



# CONNECTION



*Greater Kansas City Chapter #92*



*October, 2004*

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## 1 – NOVEMBER MEETING DETAILS: Nestlé Purina Tour on November 17th

The November plant tour is scheduled for the Nestlé Purina PetCare Company located in St. Joseph, MO. This canned cat food plant operates 5 days per week and is primarily responsible for producing 3-ounce Fancy Feast and ProPlan products. With an estimated 132 hourly and salaried employees, the plant utilizes 3 production shifts 24 hours a day. The visit will include a general factory overview, factory tour and product cutting.

**Company:** Nestlé Purina PetCare Company

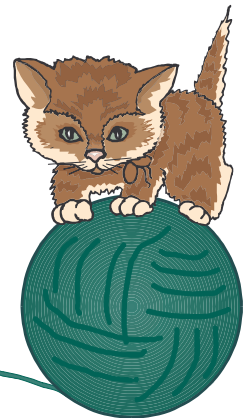
**Date:** Wednesday, November 17

**Time:** 1:00 p.m.

**Place:** St. Joseph, MO (directions will be e-mailed to the RSVP list)

**Cost:** Free

If you would like to attend, please RSVP to [jessica.johnson@purina.com](mailto:jessica.johnson@purina.com) by Monday, November 8th. Directions will be provided after all RSVP’s have been received.



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## 2 – PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Thank you to everyone who attended this year’s Mentor Day. We had an excellent turnout with 50-plus students and mentors participating in the activities. The day began with a tour of the Gear for Sports facility, followed by lunch, and then off to visit places of work. I would especially like to thank Kyle Grabill and Andrea Prouty for coordinating this event! Once again it was a great success!

I would also like to encourage everyone to attend the upcoming tour of Nestlé Purina Pet Care Company. This tour is scheduled for mid-November so you should have plenty of time to make room on your calendar. We have scheduled the time for 1:00pm so that we can see all of the action. We will send out a reminder in early November with additional information. Hope to see you there!

Aaron Cross

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### 3 – UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Projected Program Schedule

November 17 <sup>th</sup> , 2004	Nestlé Purina Tour
December 2004	Joint Meeting with ASQ – Possible St Luke’s (Baldrige Recipient)
January 2005	TBA
February 2005	Annual Conference – ThinkReliability (Root Cause Analysis)
March 2005	TPM Speaker
April 2005	Kansas City Star newspaper facility tour
May 2005	Union Hill Cemetery Community Service workday

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### 4 – MENTOR DAY FOLLOW-UP

A special thank you is given to the IIE mentors and the Gear for Sports team for their participation in Mentor Day on October 7th. Your participation helped make this year’s Mentor Day a huge success. There were 54 in attendance for the tour portion of the day, including 30 students and 24 participants from industry. Furthermore, 12 companies were represented with mentors for the afternoon portion of the day. These companies included the following:

- Robbie Manufacturing
- JCPenney
- Haldex Brake Products Corp.
- Sprint
- Hallmark
- Farmland Foods
- Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas
- Yellow Corporation
- Burns & McDonnell
- Payless
- Cramer
- Missouri Enterprises

Thank you again to all who participated, and remember to sign up to be mentors next year!

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### 5 – MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Region 5      Chapter 92      Membership 121

*Watch for new member profiles in next month’s newsletter!*

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### 6 – WEB LINKS

**Link to the National IIE Home Page:** <http://iienet.org>

**Link for Membership Renewal:** <http://web.iienet.org>

**Link to the Kansas City Chapter Home Page:** [http://www.iienet.org/chapter\\_index.cfm?chapterid=092](http://www.iienet.org/chapter_index.cfm?chapterid=092)

**Link to the Kansas City JEC (Joint Engineers Council) Website:** <http://jec-kc.com>

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## 7 – MONTHLY EXTRA



How Well Do You Know the IIE Officers? Try This Quiz to Find Out!

A – President **Aaron Cross**  
B – President Elect **Keith Johnson**  
C – Treasurer **Jeff Poehls**  
D – Secretary **Robert Stillwell**  
E – Membership Chair **Anita Ranhotra**  
F – Membership Co-Chair **Jessica Johnson**  
G – Newsletter Editor **Jennifer Albers**

H – Distribution Chair **Jay Christensen**  
I – Webmaster **Steve Sturis**  
J – Corporate Relations Chair **Brian McCarthy**  
K – KSU Student Chapter Liaison **Kyle Grabill**  
L – Co-Conference Director **Lori Ashford**  
M – Conference Committee Member **Brian Ward**  
N – Community Affairs Co-Chair **Amy Martens**

- 1) Who has a minor in Japanese?
- 2) This officer collects turtles and has a water garden. Her current job is not traditional IE work—she oversees the Customer Service and Graphics Departments.
- 3) This officer was born in LaCrosse, Wisconsin and is a life-long Green Bay Packers fan. He is currently working on a Masters in Engineering Management from the University of Kansas.
- 4) Who is the father of four children and is a big-time Oklahoma Sooner fan?
- 5) This officer is currently serving as the IIE Vice President for our region. She has been nominated for IIE Senior Vice President of Chapter Networking (elections in December).
- 6) Which officer's first job after college was managing a department of blind men and women that assembled different types of pens?
- 7) In addition to IIE, this officer is actively involved in the Kansas Society of Professional Engineers. She and her husband enjoy ballroom dancing and taking their boat out to go water skiing.
- 8) This officer loves camping and music. She has a puppy, a cat, two turtles, some fish, and no kids.
- 9) This officer was on a team that finished second at the IIE International Simulation Competition in 1998.
- 10) This officer's hobbies are golf, basketball, remodeling, and family time (he and his wife have a 6-year-old daughter and 2-year-old twins: one boy and one girl). He is from Indiana (attended Purdue), and his wife is from California. They love Kansas City!
- 11) This officer spent his early childhood living off the Ivory Coast in Africa.
- 12) Who has been involved, over the last 10 years, in more than 8 full lifecycle ERP system implementations?
- 13) This officer has submitted research papers to international conferences in Spain, China, and New Zealand.
- 14) This officer will be spending 4 days at the beginning of November at a workshop on an oil rig off the coast of China.

*Answers can be found at the end of the newsletter.*



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## 8 – SEALY JOB POSTING

### KAIZEN/LEAN COORDINATOR

Sealy Mattress Company, the world's leading bedding manufacturer, is seeking a manufacturing professional with demonstrated experience in Kaizen/continuous improvement processes to organize, lead and sustain Kaizen programs in its Kansas City, KS plant.

Responsibilities include leading continuous improvement activities for the entire plant, assisting management in establishing objectives for kaizen events, preparing for/training/facilitating/implementing/sustaining the efforts of the kaizen teams. Experience with TPS, kaizen events, KanBan, standard work, process mapping, takt time and identifying waste and areas for process improvement are required.

The successful candidate will demonstrate strong oral and written communication skills, an ability to relate to all levels of the organization, a high energy level, and a commitment to the continuous improvement

process. A BS Degree in Industrial Engineering or equivalent is required. Bilingual in Spanish preferred. Local candidates will receive preference.

Send resumes with cover letter and salary history to Sealy Mattress Company, 1030 E. Fabyan Pkwy. Batavia, IL 60510 fax 630-425-14288. EEO m/f/v/d

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## 9 – OFFICER LISTING

**President – Aaron Cross**, ThinkReliability, 8830 Horton, Overland Park, KS 66207 (913) 825-1337 or (913) 481-9949, [aaron\\_d\\_cross@yahoo.com](mailto:aaron_d_cross@yahoo.com)

**President Elect – Keith Johnson**, Hallmark Cards, 240 Madison, Topeka, KS 66607 (785) 233-3241, [kjohns7@hallmark.com](mailto:kjohns7@hallmark.com)

**Treasurer- Jeff Poehls**, Farmland, 13104 W 76<sup>th</sup> St., Lenexa, KS 66216 (913) 268-7881, [ripoehls@farmland.com](mailto:ripoehls@farmland.com)

**Secretary – Robert Stillwell**, Burns & McDonnell, 9400 Ward Pkwy, Kansas City, MO 64114 (816) 822-3449, [rstillwell@burnsmcd.com](mailto:rstillwell@burnsmcd.com)

**Membership Chair – Anita Ranhotra**, Hallmark Cards, 450 Eisenhower Road, Leavenworth, KS 66048 (913) 727-6692 x489, fax (913) 702-1543, [aranho2@hallmark.com](mailto:aranho2@hallmark.com)

**Membership Co-Chair – Jessica Johnson**, Nestle Purina PetCare, 3216 B N Woodbine, St. Joseph, MO 64506 (816) 396-2173, [jessica.johnson@purina.com](mailto:jessica.johnson@purina.com)

**Newsletter Editor – Jennifer Albers**, Yellow Freight, 21725 W. 56<sup>th</sup> Street, Shawnee, KS 66218 (913) 441-8527, [jennifer.albers@yellowcorp.com](mailto:jennifer.albers@yellowcorp.com)

**Distribution – Jay Christensen**, JCPenney, 10500 Lackman Rd, Lenexa, KS 66219 (913) 541-2324, [kjchrist@jcpenney.com](mailto:kjchrist@jcpenney.com)

**Webmaster – Steven Sturis**, Sprint, 8830 Horton, Overland Park, KS 66207 (913) 383-3187, [sturis1@hotmail.com](mailto:sturis1@hotmail.com)

**Corporate Relations – Brian McCarthy**, Missouri Enterprise, 1575 Universal Ave Lakeside Plaza Suite 130, Kansas City, MO 64120 (816) 482-1176, fax (816) 482-1191, [bmccarthy@mebac.umn.edu](mailto:bmccarthy@mebac.umn.edu)

**Student Chapter Liaison (KSU) – Kyle Grabill**, 812 Goodrich, Manhattan, KS 66502 (913) 636-2991, [kdgrabill@yahoo.com](mailto:kdgrabill@yahoo.com)

**Student Chapter Liaison (MU) – Andrea Prouty**, Protiviti, 7200 W. 132<sup>nd</sup> St, Suite 180, Overland Park, KS 66213 (913) 685-6250, [andrea.prouty@protiviti.com](mailto:andrea.prouty@protiviti.com)

**Conference Director – Brandy Collins**, Sprint, 6100 Sprint Parkway, Overland Park, KS 66251 MS: KSOPHK0214-2B558 (913) 315-4285, fax (913)315-3929, [brandy.l.collins@mail.sprint.com](mailto:brandy.l.collins@mail.sprint.com)

**Co-Conference Director – Lori Ashford**, Robbie Manufacturing, 10810 Mid America Ave, Lenexa, KS 66219 (913) 492-3400, fax (913) 492-1543, [loria@robbiemfg.com](mailto:loria@robbiemfg.com)

**Conference Committee – Brian Ward**, Suite 700, 114 W. 11<sup>th</sup> St., Kansas City, MO 64105 (816) 559-0632, [brian.ward@marketsphere.com](mailto:brian.ward@marketsphere.com)

**Community Affairs Co-Chair – Beth Kelley**, Hallmark Cards, 450 Eisenhower Road, Leavenworth, KS 66048 (913) 727-6692 x323, fax (913) 727-2423, [bkelle1@hallmark.com](mailto:bkelle1@hallmark.com)

**Community Affairs Co-Chair – Amy Martens, P.E.** – Blue Cross Blue Shield of KS, 1133 SW Topeka Blvd, Topeka, KS 66629 (785) 291-7610, fax (785) 290-0801, [amy.martens@bcbsks.com](mailto:amy.martens@bcbsks.com)

**JEC Rep. – Gary Hanson**, Honeywell FMT, 2000 E 95<sup>th</sup> St, Kansas City, MO 64131 (816) 997-5563, fax (816) 997-5649, [ghanson@kcp.com](mailto:ghanson@kcp.com)

**Board Members -**  
**Bill Czeschin**, (816)796-6231, [czeschin@msn.com](mailto:czeschin@msn.com)  
**Quarterman Lee**, (816) 931-1414, [qlee@strategosinc.com](mailto:qlee@strategosinc.com)  
**Bill Wrennall**, (913)681-8435, [wrennall@tlgltd.com](mailto:wrennall@tlgltd.com)



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Quiz Answers: 1 – H, 2 – L, 3 – J, 4 – D, 5 – E, 6 – G, 7 – N, 8 – F, 9 – B, 10 – C, 11 – I, 12 – M, 13 – K, 14 – A

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