

The Probe

ISA—The Instrumentation, Systems, and Automation Society



Western Carolinas Section, Greenville, South Carolina

Serving Instrumentation Professionals in the Carolinas since 1952

September 2001

President's Corner

By Richard D. Secoolish

At a recent board meeting of our section board members, someone used the expression "Bell the Cat". I was forced to admit that in all my travels around the world, I had never heard the expression. As the story is told, a group of mice had met to determine what should be done about the cat. One mouse suggested that a bell be tied around the cat's neck to act as an early warning system. The only problem was: who among them would "bell the cat?"

I understand that "belling the cat" is a common expression in certain circles to express the idea of "getting the job done."

I must say, the way the board members have been working, we are truly belling the cat. We are working on many so many innovations and new offerings that unless you have been around our section meetings lately, you may not recognize us. For example:

- A donation of \$5,000 to Clemson at our last meeting, which resulted in, two articles in local newspapers. When is the last time you read your local newspaper and saw the name ISA?
- Starting in November we will be changing locations. Our 11/12/01 meeting will be at the Greenville Technical College in the Engineering Technology building. Not only will this be a significant cost reduction to our section, but also it is a step forward toward forming a student section.
- Starting at the September meeting, we will be recognizing those members that have qualified for lifetime membership status.
- Have you checked out our website lately? Yes, it has been up and running for nearly six months.

There is more—lots more to come—and you can help, by volunteering to take a position on the board or by supporting our monthly meetings and events and offering us your input. We are growing; we are changing and we hope you come along for the ride.

September Meeting

Subject: Toxic Gas Monitoring

Date: September 24, 2001

Time: 6:00PM Social; 6:30PM Dinner; 7:00PM Presentation.

Location: The Marriott (off Pelham Road and I85)

Speaker: Brent Kleven, Director of Sales & Marketing, Advanced Calibration Designs (ACD)

Speaker Bio:

B.S. in Chemical Engineering, Oregon State University; GasTech—Calibration Laboratory Supervisor, Production Engineer & Applications Engineer; Rice Safety—Technical Products Manager dealing with gas detection, respiratory, heat stress monitoring & sound level monitoring; Biosystems—West Coast Regional Manager, responsible for gas detection and SCBA testing equipment; Currently Director of Sales & Marketing with Advanced Calibration Designs (ACD) responsible for the North American territories.

Presentation Overview:

Brent will discuss common applications and gases detected, as well as the different methods of detection (fixed versus portable as well as electrochemical, IR, PID, FID, colorimetric, etc.). Additionally, detection levels, threshold limit values (TLV's), time weighted averages (TWA's) and short-term exposure limits (STEL's) and immediately dangerous to life & health (IDLH) levels will be discussed.

RSVP to: Norton Cater: 864-627-3630

Don't Forget to Attend the Next Meeting!!

In Memory

We note with sorrow the death of Stuart Hitner, owner of Controls Supply Company, and a long-time supporter and past president of Western Carolinas I SA. Stuart was a former pilot for Daniel Construction Company. He was a member of the Experimental Aircraft Association; IPTAY; and I SA. His wife and son survive him. A memorial service was held July 11, 2001, and memorials may be made to St. Francis Episcopal Church, 506 Edwards Road, Greenville, SC 29615

Upcoming 2001 WESCA Program

Looking ahead, the tentative speaker for the November 12, 2001 Program meeting will be Don Floyd of Porvair Fuel Cell Technologies, Hendersonville. Don's presentation will deal with the basics of fuel cell operation, measurement and control of the process, present and proposed applications. This should be a timely and interesting program!

Classified Ads

Wanted—In search of ISA WESCA members that are interested in participating as officers as the section grows. Respond to any of the current board members with your interest.

2001/2002 Section Officers

President:

Richard Secoolish
NSI, Neal Systems Inc.
1505 Heather Glen Road
Kannapolis, NC 28081
Email: roads@mindspring.com
Phone: Toll Free 1 877- 632-5797, local 704 938-8703

Vice President and Program Chairman:

Vacant

Membership:

Roy A. Simmons
Spectrum Engineering Services, Inc.
7001 Pelham Road Suite K
Greenville, SC 29615
Email: rsimmons@spectrum.cncoffice.com
Phone: 864-289-0431

Newsletter Editor and Webmaster:

Lawrence P. Ditton
Duke Power Co.
Mail Code ON01MA
7800 Rochester Highway
Seneca, SC 29672
Email: lpditton@member.isa.com
Phone: 864-885-3867

Secretary:

Daniel Flynn, P.E.
Megaflex, Inc.
72 Castellan Drive
Greenville, SC 29650
Email: megaflex@bellsouth.net
Phone: 864-627-7712

Treasurer:

Steve White
James C White Company
PO Box 5461
Greenville, SC 29606
Email: jcwtubetrack@worldnet.att.net
Phone: 864-288-4692

Historian:

Norton E. Cater, P.E.
Robert S. Hudgins Co.
1200 Woodruff Road
Bldg. A-3
Greenville, SC 29607-5732
Email: NortonCater@RSHudgins.com
Phone: 864 627-3630

**Visit our Website at:
<http://www.isa.org/~wesca>**

The Instrumentation, Systems, and Automation Society
Western Carolinas Section
PO Box 16302
Greenville, SC 29606

First
Class
Postage

September Meeting
Date: Monday, September 24, 2001
Time: 6:00PM Social; 6:30PM Dinner; 7:00PM-8:00PM Presentation.
Location: The Marriott (off Pellam Road and 185)
Speaker: Brett Kleven
Subject: Toxic Gas Monitoring
RSVP: Norton Cater: 864-627-3630