

# The Reactor



New Orleans Section, American Institute of Chemical Engineers

Volume 12, Issue 3, November 1999

## Third Meeting of the 1999-2000 Year

Norm Lieberman will be our featured speaker for the month of November. Norm's topic is "High Quality Process Engineering".

We believe this will be both an informative and enjoyable talk. Please let Keith know your intentions so that all may be accommodated.

Norman P. Lieberman is a chemical engineer with 35 years of experience in process design and plant operators supervision. An independent consultant, he troubleshoots oil refinery and chemical plant process problems and prepares revamp designs.

Please call Keith Henderson at 846-6407 {Albert-Garudy} or your Company Contact before the meeting to reserve a place if possible.

## Meeting November 23, 1999 at Steak & Ale - 3870 Veterans Blvd. Metairie, LA

Cost is \$15/person

5:00 - 6:00 P.M.	Social Hour
6:00 - 6:45	Dinner
6:45 - 7:00	Meeting
7:00 - 7:30	Speaker, Norm Lieberman
7:30 P.M.	Planned Meeting Ends

**Future and Proposed Meetings**

**December** - No meeting due to the holidays

**January 18** - TBA

**February 15** - TBA

**March 14** - TBA

**April 11** - Elections, Topic TBA

If you have a suggestion, please call **Greg Tragitt at 837-9228**. All meetings are subject to change. please read future newsletters for updates.

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## James E. Dean Named Fellow

The grade of Fellow in AIChE is a special category of membership which identifies and honors that large group of Member chemical engineers who have made meaningful impacts on our profession. These individuals, in the words of the Constitution, "shall have been in chemical engineering practice for twenty-five years and shall have been a Member for at least ten years." Election as Fellow "shall be in recognition of professional attainment, and significant accomplishment in engineering."

The principles for judging whether a Member has the necessary qualifications are spelled out in the Constitution: "Contribution in one of these areas [professional attainment and significant accomplishment] shall be outstanding, and some contribution in both areas is necessary."

Further more, the number of Fellows at any time shall  
(See Fellow on page 3)

# The Reactor

***A.I.Ch.E. New Orleans Section - Local Officers***

*Chairman*

**Linda Bergeron**      **OxyChem**      **783-7365**

*Vice-Chairman*

**Greg Tragitt**      **KBC**      **837-9228**

*Secretary*

**Keith Henderson**      **Albert-Garudy**      **846-6407**

*Treasurer*

**Dr. Brian Mitchell**      **Tulane**      **862-8257**

*Membership Chair & Director*

**Bill Boutall**      **Wink**      **243-4539**

*Finance Chair & Director*

**Tom Brumfield**      **Shell**      **465-7125**

*Professional Development*

**Dr. J.B. Phillips**      **Eng. Dev. Inst.**      **825-7046**

Several positions are open within the section for those who would like to take on a leadership role within the section. Please contact, the Section Chair or Vice-Chair listed above if interested in serving.

***A.I.Ch.E. on the Internet***

Visit the New Orleans Section Home page at:

**URL:**<http://www.tulane.edu/~bmitche/aiche.html>

Also check out the National AIChE Home page at:

**URL:**<http://www.aiche.org>

Anyone interested in this activity, please contact

**Dr. Brian Mitchell (AIChE Webmaster) at**

**862-8257, [brian@che.che.tulane.edu](mailto:brian@che.che.tulane.edu) or**

**Anthony Fregosi, [Anthony\\_Fregosi@fo.cytotec.com](mailto:Anthony_Fregosi@fo.cytotec.com)**

If your company does not have a contact, please contact **Jim Dean at 576-7174**

Company contacts act as a contact for AIChE inside their own company.

***New Members*** are always welcome at **A.I.Ch.E. New Orleans**, local dues are only \$12 per year and includes this newsletter.

Please call **Bill Boutall at 243-4539**

**COMPANY CONTACT LIST**

These people are aware of our activities. If you think you have missed a newsletter, activity date etc., please contact them.

<i>Company/Person</i>	<i>Phone</i>
<b><i>Chevron Chemical</i></b>	Contact Needed
<b><i>Cytec Industries</i></b> Anthony Fregosi	431-6598
<b><i>DEQ Baton Rouge</i></b> Freddie Touro	504-765-0199
<b><i>Energy</i></b> Jim Dean	576-7174
<b><i>EPG, Inc.</i></b> Leon Barnet	445-0858
<b><i>KBC Advanced Technology</i></b> Don Hoppens	837-9228
<b><i>Monsanto - Luling</i></b> Mike Valentine	785-4511
<b><i>Nalco/Exxon</i></b> Joy Usener	1-800-366-2526 Ext. 1556
<b><i>Occidental Chemical</i></b> Linda Bergeron	783-7365
<b><i>Petro- Marine Engineering, Inc.</i></b> Robert Brown	364-4257
<b><i>Shell Chemical</i></b> Tom Brumfield	465-7125
<b><i>Steimle &amp; Associates</i></b> Dr. Steve Steimle	831-2574
<b><i>Tulane University</i></b> Dr. Brian Mitchell	862-8257
<b><i>Union Carbide</i></b>	Contact Needed
<b><i>Walk, Haydel &amp; Assoc.</i></b> Jasper Westbrook	586-8111
<b><i>Wink Engineering, Inc.</i></b> Bill Boutall	246-7924

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*New Orleans Section, American Institute of Chemical Engineers*

*(Continued from page 1)*

## **FELLOW**

be limited to 10 percent of the total number of Fellows and Members who meet the criterion of ten years in Member grade.

Jim is a Senior Engineer with Entergy Services, Inc. and hold a MBA from Rutgers University and a B.S. Chemical Engineering Degree from the University of Akron.

He has held many positions at both the local and national level including: Meeting Program Chair 1998 Spring National Meeting; National Programming Committee 1997-1999; Executive Board, National Programming Committee, 1999; Past Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary & Treasurer, New Orleans Section, 1992-1997; Director, New Orleans Section, 1997 - Present and Finance Committee Chair 1996 Spring National Meeting.

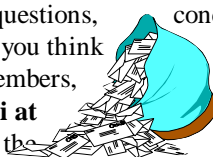
Jim has also been active in other engineering societies such as the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying; Association of Energy Engineers and the Louisiana Engineering Society.

Dean was named the 1994 Engineer of the Year by the New Orleans Section of AIChE.

Jim is a Registered Professional Mechanical, Environmental and Chemical Engineer. He also holds Association of Energy Engineers Certifications as a Certified Cogeneration Professional (C.C.P.) and a Certified Energy Manager (C.E.M.).

Please join the section in congratulating Jim for attaining the grade of Fellow in AIChE.

If you have any questions, information that you think interest to the members, **Anthony Fregosi** at **431-6598** to have it placed in the newsletter.



## **Editor's Soap Box**

First I would like to personally offer congratulations to Jim Dean for his election to Fellow of AIChE. His is most deserving of this honor.

Also, I would like to announce that Garnett Bedenbaugh, will be discussing his proposal of a mentoring program with Tulane University, Department of Chemical Engineering. Here is a preview of the proposal.

**PURPOSE:** Provide a routine interface between Chemical Engineers working in Industry with Tulane Chemical Engineering Students to share experiences, provide guidance and insight to their profession. This should enable students to make better decisions about their career opportunities.

**WHAT IT IS:** It is an opportunity for students to better understand the Chemical Engineering profession through informal discussions between Chemical Engineers working in Industry and students. These discussions should help the student understand how to be successful in finding and keeping a job, understanding factors for success and development opportunities for their field of expertise.

**WHAT IT IS NOT:** This is not a tutoring program for help in technical problem solving. While guidance on overall engineering problem solving is expected, the students will get the majority of their technical training from their classwork at Tulane. It is also not a job (summer or permanent) recruiting forum; the Mentors are there to provide insight on their own experiences

I hope you are able to come out to our upcoming meeting and hear our speaker and also to give your input on Garnett's proposed mentoring program.

Also, It is not too early to start thinking of becoming involved in the activities of the section. The section will be seeking a Treasurer for next year. If you are interested please talk to Greg Tragitt, Vice-Chairman.

**Please join us at a future meeting—and be part of the excitement that is Chemical Engineering!**

**Anthony F. Fregosi, Editor**

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## Club Quarters: First-Rate Accommodations for AIChE Members

AIChE members who are traveling to some of the world's most desired locales can take advantage of another Institute benefit—Club Quarters hotels.

Club Quarters offers all of the services of traditional hotels, along with services that other hotels may have not even thought of. And all this at rates half that of top-flight hotels. These services include:

- Fitness centers.
- Prime business district/central city locations.
- Room amenities including refrigerators, on-demand films, and portable phones.
- Four different types of rooms, including a suite with a kitchenette.

The cities that Club Quarters serves at present include New York (two locations); Washington DC, Boston, Philadelphia, and London, England.

For more information on this Institute benefit, contact Diana McCauley, AIChE's director of member services at **212/591-7329**; e-mail [dianm@aiCHE.org](mailto:dianm@aiCHE.org).

## Newsletter Advertisement Charges

Size	\$/Issue	9 Issues	\$/Year
Business Card (2" x 3.3")	\$ 16.00	\$ 100.00	
1/4 page (5" x 3.5)	\$ 40.00	\$ 250.00	
1/2 page (10" x 7.5")	\$ 80.00	\$ 500.00	
Full Page (10" x 7.5")	\$ 160.00	\$ 1000.00	

To order an advertisement, send the original of the advertisement (e.g. business card) and a check made out to "AIChE" New Orleans Section to **Anthony Fregosi, Cytec Industries 10800 River Road Westwego LA 70094**

## Other Meetings

### 2000

Spring National Meeting - Atlanta, GA

**March 5 - 9, 2000 (NEW DATES)**

45th Safety in Ammonia Plants & Related Facilities

Symposium - Tucson, AZ

**September 11 - 14, 2000**

CCPS Conference 2000: Process Safety

Incidents—Investigation Technology, Case Histories, and

Lessons Learned - Orlando, FL

**September 19 - 22, 2000**

Engineering & Construction Contracting Conference (ECC)

- Colorado Springs, CO

**September 28 - 29, 2000**

AIChE Annual Meeting - Los Angeles, CA

**November 12 - 17, 2000**

### 2001

The 6th World Congress of Chemical Engineering -

Melbourne, Australia

**September 23 - 27, 2001**

## N. O. Section Finances 1998-1999 (As of October 12, 1999)

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	\$ 5,815
<b>Income</b>	
Dues/LES Proceeds	\$ 634
Section Allowance/Award	438
Meals	700
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,772</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Meals	\$ 626
Newsletter	1,079
Awards	147
Supplies	57
Officer's Conference	546
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,455</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$ 5,132</b>
<b>Net Gain/(Loss)</b>	<b>\$ (683)</b>

## Humor

### You might be a chemical engineer if....

- You have any of the following personalized items:
  - ◇ Hard hat
  - ◇ Safety goggles
  - ◇ Calculator case
  - ◇ Slide rule
- You have "Dilbert" comics displayed anywhere in your work area
- You carry on a one-hour debate over the expected results of a test that actually takes five minutes to run.
- You know the direction the water swirls when you flush
- You've ever taken the back off your TV just to see what's inside.
- A team of you and your co-workers have set out to modify the antenna on the radio in your work area for better reception.
- You thought the concoction ET used to phone home was stupid.
- You cannot write unless the paper has both horizontal and vertical lines.
- You think the value of a book is directly proportionate to the amount of tables, charts and graphs it contains.
- You once burned down the gymnasium with your Science Fair project.
- You think you look rather snappy in a tie and short-sleeve shirt.
- You'd really like to have a T-shirt that says "Chemical Engineers Do It In Fluidized Beds".
- You've ever introduced your kids by the wrong name.
- You have a habit of destroying things in order to see how they work.

[Ed—If you have any material for this column you would like to share, please send it to me. My email address is Anthony\_Fregosi@fo.cyttec.com]

### Institute Solicits Abstracts for 45th Ammonia Safety Symposium

Aiche is soliciting abstracts for presentations at the 45th Annual Safety in Ammonia Plants and Related Facilities Symposium. The symposium is being held from September 11 to 14, at the Loews Bentana Canyon Resort in Tucson, Arizona.

The 44th Symposium in Seattle last month was very helpful to attendees, who learned about the various aspects that ensure occupational and process safety at every point of the process. The 45th Symposium promises to build on AIChE's tradition as a leader in safety innovations in the production of ammonia and related chemicals.

Among the topics that papers will cover are accidents, safety developments, safety studies, technological advancements, and maintenance improvements. The abstract must include the following: a descriptive title; an appropriate topical area of interest; and the name, address, telephone number, fax, and e-mail address of the corresponding author. The abstract should not exceed 300 words.

Abstract should be submitted to **Ian Welch**, at PO Bag 201, Point Lisas, Couva, Trinidad, West Indies, at **868/636-2291**; **fax 868/636-8297**; **e-mail iewelch@tstt.net.tt**

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### Upcoming LES Events

Please mark the following events on your calendar:

**December 3rd** - Col. Davis, New Orleans School Board Chairman. Plimsol Club, Cost ~\$25/person.

**February 23rd** - Col. Tom F. Julich, 56th District, Corps of Engineers. UNO Student Union.

Please contact **Boudin Hugger at 461-0577** if you would like to attend or if you have further questions.

Look for more information in next month's *The Reactor*.

## **You will not want to Miss November's Meeting**

Norman Lieberman of Process Improvement Engineering is to be our speaker for the November meeting. The meeting is to be held **November 23rd**. Please note the change in date from that previously published.

The title of Norman's talk will be "*High Quality Process Engineering*".

**Norman P. Lieberman** is a chemical engineer with 35 years of experience in process design and plant operators supervision. An independent consultant, he troubleshoots oil refinery and chemical plant process problems and prepares revamp designs.

Mr. Lieberman has taught more than 300 technical seminars on process equipment. He has also authored several books:

*"Troubleshooting Refinery Processes"* (PennWell)

*"Troubleshooting Process Operations"* (PennWell)

*"Troubleshooting Natural Gas Processing"* (PennWell)

*"Process Design for Reliable Operations"* (Gulf)

*"A Working Guide to Process Equipment"* (McGraw Hill)

You may visit Norm's web site at: [www.lieberman-eng.com](http://www.lieberman-eng.com)

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### **SET THE DATE:**

February 3 - 4, 2000

### **THE LOUISIANA ENGINEERING SOCIETY WILL BE HOSTING THE 4TH ANNUAL JOINT ENGINEERING SOCIETIES CONFERENCE**

Event function include:

Meetings - Seminars

Exhibitors - Banquet

### **The Place: Hotel Acadiana; Lafayette, LA**

Contact **Brenda W. Gajan** at (225) 924-2021 for more information on this event. Vendor booth space will be available on a first come, first serve basis.

**This event can provide up to 10 Professional Development Hours (PDHs)**

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## Institute Unveils New Professional Liability Insurance Plan

The Institute, recognizing the fact that a considerable number of its members work as consultants and may have no professional liability insurance, has instituted a new member benefit.

AIChE is now offering professional liability insurance through Lloyd's of London. With this program, AIChE can help consultants greatly reduce one of the risks of being a consultant: being destroyed financially while battling allegations of professional wrongdoing. The Institute is also offering greatly discounted rates because they are group rates. For example, a member can take out \$1 million of insurance for rates that are on-fourth of the normal rate.

Gerhard Frohlich, president of AIChE and currently a consultant himself, was enthusiastic about the ramifications of the new benefit. "Working as a consultant has a real upside," he said, "Members get the chance to choose their opportunities based on the work that seems most appealing and challenging to them. Now, with our professional liability insurance program, AIChE is removing one of the perils of working for yourself."

The coverage is designed to protect AIChE member who are accused of professional incompetence. Members who take advantage of the benefit are safeguarding their careers against the possible consequences of lawsuits (frivolous and otherwise).

Because of individual state regulations, this benefit is not available in all states. The Institute is, however, working to make this benefit available to members throughout the country.

For more information on AIChE's professional liability insurance through Lloyd's of London, please call the AIChExpress Service center at 1-800-AIChemE (1-800-242-4363).



**AIChE.....  
Serving Chemical  
Engineers  
Who Serve the World**

## **Institute Offers Superior Career Services for Members**

### **The Career and Employment Hotline**

800/803-3446. Immediate career advice.

### **CD-ROM and Web Site**

What do chemical engineers do? The answer to the question.

### **Salary Benchmarking**

Compare yourself to your peers.

### **Job Search Packet**

Tips for a rewarding job search.

### **Customized Employer List**

Gives you the in-road to employers and business contacts.

### **50th Career Fair**

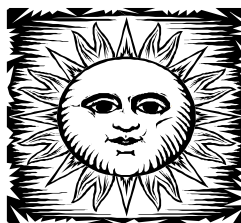
Career and job search workshops. On-site interviews. All during the Annual Meeting in Dallas.

### **The Virtual Resume Book**

Browse the resumes of the world's best engineering talent.

**e-mail [careerservices@aiche.org](mailto:careerservices@aiche.org)**

**telephone 212/591-7096**



## **Look What's Coming!**

Future issues of the *The Reactor* will feature articles on several topics of interest.

Along with our regular sections on Humor, Meeting

# *The Reactor*



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*New Orleans Section, American Institute of Chemical Engineers*

Anthony F. Fregosi  
Cytec Industries  
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Westwego, LA 70094

## **Dated Material Do Not Delay**

**To:**

**New Orleans Section, Winner of:**

**1995 “Randall D. Sheeline Award”, for excellence in public relations activities.  
1999 “Catalyst Grassroots Award”, for support of the grassroots advocacy program.**

### ***Meeting Notice!***

***Date: November 23, 1999  
Time: 5:00 P.M.  
Place: Steak & Ale  
3870 Veterans Blvd.  
Metairie, LA***



**“Happiness lies in the joy of achievement and the thrill of creative effort.”**

— Franklin Roosevelt