main areas of research are integer programming and network flows.

5 – CHAPTER UPDATE - Chapter Activity Report (CAR)

-A continuation of our monthly look into how our chapter is recognized by the IIE National Headquarters and what we are doing to improve our chapter-

Silver Award for 2005



We submitted our 2005 Chapter Activity Report by the February 15th deadline and should be receiving the Silver Award this year, with 72 points. The Gold Award is the highest honor, and we were short of that by 3 points. Although it was not the highest award, we should be pleased with a very solid and respectable score!

The officer team will be reviewing our CAR submission and looking for opportunities to strengthen our Chapter and potentially score more points in 2006, and new President Elect Jay Christensen will keep you posted of our progress in the upcoming months. Your feedback on surveys (both those e-mailed and those distributed after meetings) helps guide decisions and ultimately leads to making our Chapter stronger.

Jennifer Albers
Chapter President



6 – NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS

In an effort to keep educators, engineers, and engineering students connected, an electronic forum has been set up to offer interaction between all three groups now through April 30th. You will be able to find topics such as Sustainability and Green Development, Diverse Workforces in Engineering, and Professionalism and Ethics. For more information, go to

7 – CAREER DEVELOPMENT:

Looking for a new job or career path? Go to http://jobs.iienet.org/c/search_results.cfm?site_id=161 to view 60 current job postings across the US.

8 – IIE, DID YOU KNOW?

Do you need more information for that project you are working on? Try out IIE's resource library at <http://www.iienet.org/login.cfm?nextpage=/resourcelibrary/&CFID=8550933&CFTOKEN=98040197>. This is a free service for all IIE members.



For more information on IIE, check out headquarter and local chapter websites:

<http://www.iienet.org>

http://www.iienet.org/chapter_index.cfm?chapterid=092

9 – OFFICER LISTING



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