

March 2010



The Engineers' Extra



P.O. Box 1268, Raleigh, NC 27602
RaleighEngineersClub@gmail.com

The Raleigh Engineer's Club (REC) has been in existence since 1926. The club seeks to promote the Engineering field through monthly technical meetings and support of those pursuing a future in the Engineering discipline. Our members have a diverse background of engineering disciplines and represent several companies located in the Raleigh area.

Next Meeting: Monday, March 15
RSVP Requested

President's Message



North Carolina has been recognized nationally when our kids from Davidson IB Middle School near Charlotte won the National Future City competition in Washington DC recently. This is the first time since the North Carolina competition has been formed that a NC school has even placed. We are all very proud

of these students.

Recently, the Professional Engineers of North Carolina did a poll to see how employment was fairing for our NC engineers. Of over 1700 respondents, forty percent said they were underemployed, meaning their salaries have been reduced, hours reduced, and/or benefits cut. We can never underestimate the value of networking and keeping yourself informed of the technology and business climate around you. We hope we can continue to offer you these values and opportunities.

Sarah Puffer has become our new treasurer effective immediately. Sarah is current employed at Progress Energy in the Substation Engineering Unit. She previously worked at Withers and Ravenel before joining Progress Energy and she is a registered professional engineer in North Carolina. We would like to see more involvement from members. If you have an interest in developing a web site, assembling the newsletter, or helping in any way, please let us know.



Upcoming March 15, 2010 Meeting 11:30am



North Carolina's High Speed Rail funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

with

Patrick B. Simmons,
Director, Rail Division, NCDOT

We've talked about this program and now it's here. The U.S. Department of Transportation designated Charlotte to Washington, D.C. as a high-speed rail corridor in 1992. In 1998, High Speed Rail Corridor was expanded south to Macon, Georgia and to Jacksonville, Florida. North Carolina, Virginia, South Carolina and Georgia partnered to form a four-state coalition to develop the Southeast High Speed Rail Corridor to provide frequent, reliable passenger trains that can travel at top speeds of 90 -110 miles per hour, and an average speed of 86 mph. This program will give us an in-depth look at this project.

Mr. Simmons is a graduate of New Hanover High School (1970), Cape Fear Community College (1970, Marine Technology) and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington (1976, BA in Psychology and BS in Marine Biology) and has completed graduate work in public administration at Louisiana State University.

This meeting will provide 1 PDH credit.

The meeting will be held in the Cardinal Club (on the 28th floor of the Wachovia Building Downtown).

Lunch

The cost of the Buffet lunch, including beverages, taxes and tip is **\$19** (desserts are \$4 extra) **Make every effort to be there at 11:30AM to sign in and get your badge.**

Remit your cash or check lunch payment at the meeting to Sarah Puffer. Checks are payable to the Raleigh Engineers' Club.

Note: Cardinal Club dress code requires business casual attire as a minimum (i.e. dress slacks, collared golf/polo shirt and dress shoes).

Downtown Parking

The most convenient parking deck is located on Wilmington Street across Fayetteville Street from the Wachovia Building. The deck is located between Hargett and Morgan Streets with entrance on the Wilmington Street side.

RSVP Requested Meeting organizers request that you notify us at least 2 business days in advance if you plan to attend a meeting to insure we have sufficient seating. Please RSVP to: RaleighEngineersClub@gmail.com or contact one of the Club officers (listed in this newsletter). Please list guest names so nametags can be pre-printed.

Join the Raleigh Engineers Club!

It only costs \$35 per year and the meeting costs are lower than any club providing meals! Our goal is to provide great programs to its members, offer licensed members an opportunity for continuing education credits, and award an annual scholarship to a deserving graduating Raleigh area high school senior choosing engineering as a career. Membership is available to anyone working in support of the engineering profession. You do not have to be an engineer. Contact an officer for an application or email us at raleighengineersclub@gmail.com today!

February Meeting Activities



Last month, Dr. Peter Mente of the Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering - NC State University and UNC Chapel Hill gave us an overview of the UNC Chapel-Hill and NC State Joint Department of Biomedical Engineering and their studies of impact injuries and osteoarthritis, an engineering approach. It was interesting to note there has been really no strength of materials studies on organic tissues. These studies have relevance not only in determining how impact cause tissue death, but on the marriage of prosthetics and human tissue. He presented an engineering approach to the analysis and mechanics of living tissue.

Upcoming Programs 2010

- April 19 - Turnpike Authority Projects
- May 17 - Waste Water Plant Project or NCSU FREEDM Project

All suggestions are welcome.

Club Officers: President/Secretary: Bob Via 546-7487; Treasurer: Sarah Puffer 546-7661; Director and Scholarships: Mike Anthony 546-5690; Directors and Program Assistance: Lee Adams 546-6409; David Koepnick 546-7435; and Bryan Guy 546-4107; Photographer: Harvey Horne.