



CONNECTION

Greater Kansas City Chapter #92

October 2003

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1 – OCTOBER MEETING – October 23rd is Student Mentor Day!!!!!!!

Fall is here! Time for school, football, and the annual Student Mentor Day! The Greater Kansas City IIE Chapter hosts this event each year for students from Kansas State University and the University of Missouri.



This year, Mentor Day will be held on Thursday, October 23rd beginning at 9:00 am with a tour of Haldex in Blue Springs, Missouri. Haldex is the world leader in automatic brake adjuster (ABA) production for the heavy truck industry. Fifty-five percent of the North American market for ABA's is served out of the Haldex Blue Spring's location. This facility has 60,000 square feet of manufacturing space and 10,000 square feet of office space. They employ 180 people and operate 24 hours a day 5 days a week with some overtime on the weekends. Haldex also serves the heavy truck industry and the automotive industry with products produced at other Haldex facilities throughout the world. At Haldex, Industrial Engineers are involved in process/capability improvement projects, safety improvement, productivity improvement, and implementing "Haldex Way" (Lean Manufacturing) concepts.

During our visit to Haldex, we will learn about the company, their products, and the “Haldex Way” activities in progress. The facility tour will consist of visits to their Primary Machining area, Wormshaft Production area, Assembly area, and Engineering/Test Lab. We will see automated rotary transfer machining centers, automated coordinate measuring machines, automated two axis lathes, as well as the assembly process. The tour will last approximately two hours.

After the tour, we will gather for lunch at Zarda Barbeque in Blue Springs with the other mentors and students. In the afternoon, students will accompany their assigned mentors to their workplace to learn about the mentors’ companies and careers.

Our chapter’s Mentor Day is always a very popular event, and a unique event to IIE. The success of this event depends on YOU, and we encourage you to participate this year. If you would be able to host one to two students for this year’s Mentor Day, please let us know by **October 15**. Contact Rachel Dubbert at 913-727-6692 x458, email rdubbe2@hallmark.com to submit your name and company. Details will be sent out the week before Mentor Day.

Thank you! We look forward to seeing you all on October 23rd!

2 – PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Many other Kansas City engineering-related societies support high schools, grade schools, or colleges in some way. Besides raising money for scholarships, **Mentor Day** is how IIE supports students. The time commitment is only a few hours and is much appreciated and well remembered by the students. I participated in this event as a student, and recall that it was an important step in learning about the “real world”. Meeting older professionals and seeing what they did helped me decide what I wanted to do as a graduate. Please consider participating in this program by hosting some students. Please contact Rachel Dubbert if you are interested in being a Mentor. She has been working diligently to match mentors, plan lunch and the tour at Haldex.

Last month’s event was a recruitment happy hour held at Fox and Hound in Overland Park. It drew nearly 50 local engineers together for a “Meet and Greet” social. People from all different professions came to learn more about IIE, and to meet fellow IEs. Ten door prizes of \$35 off a one-year membership were given away to prospective members, courtesy of our chapter. We welcome the new members that have joined because of this event. They are helping us to achieve our goal to increase membership by 15%. We obtained the money to fund this through a National grant. The KC chapter was one of the first three chapters to receive this grant. Thanks again to all that participated in this event.

Sincerely,

Brandy L. Collins

3 – PREVIEW OF NOVEMBER’S MEETING - Joint meeting with SME on November 4th

Join us for the first Tuesday in November for a joint meeting with the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME). The program is being presented by ProPlanner. They have a comprehensive Internet/Intranet-based Manufacturing Process Engineering and Management system.



Proplanner can help Process Engineers create and manage their most common information. This seminar is very IE-related. It consists of a social hour starting at 6:00pm and dinner following with a speaker. Mark it down on your calendars! More details will follow in the November Newsletter.

4 – UPCOMING EVENTS

Tentative Schedule of Events

- October 23rd - Mentor Day
- November 4th - Dinner Meeting: Joint meeting with SME
- December 9th - Associated Wholesale Grocers Tour
- January - Dinner Meeting: Joint meeting with ASQ
- February - Tour TBD
- March - Annual Conference – Six Sigma
- April - Tour: Robbie Manufacturing, Topic: Strategic Planning
- May - Community Service Project – Union Hill Cemetery
- May - Tour TBD Topeka or Lawrence area

5 – KC150 PROJECT UPDATE

In 1999, IIE received a \$5,000 grant from the KC150 Project (celebrating Kansas City’s 150th anniversary) to be used to assist the Union Cemetery Historical Society with various needs, especially repairing gravestones and planting trees. IIE has been helping the Historical Society with different projects they have requested for the past five years. \$889.62 of the grant money remains. Following is an update on how the funds have been used and what IIE has provided in volunteer efforts, as well as potential future activities:

Funds

5,000.00	KC150 Project	01/01/1999	Grant Money
(2,171.42)	Misc. Expenses	03/31/2000	Included restoration reference guides, measuring wheel, landscaping, and tools.
(1,442.81)	Earl May	04/23/2002	Trees and planting
(20.14)	K-Mart	05/01/2002	Workday expenses
(70.00)	Historical Society	05/09/2002	Workday expenses (food)
(14.34)	Kinkos	07/23/2002	Copying (laminating) cleaning instructions
(267.44)	MJ Harden	May, 2003	Aerial photo and digital file for jogging trail and map
(77.63)	Target	May, 2003	Cleaning supplies for tombstone experiment
(46.60)	Pizza Hut, Price Chopper	May, 2003	Pizza and bottled water for workers
889.62	Remaining in Our Fund September, 2003		

Volunteer Efforts

IIE’s volunteer efforts have included several spring workdays and associated individual efforts since 1999. Among other things, IIE has provided restoration references, research, cleaning instructions, and cleaning materials. Workdays have involved tombstone cleaning, clean-up after a storm, and, recently, an experiment to test different types of cleaners. The most significant ongoing project at this time is work on a map and jogging trail.

Future Possibilities – will depend on what the cemetery requests

- Purchase markers for the jogging trails.
- Replace the cemetery’s current index card filing system with an Access database.
- Purchase a reduced-cost computer.
- Pull files off old disks.
- Provide additional cleaning help.
- Purchase more trees.
- Identify and prioritize tombstones that need to be reset.
- Purchase a digital camera.

6 – MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Chapter 92 Region 5 Membership 115

Welcome new members! Artimus Hart and Lisa Mattis

Artimus Hart - Artimus is the Engineering Manager at Hallmark Cards' Liberty Distribution Center. He is an IE graduate from Florida A&M University and has been living in the Kansas City area for 7 years, after moving here from Atlanta. Artimus is also currently working on his MBA at Webster University. His wife, Stephanie, is a Plant Manager for Nestle/Purina and they have 27-month-old baby girl, Sidney, who certainly keeps them on their toes! In his free time, Artimus enjoys participating in sports - baseball, football, basketball, etc.; reading; and listening to music.

Lisa Mattis - Lisa is a Systems Analyst with Xerox Corporation. She has been with Xerox since July 1999 and describes her position as technical sales support; she supports the high volume production publishing systems. Lisa received her IE degree from the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, SD in 1995 and her MBA from Baker University in 2003. Prior to joining Xerox, Lisa was a Senior Engineer at the Walsworth Publishing Company in Marceline, MO.

7 – NEWS FROM HEADQUARTERS

1. Know How to Install a WMS

How NOT to install a warehouse management system -- Installing a warehouse management system does not guarantee success. One vendor of barcode inventory systems warns that there are many pitfalls. To help you learn from others, the company looks at the 10 most common mistakes found when implementing a WMS and offers some solutions.

For the top mistakes and their solutions, see the IIE Web site at <http://www.iienet.org>.

2. Get Federal Funds for Your Business

Tour to tell how to get federal money --

An eight-day bus tour of the Northwest will inform researchers and business owners about more than \$1.6 billion that's available to small technology and research companies.

Members of several federal agencies plan to meet with business owners, scientists, and researchers Sept. 18-25 to discuss funding from the Small Business Innovation Research and Small Business Technology Transfer programs.

8 – INTERESTING WEBSITES

[EEVL: The Internet Guide to Engineering, Mathematics and Computing](#)

Excellent university- sponsored resource for serious researchers.

9 – JEC INFORMATION

American Production and Inventory Control Society (APICS) Meeting

Topic: "Pull Signals: Design, Implementation and Continuous Improvement"

Date: October 30th

Time: 6:30pm-8:30pm

Location: Delaware Café

For more information, go to www.apics-kc.org or email programs@apics-kc.org.



10 – OFFICER LISTING

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