

## Fall 2021 Newsletter

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# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



#### Golf is Good.

We were all glad to see the golf outing come back in person and not as last year's tee-time-only modified tournament. We had to chant "Rain, Rain Go Away" for about two hours, but it seemed to work and it turned into a beautiful day. Many, many thanks to all of the companies that sponsored the food, the drinks and the gifts. You can see a full accounting of the winners inside the newsletter, and also a whole bunch more photos on our website at www.nwpa.4spe.org.

The SPE Foundation managed 78 scholarships awarded to 48 dedicated future plastics professionals totaling \$192,850. Four of those 48 are our section students and you can read about them, along with our own scholarship winners, in the newsletter.

Hot topic of the year is **Circular Recycling**: how to move your product back into a new product. How does Coca-Cola plan to increase its recycled content so much when there isn't enough recycled material available? One can hope this will lead to better collecting, sorting and re-processing. Or maybe even a brand new production material - like Resin8. Will NWPA be a part of it? There is so much focus on **Industry 4.0** nowadays. So much push to integrate your equipment, your smart machines and your central computers. But I have to wonder if everyone really wants to go there? Sure, you can run everything from one place, and there's an alarm just waiting to let you know when resin is low or water is hot or whatnot. What about having your grinders notify you when they are running harder? To let you know that maybe the knives need sharpened or the bearings greased? Is it worth the risk? If you see me at the next NWPA SPE social come over and let me know your opinion.

A recent Plastics News article had a really nice spread about **Accudyn Products** expanding their inhouse tooling and a 12,000 sqft addition to their plant. Hopefully we can see this in-person with our planned plant tour in the coming weeks, Covid not withstanding. Please join us! Your Board is also looking forward to welcoming you to a social on Sept 30 at Voodoo Brewery in downtown Erie. We'll buy the eats, you buy the treats. We hope to see you there.

#### Lucy Lenhardt NWPA SPE President 21-22

*"Sustainability and Circular Economy aren't buzzwords. They are and will continue to be the way of doing business for processors"* Jim Callari

## IN THE PLAN ...



### **Upcoming Plant Tour:**

Next Social:





### **Details on PG8**

### **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

		1	
Title	Name	Company	Email
President	Lucy Lenhardt	Penn State Erie	lad115@psu.edu
Past President	Annie Gohn	Penn State Erie	amm6125@psu.edu
Chair-Elect/VP	Bruce Buchman	Allegheny Mach Group	bbuchman36@gmail.com
Treasurer	Jenn Schmidt	Beaumont Tech Inc	Jschmidt@beaumontinc.com
Councilor	Brian Young	Penn State Erie	bay101@psu.edu
Secretary	Michelle Hartman	Penn State Erie	maw179@psu.edu
Newsletter Chair	Annie Gohn	Penn State Erie	amm6125@psu.edu
Golf Outing Chair	Don McMillen	Engineered Plastics	dm@engineeredplastics.com
Social Network Chair	Lynzie Nebel	Cytiva	lynzie.nebel@gmail.com
Tech Program Chair	Lynzie Nebel	Cytiva	lynzie.nebel@gmail.com
Membership Chair	Brian Young	Penn State Erie	bay101@psu.edu
Scholarship Chair	Danielle Bentley	Plastikos	dlw5209@gmail.com
Advertising Chair	Michelle Hartman	Penn State Erie	maw179@psu.edu
Member	Richard Deeter	Deeter Tool (R)	deeter2@verizon.net
Member	Shelly Czulewicz	Encore Plastics (R)	shellyandme58@gmail.com
Member	Mike Misco	Shell	Michael.Misco@shell.com
Member	Elliot Carnevale	Shell	Elliot.Carnevale@shell.com
Member	Kathi Gillespie	Plastek Group	kathi gillespie@plastekgroup.com
Member	Molly Joyce	Plastikos	mjoyce@plastikoserie.com
Member	Jon Meckley	Penn State Erie	jam135@psu.edu
Member	Wayne Vanderhoof	RJR Safety, Inc.	wayne@rjrsafety.com

## \$CHOLARSHIP\$





### **Member Scholarship**

The Northwestern Pennsylvania Section of SPE is pleased to offer the 2022 NWPA SPE **MEMBER** SCHOLARSHIP. This scholarship is intended to reward outstanding students with a one-time monetary donation up to \$1000 to be used to further their education. This Award is available <u>only to</u> <u>NWPA SPE members with children or grandchildren</u>. If you, or a local SPE member you know, has a student in or planning to attend college, technical school or a trade school we encourage you to apply. The student may be *planning to study in any field, plastics or otherwise,* and the funds will be sent to the school of choice. NWPA SPE member benefits are many and varied, so we are glad to offer this opportunity to our members. One Member scholarship will be awarded for 2022-23 and E-membership is not valid for this award. Application deadline is June 1, 2022. Applications are available beginning in early 2022.

### Section Scholarship

NWPA SPE is pleased to announce the NWPA SPE **SECTION** SCHOLARSHIP. We started offering this scholarship as a way to recognize high school students from our three county service areas who plan to attend college. This scholarship is intended *for current high school seniors planning to study plastics or polymers at any accredited 4-year college*. Any high school, charter school or home school senior *from our region of Erie, Crawford and Warren Counties* entering any plastics related field of study at an accredited 4 -year school is eligible. This scholarship is \$500 and we plan to award one in each of our three county service areas of Erie, Crawford and Warren County, PA.

We all know that plastics are ubiquitous and there are many fields of study related to plastics. If your senior plans to attend college and can explain how they are planning for a career in plastics then they should apply for this scholarship. They do not need to be an SPE member, just plan for a career in plastics. Students may apply for both scholarships, but may only receive one.

Application deadline is June 1, 2022. Applications are available starting in spring 2022.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**



#### NWPA SPE/PLASTICS ALUMNI ENDOWMENT NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA

This fall Penn State awarded \$7635.00 from the NWPA Society of Plastics Engineers and Plastics Alumni Trustee Scholarship to three students with financial need. This is the fifth year that this endowed scholarship, which is housed at Penn State Behrend to benefit students in the Plastics Engineering Technology Program, has been activated.

The 2021-2022 recipients are Rebecca Olanrewaju, Andrew Serakowski and Devin McGrail, with each receiving approximately one-third of the total scholarship amount.

This scholarship was endowed with funds raised by our members, alumni and friends. Donations to date total \$57,381.00 but the current market value is over \$83,000.00. It will continue to pay out scholarships in perpetuity. This is why we ask for your support and we are so glad to have it!

### **STUDENT CHAPTER & MEMBER SCHOLARSHIPS**

#### SECTION SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED TO MYRANDA FINDLAY

Hello! My name is Myranda Findlay and I am from Cambridge Springs, PA. I graduated from Cambridge Springs High School and I will be attending Penn State Behrend in the fall where I will be studying Plastics Engineering Technology. I will also be taking on the role of being a student athlete in the sport of softball. My passion is doing my best to make the world a better place, and I would like to incorporate that as I pursue my degree and look for a future job in the field of plastics.



The Scholarship Committee would also like to remind NWPA SPE members that the member's scholarship is available and we would like to see more applicants.

Danielle Bentley, Scholarship Committee Chair

## **SPE = RESEARCH**



#### RESEARCH FUNDING OPPORTUNITY FOR NWPA MEMBERS

NWPA SPE is offering our membership the opportunity to access student research at no cost. Behrend Senior Research Projects are designed to give upper-class students 12-18 months to research a topic of interest to your company. The timeline typically includes a 3-semester progression where students will perform a literature review relevant to their project topic, perform design and testing, and compile a final report. The students interface with project sponsors at whatever level is required, generally via regular meetings. Sponsoring a senior design project is a low-cost and low risk way to investigate those backburner projects you never seem to have the time or resources to get done.

NWPA SPE will fund up to three research projects for our members to work with Plastics Engineering Technology students at Penn State Behrend. Projects can be in any plastics related area such as materials, processing, design, compounding, product development and more.

All submissions must be submitted by a member of the NWPA Section of SPE who is going to act as the primary contact. Project Sponsors are responsible for providing detailed instruction on expectations and deliverables and provide regular feedback and guidance to their student group. Senior project applications normally have a fee assessed with them. However, for the three winning SPE member projects, NWPA SPE will pay the application fee. NWPA SPE will not cover the NDA fee for sponsored projects.

To apply, submit a brief outline/proposal of your project idea to <a href="mailto:nwpa.spe@gmail.com">nwpa.spe@gmail.com</a>, along with your contact information. You may be contacted to discuss the merits of your project idea. Project submissions

are taken on a rolling cycle, so they will be reviewed as soon as they are submitted, and will no longer be accepted after November 30, 2021 or once three have been accepted and approved by the school.

If your project is accepted, you will be notified and responsible for completing a formal application through the school website. Projects can expect to start in January 2022 with completion in 2023.



Student Chapter SPE Connect your research ideas now! Email nwpa.spe@gmail.org

## **PHOTO CONTEST**





### Put a smile on your face AND on your gift card

when you enter to win our 2021 NWPA SPE Photo Contest. Our website is in need of fresh new photos! Help us make it more in-

teresting by submitting your original photos that represent plastics in Northwestern Pennsylvania, particularly our three county area of Erie, Crawford and Warren counties.

These can be pictures of people, places or products. Your plants, pigments, parties or processes. Anything plastics related in any way—even if it does not begin with a P.

The top ten photos will be selected by committee, then placed on the website for voting.

#### Photo Contest Entry Rules:

- \* Submit one photo at a time, but enter as often as you like.
- \* Photo must represent Plastics in our area. Format jpeg/gif/bmp/png.
- \* Send ONE photo per entry email, and include a brief description.
- \* Submitting a photo means you agree to let us use it on our web site at no cost.
- \* Email your photo to: nwpa.spe@gmail.com by the deadline of DEC 31, 2021.
- \* Use Subject Line "NWPA SPE photo contest".

First Place: \$100 Amazon Gift Card Second Place: \$75 Amazon Gift Card Third Place: \$50 Amazon Gift Card

Email your photo to: nwpa.spe@gmail.com by DEC 31, 2021.



#### GOLF OUTING RECAP:

We survived the rainy weather and delays on August 12<sup>th</sup>, for the NWPA SPE Golf Outing. This is our main fundraising activity for our SPE scholarships. Despite this being our most expensive outing to date (over \$16,000 cost), this year's outing netted us a little over \$10,000! Additional thanks to Brock Allen and Tom Sada, who both generously donated their winnings back into the scholarship fund. A huge thank you to all our sponsors, golfers, and volunteers. Without your help and support we wouldn't be nearly as successful. This money will cover our operating costs, allow us to host the SPE meetings and socials, subsidize student meals at meetings, fund student chapter events, conduct outreach, create and/or fund scholarships and more. In fact, if you know a local school where you think NWPA SPE can make an impact, please let us know. We look forward to next year and hope you consider joining us again in 2022! *Jenn Schmidt, Treasurer* There were some big winners at the golf outing!

(Beaumont) Fishing Kayak went to Chuck Moffett, (Shell) Yeti cooler to Scott Sada, (Advantage) Two \$100 gift cards went to Jeff Hindman and Kevin Stevens, (Polymer System Solutions) Ping Golf bag went to Marty Kelly, (DME) Fishing camp chair went to Mason Myers. The Plastek Group very generously gave us money for three sets of 'family pack' gift cards: (\$50 steakhouse/\$50 Amazon/\$25 Coldstone). Those winners are in the photographs along with the winner of the (Entec) putting contest and the 50/50.

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

### MEMBERSHIP HAS ITS BENEFITS

Please join the NWPA SPE at these events:

NEXT SPE SOCIAL:

VooDoo Brewing Company 101 Boston Store Place Erie, PA 5.30pm on September 30, 2021

PLANNED PLANT TOUR: Accudyn Products, Inc. 2400 Yoder Drive Erie PA ETA: early November, details to come

#### DID YOU KNOW?

NWPA SPE's very first "Member of the Year" was Richard Bly. In 1967!

Being a member of NWPA SPE has its benefits! Such as:

- Technical meetings and Socials— join us at a variety of fun establishments as we discuss the industry as we know it (and other stuff).
- 2. Member's Scholarship—a college scholarship for member's children or grandchildren. See PG3.
- Free Technical Webinars as well as access to ANTEC research, articles, conference proceedings, podcasts and more in teh SPE Library. Covering all aspects of the industry. And coming soon—Plasti-Van modules for at-home learning.
- 4. Our Golf Outing is a blast!
- 5. Plastics Engineering magazine and Tech Talks.
- 6. National membership directory of contacts.









## THANK YOU to all our golf outing sponsors!



LUNCH & DRINKS courtesy of *Port Erie Plastics* & *GeorgeKo Industries* MAJOR GIFTS FROM *Beaumont*, *DIE–SEP*, *Entec*, *Plastek Group* & *Shell* 

HOLE & GIFT SPONSORS: Accudyn Products Advantage AIM NationaLease Allegheny Machinery Group Ameripac Anderson Plastics Ascend Performance Materials Autodesk Avient **BKI** Recycle **BPS** Staffing Caplugs Chase Plastics DME/Milacron Dri-Air Engineered Plastics Engineered Plastics Recycling Entec Polymers Genesis Polymers GeorgeKo Industries M Holland Matrix Tool Moretto Nabla Nexeo Partners in Plastic/HFA

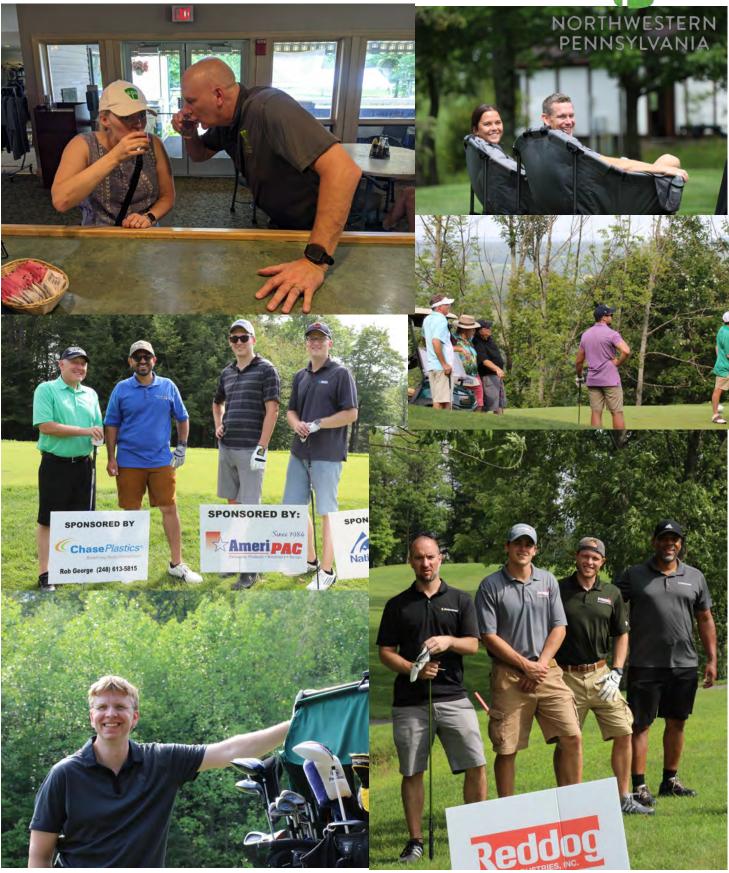
The Plastics Group Plastikos/MicroMold Plastrac Polymer System Solutions Port Erie Plastics Process Cooling Rapid Reddog Reiloy RheTech Rinco **RTP** Company Samtec Slide Shell Chemical Standard Insert Standridge Color Suburban Tool TechTank Teknor Color **Tooling Components** Uniform Color Yushin

And THANK YOU you to Brock Allen and Tom Sada who donated their cash winnings back to the scholarship fund!









Some of the outing's big winners.

Patting Contest

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## **STUDENT CHAPTER**



### David Peterson, Senior Class President, Behrend

My name is David Peterson and I am the Senior Class President of the Plastics Engineering Technology program at Penn State Behrend. I would like to plan some events for the coming year for the freshman through seniors in the program to interact and get to know each other better. The students in the program are all glad to be back on campus, and planning some social events will help the different classes catch up on time missed from the past year as well as have some exposure to the SPE chapter. Given the positive change in circumstances, I hope these events have good attendance, as I know many students are eager to get back into the social swing of things.

I am looking forward to planning these events, as well as getting to know the younger students in the plastics program. I hope to see many new faces, as well as enjoy some time with fellow students outside the classroom.

Regards,

David Peterson

### **NWPA SPE SOCIAL** June 10, 2021 at The Riverside Brewery in Cambridge Springs



### Student Co-Op PENN STATE BEHREND

### MAX LU, ARC Group Worldwide, Co-Op

Worked at ARC Group Jan21-Aug21 in Longmont, CO

I was a junior when I took the opportunity to attend a Co-Op internship at ARC Group Worldwide at their Colorado site (ARC-CO) just north of Denver. My time at ARC-CO was well spent as I worked on various projects to support ARC-CO injection molding operations, both metal and plastic. Additionally, I am active on-campus as a starting member on the Behrend Mens' Tennis team, as well as serving two years as a Resident Assistant.

I believe that the opportunity to commit to a Co-Op program was invaluable with the industry experience that I received at my time at ARC-CO. The Co-Op program was a challenging and appropriate experience for me to put to the test and reinforce the concepts and practices that I had learned up until that point in my college career, particularly on injection molding. The experience also encouraged me to step out of my boundaries both on the technical side and interpersonal side, allowing me to develop my communication skills through tasks such as customer tours, presentations to the engineering team on crucial action items, and to serve as an intermediary between engineering and production teams.



PENNSYLVANIA

In addition, much like my time at ARC-CO, Co-op programs give students the ability to experience different ave-



nues of industry to become well-rounded post-graduation. I found that I had gained a lot of experience in designing and improving CAD (Computer Aided Design) models made for 3D printing to reduce rework, improve efficiency on the production floor, and to rapidly proto-type concepts in addition to my main responsibilities at ARC-CO. These included assisting both engineering and production teams through conducting injection molding trials for new product development and defect mitigation. The range of the molding trials spanned from first shots of a new tool, to troubleshooting a variety of defects such as blisters, damage from ejection or automation, dimensional inaccuracies, and excessive flash. While a majority of what I worked on were parts for the defense market, I have had the opportunity to assist in the Aerospace program at ARC-CO.

I wholeheartedly believe that my time at ARC-CO was well spent, the experience and people that I have gained and met being crucial to the further development of my future career. I hope that this will encourage other students to take the step and apply for a Co-Op internship themselves!

### INSPIRING PLASTICS PROFESSIONALS



Northwestern PA Section

NORTHWESTERN Society of Plastics Engineers

## **COMMUNICATIONS INTERNSHIP**

### 2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR

What we do:

Outreach events	Technical speaker series		Industry networking	
Plastics engineering training	Plant tours		Research sponsorship	
Job Responsibili	ties	Apply by	December 15th	
Website development Newsletter		Qua	alifications	
Social networking		Comi	munications major	
Photographer for special events		Experience in website design		
		Experi	ence with Publisher	
Unpaid internship Find out more at nwpa.4sp	e ora	Ema	il your resume to:	
		Nwpa.s	pe@gmail.com	

### NATIONAL SPE SCHOLARSHIPS



National SPE scholarships were awarded to four Behrend Plastics students for the 2021-2022 school year.



Hannah Duncan, \$6000: SPE Foundation Gail Bristol Scholarship, PPA General Scholarship. Hannah is a senior looking for a position that will to expand her interest in the materials side of plastics. She is also a past recipient of the Nat Reyburn memorial scholarship at Penn State

Brooke Lenhardt, \$5500: SPE Foundation Detroit Section Tom Powers Scholarship, Plastics Pioneers Richard & Christine Hoeske Family Scholarship. Brooke is a senior looking for a technical job in plastics, just 'not in the hot south'.





Christian Young—\$5500 SPE Foundation General Scholarship, Plastics Pioneers Ted Neward Scholarship. Christian is a senior looking for a position that combines aspects of design, processing and material selection.

Rebecca Olanrewaju, \$2500: SPE Foundation General Scholarship. Rebecca is a senior currently deciding whether to seek a position in design or to continue her studies at graduate school.



### CALL FOR BOARD OF DIRECTOR MEMBERS





NWPA SPE welcomes all members with an interest in helping guide the Section to join us at any Board meeting. Come see the process behind the planning and see how you can take an active role in the leadership of our local chapter.

The Board of Directors is comprised of four executive officers and a number of chair positions as well as several general members. They are charged with the oversight and direction of the NWPA SPE Section12. A brief description of the positions is listed below.

Executive Positions: President; Vice President (Chair-Elect); Past President; Treasurer – financial director

Councilor – liaison between NWPA SPE Section12 and National SPE, attend Council meetings & report. Secretary – records Section's meeting minutes, verifies all voting, and issues statements from both the executive board and the Board of Directors.

Golf Outing Chair – directs aspects of the Section's annual golf outing.

Social Networking Chair – responsible for the social communications of the Section.

Special Events Chair – responsible for all aspects of special events held by the Section.

Technical Program Chair – establish and suggest a list of possible programs for the year.

Membership Chair – responsible for communication with members, maintaining membership roster and working to advance membership and benefits.

Advertising Chair – establish, recruit and place advertising.

General Board Member/Director – this general member is the perfect starting point for someone who wants to be more involved with the Chapter but might have concerns about leading a committee. General members provide input to specific committees and/or to the Board as a whole. Attend BOD meetings.

Committee work is addressed outside the Board meetings and the amount of work associated with each committee varies greatly. There are usually five Board meetings annually, with each committee reporting back, so you can expect a time commitment of attendance at those meetings, in addition to any committee work, if you choose. We need our members to help us lead this Section.

NWPA SPE is a volunteer organization and cannot fully function without the input of its membership. Please consider nominating a member, or yourself, to join the Board and accepting a nomination made for you. Email nwpa.spe@gmail.com if you can join us in the leadership of this section.

#### We need our members!