

Polymer Valley News



The Newsletter of the Akron Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers
Our 65th Year of Education and Service to the Plastics Industry

~ Next Session ~

Tuesday, February 28, 2023
5:30 p.m.

Virtual

TO REGISTER (FREE):

speclecomm@gmail.com

Sustainability: Challenges Incorporating Recyclate

In this webinar we will:

- Define the language surrounding sustainability and plastics.
- Take a look at a variety of approaches to sustainability.
- Discuss the challenges with incorporating recyclate into a successful product.

Newsletter Contents

Meeting registration link	1
Meeting information and Speaker	2
Join the Board	2
President's Message	3
SPE National links of interest	3
Advertiser index	4
TOPCON sponsors	4
TOPCON Gold – Kuraray America	5
VINYLTEC 2023 Call for Papers	6
Job postings	7
Akron Science Olympiad	8
Membership report	9
Programs for season	10
SPE Communities - The Chain	11
Board Meeting Minutes	13
Akron SPE Past Presidents	15
Akron Section Board Members	16
SPE Education Foundation	17
Advertising order form	18

Meeting Information and Speaker



Melissa Kurtz, Managing Engineer
The Madison Group



Sustainability Challenges Incorporating Recyclate

As of 2019, Global plastics production totaled 368 million metric tons. Over the years plastics have enabled numerous industries. In the automotive industry, plastics play a critical role in safety, performance, and fuel efficiency. Plastic packaging helps to protect and preserve goods, while reducing weight in transportation. The use of single-use plastics in hospitals effectively prevent a considerable number of healthcare-acquired infections every year. But with all their popularity come concerns surrounding end of life. As the desire for sustainable products grows, so does confusion on what sustainability means as well as how to successfully introduce these sustainable materials into products.

Melissa Kurtz is a Managing Engineer at The Madison Group. Melissa holds an M.S. degree in Material Science and Engineering from Wayne State University. She has over 20 years of experience serving the global product development community across several industries including transportation, medical, and consumer products. She is an expert in material selection, test method development and failure analysis. Melissa is passionate about sustainability, especially within the plastics industry, and is eager to educate others on possible solutions and their challenges.

**The Akron Section is in
need of New Board Members.**

**Please consider becoming a
Board Member
to help support your Section.**

**Contact anyone currently
on the board
if you are interested.**

Thank You!

President's Message

Hello fellow SPE members,

On January 10, the Akron Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers, ACCESS and ACS hosted speakers from the Polymer Industry Cluster initiative, who leverage the Northeast Ohio region's unique size and expertise in polymers to drive economic growth and innovation in our region. The Polymer Consortium update was well received and I want to thank Brian Anderson, VP Research, Greater Akron Chamber; Dr. Suzanne Bausch, Vice President for Research and Business Engagement and Dean of the Graduate School, The University of Akron; Alyssa Carpenter, Director of Economic Development, Greater Akron Chamber and Director of Business Development, Team NEO for their informative updates. The event was well attended and a very good question and answer session took place for each speaker session.



The Akron SPE section is continuing to host technical meetings throughout the year. Please see our events later in the newsletter, as we hope to see you there in the future.

We are continuing to look for individuals to join our Akron SPE board. We as a board have continued to bring exciting technical events and engagements for many years. We invite you to join us in exploring the many opportunities to bring an excellent program to our members. We are currently looking for a volunteer to help the board with our "House" position, and for the position of Treasurer for next year. Please contact us if you're interested in joining our organization in a leadership role.

Hope everyone had restful holidays, and look forward to seeing you soon at one of our events.

Best regards,

Joe Mattingly

President, Akron Section
330-208-6913
joe@mattingly.us

SPE National

Please click the following areas of interest:

[Contacts at National](#)

[Member Benefits](#)

[Join SPE](#)

[Akron Section](#)



Advertiser Index

Akrochem	4
David Industrial Sales	11
Dover Chemical	9
Harwick Standard	9
Hilton Inn	10
Kuraray – TopCon Gold Sponsor	5
Performance Additives	12
TSRC	7

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– see page 18 for the order form



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VINYLTEC®

October 10-12, 2023 • Akron, OH

Presented by SPE Vinyl Plastics Division and SPE Akron Section

Call for Papers

SPE's *Vinyl Division* announces a call for papers for the upcoming:

VINYLTEC 2023: “Positioning Vinyl for Tomorrow”

October 10-12, 2023

Hilton Inn, Akron, OH

The Vinyl Division Technical Program Committee is soliciting papers and Keynote Speakers in the following areas:

- **Resin and Additives**
- **Sustainability and Recycling**
- **Megatrends** (Climate Change, Data Analytics & Digital Connectivity, Decentralized Financing, Globalization, Health & Wellness, Populations Shift, Resource Constraints, Social Responsibility, Transparency, Workforce Resilience)
- **Vinyl Industry Association Updates**

Timeline: ASAP! No later than April 30, 2023

Please Contact: TPC Chair, Raechel Sincavage at RSincavage@dow.com with proposed talk title and author

The Akron SPE Section is happy to post local job openings in the plastics industry for 90 days for any member.

Please contact a board member if you are interested in posting.

For current postings, visit <http://www.akronspe.org/job-posting>

Open position: Polymer Testing Manager – Job ID # 13974

https://www.linkedin.com/jobs/view/3440849412/?alternateChannel=search&refId=KCNYvVQ4cweKJTsYL3Yr0A%3D%3D&trackin_gld=mN730SEj9gwBYkAy6b1N8g%3D%3D

Position Summary: Promote, manage and execute the School of Polymer Science and Polymer Engineering's contract testing projects including outreach for clients, quotation of projects, test execution and reporting.

Required Qualifications: Requires a relevant Bachelor's Degree and a minimum of 2 years of experience in analytical services and a minimum of 2 years experience working in the Polymer Science field performing management and accounting functions. Strong communication skills and proper knowledge of related scientific instrumentation required. Ability to perform research and prepare and disseminate information to clients required. Formal application to be done through the following link:

<https://www.uakron.edu/hr/job-openings/openings.dot>



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Akron Regional Science Olympiad



We plan to run Akron Regional Science Olympiad Tournament (Eastern Division) as an In-Person Event on Saturday, March 11, 2023

Please check the Ohio Science Olympiad pages for Registration and Tournament Information:
<https://ohso.osu.edu/>

Registration for Science Olympiad is required and should be completed at the Ohio State Level. Registration is open here: <https://ohso.osu.edu/>

Science Olympiad – Save the Date – Supervisors Needed

The Akron Regional Science Olympiad tournament is Saturday, March 11, 2023, at the University of Akron.

We have many volunteer positions for 2, 3 and 6–7 hour activities, doing timing, test grading, device inspection and logistics. We hope to provide lunch for each volunteer. We will try to provide *personalized signed volunteer-hour certificates for every individual who volunteers.*

Volunteer Registration will start in February. In the meantime, please Save the Date!

We are seeking event supervisors and/or proctors for several events, including *Green Generation, Solar System, Meteorology (We Have A Test)* There may be other opportunities to supervise/proctor.

Supervisors are in charge of their event, including for some events, writing the test.

Science Olympiad is a national science competition for middle school and high school students. On Saturday, March 11, over 600 students from six surrounding counties will come to the University of Akron to compete in 46 contests of science, technology, engineering, and math skills. The University is seeking volunteers for the day to help with supervising events, grading tests, evaluating or timing at constructed device events, score keeping and logistics.

For information, please check this link:

<https://uakron.edu/polymer/agpa-k12outreach/science-olympiad/> *(The volunteer link will go live in late January, 2023).* We'd be delighted to have your help this year.

If you wish to be a supervisor, please send an email to jfellenstein@uakron.edu with your contact information.

If you wish to serve as a supervisor assistant, in preparation for supervising next year, please also let us know.

A summary list of events can be found here: <https://www.soinc.org/bc-events>



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Email: ryan.wright@doverchem.com

Membership Report

The Akron Section currently has 159 members.

Lapsed - 13, Active – 159

2 new members

<u>Month</u>	<u>Active</u>
Jan	--
Feb	
Mar	
Apr	
May	
Jun	
Jul	
Aug	
Sep	
Oct	
Nov	
Dec	

*We are always
welcoming
new members –
invite
someone to a
meeting!*



Programs for 2022/23

- Sep. 20-22 **15th TopCon**
 -- *Hilton Inn Fairlawn - Akron **
- Oct. 13 **Sustainability Rocks, Part 2**
 Helping Molders Tune In to the
 Circular Economy – 8am to 6pm
 -- *Corp. College East - Cleveland **
- Nov. 9-10 **Compounding Conference**
 -- *Huntington Center - Cleveland **
- Nov. 21 **DODE, Dan Gisser**
 Galaxy Restaurant -- *Akron **
- Dec. **No meeting**
 -- *Akron **
- Jan. 10 **ACCESS – Polymer Consortium
 Update**
 Brian Anderson, VP Research
 Greater Akron Chamber
*R.Shea Brewery -- Akron **
- Jan. 23 **M. Holland**
 Debbie Prenatt
 -- *Virtual – Akron and Cleveland **
- Feb. 28 **Sustainability, Madison Group**
 Melissa Kurtz, Managing Engineer
 -- *Virtual - Cleveland **
- Mar. 20 **Magnet Headquarters - Tour**
 -- *Akron **
- Apr. 10 **University of Akron Poster
 Presentations**
Student Led by PESO
 -- *Cleveland **
- May 22 **Akron Section Awards Night**
*Raintree Country Club -- Akron **

*Meetings are joint with Cleveland
 Section with host section denoted by **



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 WELCOMING YOU
 BACK SOON!**

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All your favorite places like Tech Talk and Industry Exchange are still available on SPE’s new and improved platform! In its place, the new SPE Communities site is open now.

Communities are an ideal way to stay connected with your peers to collaborate, share advice, find solutions and build relationships. Participants can interact with other members, subscribe to posts, see who else is online, receive discussion notifications, connect directly to each other via direct messaging and more. All new discussions should be posted in the new location, old discussions will not be brought over. Get in on the discussions or start a conversation –

[Check it out today!](#)

Tech Talk

This is where professionals from around the world discuss the latest technical issues and innovations in range of marketplaces. Put the knowledge and expertise of thousands of plastics professionals to work for you. Ask a question. Or provide an answer. Click here.

For technical polymer questions please use the SPE International forum “Tech Talk”

For local questions please contact the officers at akronspe1@gmail.com

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Board Meeting Minutes – January 9, 2023

Call to Order: In person at PEAC-Univ of Akron. Meeting called to order at 5:30PM.

Joe Mattingly hosted BOD.

Minutes taken by RJ Viereckl- PESO liaison to ASPE- Thank you for help and assistance.

Minutes reviewed from November- passed.

In need of new BOD/Committee members to help fill key positions.

Treasurer- next SPE year.

House- June of this year.

Technical Program 2022/23—Larry Stanek / David Schultz / Sherri Hart

•Jan 10 ---Polymer Cluster- update by Akron Regional Development and University of Akron at R.Shea's was a joint meeting including with ACCESS and ACS Akron.

•Jan 23-Cleve to host Virtual meeting M. Holland Debbie Prenatt to speak on Sustainability and new recycling landscape- hosted by Joe Mattingly- Teams.

•Feb 28- Cleve to host Virtual meeting Madison Group- Melissa Kurtz to speak on Sustainability- hosted by Joe Mattingly- Teams.

•March 20-Cleve to host a Tour of Magnet in Cleveland- Kristy Beynon details being developed.

•April 19- Akron- University of Akron- Student Poster session- RJ Viereckl-PESO Team.

•May- 22- Awards Banquet- Raintree- Akron.

House and Treasurer—Bob Weiler

Bob reports we are set for April and May meetings- looking to have BOD /Committee member handle House this next year.

Bob reports finances are in good standing.

Membership—Kevin Malpass

Kevin will send updated numbers. RJ will double check the student membership progress from Sherri and take action to increase numbers if needed.

Councilor—Dan Jones

There is a zoom meeting end of January Dan will attend and provide updates to BOD.

Student Chapter—RJ Viereckl

Travel award for ANTEC information will be gathered and emailed by RJ ASAP, to get the student funding approval from BOD.

Public Interest / Advertising—Tony Dean

We are up to date on information on website.

Board Meeting Minutes – 1/9 continued

Newsletter—Sherri Makar Hart

No report.

Website / Social Media—Nicole Fraifogl

No report.

National Awards—Keith Pelfrey

No report.

Section Awards—Keith Pelfrey

There will be three Lifetime awards this year all have been notified and will attend.

Education Committee—John Fellenstein

Akron Science fair set for (1/28) also would like volunteers – Joe will send link.

Science Olympiad (3/11) also needs volunteers to judge & proctor, activity is at UAkron.

ACCESS- STEM event set for March 30th, John will not be there but Carin Helfer- ex AGPA to handle SPE as they are requesting an activity table (make & take) for approx. 80 students, would like volunteers to run the table.

Education Foundation—David Schultz/Joe Mattingly

Checks for scholarships are written and will mail soon.

Growth Committee—Kevin Malpass

No report.

Extra activity in 2022 was TPE TOPCON 2022 and this year we are helping Vinyl Div to host VINYLTEC 2023. Planning underway for VINYLTEC 2023- David Schultz Co-Chair with Raechel Sincavage from Dow set for October 10-12 at Hilton –Akron.

2023 VINYLTEC—Bob Weiler

No report.

ACCESS Update

BOD meeting set for Jan 25- Wed at Rubber Div ACS Office.

Old Business

None.

New Business

None.

Meeting Adjourned.

Akron Section Past Presidents

*63 years of
excellence*

1959-1960	Donald F. Siddall	1990-1991	Geraldine R. Stromquist
1960-1961	Milan Krajcik	1991-1992	Spencer Kreiser
1961-1962	Foster J. Young	1992-1993	Robert C. Wegelin
1962-1963	Dickson L. Stoker, III	1993-1994	Anthony F. Dean, Jr.
1963-1964	Edward L. Hillier	1994-1995	Wayne Decamp
1964-1965	John R. Russell	1995-1996	Melanie Stewart
1965-1966	John R. Russell	1996-1997	Kevin Hershfield
1966-1967	Clyde H. Jones	1997-1998	David Schultz
1967-1968	Alan Corry, Jr.	1998-1999	John Raab
1968-1969	Bernard M. Saffian	1999-2000	Gary Taylor
1969-1970	Harold R. Schick	2000-2001	Kevin Malpass
1970-1971	Robert G. Hills	2001-2002	Kenneth L. Sharp
1971-1972	John J. Satterfield	2002-2003	Joseph E. Pfeiffer
1972-1973	Alexis M. Gross	2003-2004	Robert C. Wegelin
1973-1974	Francis J. Maurer	2004-2005	Joseph Mattingly
1974-1975	Leverett A. Anderson, Jr.	2005-2006	Lloyd A. Goettler
1975-1976	Robert M. Hershey	2006-2007	John Woodside
1976-1977	Richard L. Fleshman	2007-2008	Vivian Malpass
1977-1978	David Curtis	2008-2009	Joseph Mattingly
1978-1979	John A. Zelek, Jr.	2009-2010	David A. Katz
1979-1980	Gerald W. Whitnable	2010-2011	Lloyd A. Goettler
1980-1981	Kathleen N. Bechter	2011-2012	David Schultz
1981-1982	Victor E. Giuffrida	2012-2013	Kevin Malpass
1982-1983	James Steiner	2013-2014	Dan Jones
1983-1984	Robert G. Hills	2014-2015	Vivian Malpass
1984-1985	Anthony F. Dean, Jr.	2015-2016	Keith Pelfrey
1985-1986	Gene Buser	2016-2017	Robert Weiler
1986-1987	Harry J. Barth	2017-2018	Tom McQuaide
1987-1988	Judith A. Fallon	2018-2019	Nicole Fraifogl
1988-1989	William E. Tosko	2019-2020	Larry Stanek
1989-1990	Robert C. Wegelin	2020-2021	Larry Stanek
		2021-2022	Joseph Mattingly

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RJ Viereckl <i>Student - U Akron Polymer Eng</i> 630-687-0958 T rjv28@uakron.edu	Director, Student Chapter SPE Liaison		

Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers Educational Foundation



06-22

The Akron Society of Plastics Engineers Educational Foundation operates exclusively for the benefit of and to carry out the purposes of the Akron Section of the Society of Plastics Engineers, which is to promote scientific and engineering knowledge relating to plastics by making educational scholarship grants to deserving students in the field of plastics engineering and related subjects. The Organization is supported primarily by contributions from the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers, the Society's individual members and corporations like yours affiliated with the polymer industry.

Since the inception in 1983, the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers Educational Foundation has grown to its current position through the hard work of many volunteers and the generosity of the local business community. Over the nearly forty years that the foundation has been in existence, it has provided over 300 scholarships to young men and women totaling in excess of \$441,000 to assist them in furthering their careers in the polymer industry.

Our goal is to continue to grow the assets of the Foundation in order to increase the number of scholarships awarded, as well as the size of the awards, and to do so in perpetuity. In doing this, we hope to be able to contribute to the supply of well-trained individuals to support the growth of the polymer industry in the Northeast Ohio area today and well into the future.

When the Foundation began its fund raising activities in 1983, we offered those companies who contributed a substantial donation, a perpetual annual scholarship in their name. To date we have four named scholarships, Newell/Rubbermaid, Goodyear, Ken Sharp Memorial and Jim Steiner Memorial scholarships. We are asking your company to help with the growth of well-trained individuals in the local polymer industry. Please print this page, fill out the information and mail it to David Schultz, 610 Berkshire Drive, Medina, Ohio 44256.

Akron SPE Scholarship Donation Commitment

- \$50,000 lump sum
- \$10,000/yr. next 5 yrs.
- \$6,250/yr. next 8 yrs.
- Other: _____

Company name: _____

Contact person: _____

Ph. # or email: _____

Our named scholarship donors are recognized at the annual Awards Night of the Akron Society of Plastics Engineers. We invite you to present your tax deductible donation at our Awards Night held in May each year.

We look forward to your support of this very worthwhile cause by your fine company. Please contact me at (330) 283-5721 with any questions. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
David Schultz, Foundation Chair
Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers, Educational Foundation



Akron Section Society of Plastics Engineers
Tony Dean, Advertising Manager - 330-929-9916

Sponsorships

Insertion Order 2022-23

Polymer Valley News: Akron Section SPE Newsletter - <http://www.akronspe.org>

This is the 63rd year of the Akron SPE Section and rates are for entire season, September 2022 – Summer 2023. **Payable in Advance. Please let me know if you need an invoice.**

Ad format must be electronic (but we can scan your original artwork). File size should be limited based on the size of the ad ordered. Acceptable formats are .bmp, .pcx, .jpg, .tif, .gif, or MS PowerPoint or Word (if you have any issues with format, please email us and we can provide assistance). **Color is Free! Color helps your ad stand out!** All ads included in newsletter, email blast (logo) and web site, and all contain a hotlink to your company website.

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