

January 1991

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# Newsletter

## January ASME Dinner Meeting:

### THE UC-BERKELEY HUMAN-POWERED VEHICLE (RACER)

**Date:** Tuesday, January 29, 1991

**Time:** 6:00 p.m., No-host Social Hour  
7:00 p.m., Dinner  
8:00 p.m., Program

**Place:** UC Faculty Club, Berkeley  
Approximately 100 yards SE of Sather Tower (the Campanile)

**Cost:** Members \$16  
Students 8  
Others 18

**Entree:** Grilled chicken in a red bell pepper sauce  
Vegetarian entree (request when rsvp)

**RSVP:** Teresa Peterson (415) 577-7121  
prior to noon January 28

Team leader Allen Flanigan and other ASME Student Section members will display the *Concept-Z*, a semi-recumbent human-powered bicycle racer.

Last year the *Concept-Z* placed first in ASME Region IX competition and second in the International Human-Powered Speed Championships held in Portland, Oregon. At a top speed of 52.3 mph, the UC-Berkeley team was surpassed only by the current world-record holder.

Allen and his team will tell us about the experience of building and racing the *Concept-Z*. The *Concept-Z* will be on display.

Come hear these talented students as they discuss plans to capture the world record in this year's competition. Support their bid for world-champion status by providing suggestions to improve the *Concept-Z*'s performance. Come join your peers in support of the future of our profession, the young men and women of the next generation of mechanical engineers.

### The William J. and Marijane E. Adams, Jr. Scholarship

One award of \$1,000 will be given to a student having declared a mechanical engineering major, is enrolled in an ABET accredited mechanical engineering program in a college or university in ASME Region IX Pacific and who is beyond the first year of study towards her/his degree. Eligible students should have a special interest in product development and design. Applying students should send a less-than-2-page letter requesting the award, stating how the money will be spent, outlining their need for aid, and telling of their interest in product development and design to: The William J. and Marijane E. Adams, Jr. Scholarship, c/o The ASME Foundation, 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017. The student's college dean or department chairperson should send a brief letter corroborating the student's declared major, GPA (2.5 minimum) and need for financial aid and ABET accreditation of the mechanical engineering program. Applications and supporting letters must be in the office of the ASME Foundation prior to 5 p.m. 31 May 1991.

### MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Chrysler Corp. Chairman Lee Iacocca, in a recent address to the Commonwealth Club of California, stated:

"In Japan they graduate ten engineers for every lawyer. In this country we graduate ten lawyers for every engineer. You can remember that line, that's accurate."

Iacocca considers this among the many factors responsible for the decrease in United States industrial competitiveness over the last ten years. He cited today's poor basic science and math education as harbingers of an even greater shortage of engineers and a gloomier future.

The author of an editorial letter provided counterpoise to the notion of an engineering shortage. The author, in support of his theses, cited meager pay raises and rising unemployment among older engineers combined with decreases in the number of job offers to new graduates.

These observations bring many questions. If engineers are scarce, why are so many employed in the performance of largely non-engineering tasks? Why aren't salaries higher and unemployment lower? If engineers aren't scarce, why are so many engineers inundated with work and pressured to complete projects within unreasonable time constraints? The results are overlooked details, incomplete projects, burnout, and departures from the profession. Are many American companies unable, or simply unwilling, to pay for the engineering talent required to produce competitive products? If engineers are scarce, how can companies best use this scarce resource and help engineers to deliver their best possible work over the long term and reward engineers commensurate with their value?

Engineering accomplishments (and some failures) have brought great changes to the society we live in. In some ways engineering education and the engineering profession have kept up, in some ways they haven't. National Society of Professional Engineers President Neil Norman is leading the effort of taking a new and thorough look at how the engineering profession operates. One possible result? Neil Norman envisions a much different model of engineering teaching and practice.

What are your thoughts? Please share your ideas in this newsletter. Add your voice to a section roundtable meeting. Please let us know of your interest!

Eric Worrell, San Francisco Section Chairperson

### Passed: Eric August Salo, PE

ASME member Eric Salo passed October 6, 1990 at the age of 84. A native of Rochester, New York, Eric received his BSEE and MSME from New York University. After working for Consolidated Engineering, Combustion Engineering and the New York State Electric and Gas Company, Eric moved to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1949 and settled in San Lorenzo in 1950. Eric retired from the Pacific Gas and Electric Company as an operations engineer in 1972.

Eric held patents on 13 inventions in a number of fields. These included a mooring device for oil tankers, a mechanism for measuring air pollution from flying light sensors, and a system to stop saltwater from flowing into the Sacramento/San Joaquin Delta. The ERYX Corporation of San Lorenzo, which Eric founded in 1963 and directed, continues to develop these patents.

In addition to ASME, Eric Salo held membership in the California, New York and National Societies of Professional Engineers, the Pacific Coast Electrical Association, the American Society for Testing and Materials, and the Air and Waste Management Association. He was also active with the Engineers Club of San Francisco, the Hayward Chess Club, the Oakland Pistol Club and the Oakland Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

### Items of Interest

**The Williston Award** is presented annually by ASME to the student engineer or recent graduate who authors the best acceptable paper in the area of civic service. The topic for the 1991 contest is *Issues in Waster Generation, Elimination and Disposal*.

Submit papers to: ASME General Awards Committee, 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017. Phone: 212/ 705-7735.

**The Silicon Valley Engineering Council** presents its 1991 Engineers Week Banquet and Engineering Hall of Fame Awards Thursday 21 February 1991 at the Fairmont Hotel in San Jose.

Keynoter Mark J. Albrecht, Executive Secretary, National Space Council will speak on *The Direction of the U.S. Space Program*.

For more information: Gilbert Wang 408/ 742-9123  
Matt Weber 408/ 432-8763



Paul E. Lego  
Chairman and CEO  
Westinghouse  
Electric Corporation  
Honorary Chairman  
National Engineers  
Week 1991

*"Young Americans interested in helping protect our environment should consider careers in engineering. I hope you will join me in taking this message to classrooms during National Engineers Week."*

During National Engineers Week, February 17-23, 1991, thousands of engineers will participate in **Discover"E**, the only national teach-in of its kind designed to help students discover the excitement of engineering. This year's **Discover"E** program focuses on engineering and the environment. National Engineers Week sponsors ask you to help teach a science or math class at a local school or to initiate some other student program.

Through **Discover"E**, you can motivate today's students to become tomorrow's engineers. For information on how to participate in National Engineers Week and **Discover"E**, contact your engineering society chapter or headquarters office.

### National Engineers Week, February 17-23, 1991

#### Sponsors:

Society of Automotive Engineers, Inc., Chair  
American Association of Engineering Societies  
American Consulting Engineers Council  
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Institute of Industrial Engineers  
National Society of Professional Engineers, Founder  
Society of Manufacturing Engineers  
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### National Engineers Week Events February 17 - 23, 1991

**Discover "E"** During National Engineers Week, thousands of engineers will participate in *Discover "E"*, the only national teach-in of its kind, designed to help students discover the excitement of engineering.

For information on how to participate in *Discover "E"*, contact CSPE Golden Gate Chapter Chairperson (SF-ASME Nominating Committee Chairperson) Julia Gee 415/ 768-1234.

**Annual Engineers Week Banquet** Keynote speaker Dr. Chang-lin Tien, Chancellor of UC-Berkeley, will address the 1991 Engineers Week Banquet on Thursday evening, February 21, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, 5 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco. The highlight of the evening will be the award of scholarships to outstanding Bay Area high school seniors who plan to pursue a career in engineering.

For further information, contact Banquet Chairperson Martin Horstmeyer 415/ 973-4340.

### San Francisco Section Officers and Committee Chairpersons for 1990-91

Chairperson	Eric E. Worrell, PE	B(415)689-4579	H(415)689-4579	
Vice Chairperson	Dennis K. Lieu PhD	B(415) 642-4014		
Treasurer	Don Moseman	B(415) 973-9721	H(415)583-6815	
Secretary	Robert B. Raos, PE	B(415) 357-4610x2576	H(415) 531-8652	Fax(415) 577-7283
Member-at-Large	Kevin J. Yurica, PE	B(707) 648-5712	H(415) 528-4238	Fax(707) 648-5750

### COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

Program	Richard J. Myhre, PE	B(415) 444-8707	H(415)453-9872	Fax(415) 444-2072
Membership Dvmnt	Norman Aiello	B(415) 357-4610x2453	H(415) 430-0780	Fax(415) 577-7283
Member Interests	Alok Kumar, PE	B(415) 557-3312	H(415) 589-7382	
Government Relations	Willard A. Nott, PE	B(408) 743-2350	H(415) 881-5035	Fax(408) 742-2461 (Call)
College Relations	Nance C. Munro, PE	B(415) 973-2695	H(415) 536-2541	Fax(415) 874-2443
Industrial Relations	Joseph M. Sutton, PE	B(415) 973-3388	H(415) 668-9686	Fax(415) 972-9431
Honors & Awards	Lynden F. Davis, PE	B(415) 768-0630	H(415) 525-7418	
History & Heritage	Bruce Nyhuis, PE	B(707) 646-4371	H(707) 747-5740	Fax(707) 646-4513
Nominating	Julia A. Gee, PE	B(415) 768-1234	H(415) 526-2722	
Prof. Prac./Ethics	Prof. Ralph G. Davis	B(707) 648-4270		
Technical Activities	Charlie Howard			

### OTHER SECTION CHAIRPERSONS

Mt. Diablo	Vince Dilworth, PE	B(415) 876-3449	H(415) 830-2732	
Sacramento-Sierra N	Christine C. Fallon	B(209) 942-1498	H(916) 637-4048	Fax(209) 942-1761
San Mateo	Mehmet Evizi	B(415) 361-2347	H(415) 349-2052	Fax(415) 361-7667
Santa Clara Valley	Stephen K. Magie, PE	B(408) 284-3077	H(408) 281-1280	