

Cincinnati & Dayton Branches Hold Joint Meeting

A joint meeting of the Cincinnati and Dayton Branches was held on November 23 at the Golden Lamb, Lebanon, OH. Cincinnati President Joe Leonhardt reported on his visit to the Bluegrass Branch, and also reminded the membership about the upcoming SUR/FIN® conference in June that will be held in Cincinnati. Exhibit booth sales for the conference are encouraging, and there is talk of the branch arranging a "side" tour of Cincinnati's union terminal.

March 22 is the date for the local environmental conference, which will feature AESF Executive Director Ted Witt, CEF, and AESF Board member Dennis Foster.

The evening's guest speaker was website designer Travis Stirewalt of Industry On Line, Inc. who spoke on what to expect from a website implementation service, and discussed how to get the most out of this service. He said that a website should reflect the company's image, and should focus on introducing the company to new customers. Page content should include a company history, products or services, MSDS sheets (if appropriate) and job specifications. Forms can be set up so that they can be completed on-line for specific plating jobs. He suggested that the company phone number be included on every page of the site. He also recommended using one of the larger search engines (in order to have access to a larger audience), and to use key words in the first sentence of the company description.

—Ron Coursey, Dayton Branch

Bridgeport & Waterbury Speaker Discusses Wastewater Treatment
The Hartford Branch hosted a joint meeting with the Waterbury Branch on November 17 at the Cabin Restau-

Palmetto Kicks Off Season With Plant Tour & Golf Tournament



The Palmetto Branch started the 1998-99 meeting season with a plant tour of KCH Services, Forest City, NC, followed by the annual kickoff golf tournament at Cleghorn Country Club in Rutherfordton.

Branch President Ron Meuldijk welcomed approximately 45 members and guests to the meeting. Attendees were given a tour of the manufacturing facility, which included demonstrations of PVC, polypro and FRP fabrication techniques. The pollution control manufacturer had several pieces of ventilation equipment set up for the brief technical discussions, and



Above left, the team of Tom Brady, Brody Hankinson, Mike Hannon and Kevin Helton took first-place honors at the annual golf tournament. Above right, more than 30 golfers participated in the event. Above, an open house and plant tour was held at KCH Services prior to the tournament.

also introduced the new line of automated plating lines it is currently producing at the Forest City plant. Entertainment during lunch was provided by a professional magician.

—Chuck Church

rant, Meriden, CT. Vice President Howard Dickie opened the meeting by welcoming the members and guests.

Educational Advisor Claudia Bechard welcomed and introduced the guest speaker, David W. Jean, director of development at Hubbard-Hall Chemical Co., Waterbury, CT.. His topic was "Cost-effective Wastewater Treatment Methods for the Metal Finishing Industry."

Waste treatment problems, he said, must first be identified before they can be addressed. The common waste treatment concerns of the metal finishing industry include:

- Heavy metals (Cd, Cr, Cu, Pb, etc.)
- Oils & greases
- Acid/alkali neutralization
- Cyanide destruction
- Chelate destruction
- Phosphate, fluoride & nitrate removal

He illustrated various schematics for treating some of these common waste concerns. Comparisons were made with respect to conventional waste treatment techniques and those that employ diethyldithiocarbamate (DTC). DTC can be used as a cost-effective means to precipitate heavy metal chelates, as compared to borohydrides, which can be costly and

unstable; sulfides, which are odorous and poisonous; and iron salts, which generate large amounts of sludge. Batch treatment utilizing DTC also provides a cost-effective alternative to expensive equipment techniques, such as ion exchange, electrowinning, vacuum evaporation and reverse osmosis.

Following a question-and-answer session, Jean was given a folder embossed with the branch name as a token of appreciation.

—Frank Brindisi, Jr.

Philadelphia Reports

'Biggest & Best' Finish It Better "Finish It Better IV," which was the biggest and best full-day educational seminar presented by the Philadelphia Branch, was held at Williamson Restaurant on November 12. The day began with registration and a continental breakfast buffet. Sessions included the following subjects:

- Cleaning different types of alloys for plating—Steve Rudy, CEF, Canning-Gumm Inc.
- Pretreatment coatings for organic finishes—Herbert Brummer, Heatbath Corp.
- Alloy plating process—Larry Emch, McGean/Rhoco, Inc.
- Extending useful life of EN baths—R. Mayes, LeaRonan, Inc.
- Ion exchange—Frank McGarvey, M.E. Baker Co.
- Automation equipment—John Wong, Plating Engineering & Chemical Co., Ltd.
- New anodizing process of the future—Byron Estes, Metalast International

The keynote speaker was Mark Himmelstein, president of National Environmental Strategies, who spoke about the problems of pollution control and how they are handled by the government.

Each topic was well received by the participants, and each speaker was recognized with a Branch Certificate of Appreciation.

Throughout the day, attendees had the opportunity to view tabletop displays presented by 34 companies, and to talk with company representatives. A buffet luncheon also afforded the opportunity to exchange stories and ideas. Door prizes, which were awarded to lucky ticket-holders,

included a 19-in. color TV, a stereo system and a portable telephone answering machine.

Participants, who represented all phases of the finishing industry, indicated that this educational program was helpful and necessary to keep everyone informed about the latest ideas and procedures.

—William Schobert

Past Presidents Night At St. Louis Branch

The St. Louis Branch kicked off the 1998-99 meeting year with its Past Presidents Night on October 14. Ted Witt, CEF, AESF's executive director, was the honored speaker. The evening's topic was "What's New With AESF." He explained several of the new products and services that the Society has to offer, with the focus on new training software that is available.

The highlight of the evening was the recognition of the 15 past presidents—service years ranging from 1973 to 1997—who were able to attend. It was a very entertaining meeting with many memories and laughter shared by all. Each president was honored with an AESF past president's pin.

Established in 1914, the St. Louis Branch looks forward to 84 more successful years.

—Katherine Schweich

As Seen in Branch Newsletters Sent to AESF Headquarters ...

Cleveland—The November meeting featured Rob Snyder of Myers-Reese Insurance, who delivered an entertaining talk on environmental risk management for small- to medium-sized companies in the metal finishing industry.

Grand Rapids—At the November 12 meeting, 27 members and guests heard Fredrick Van Oeveren, laboratory superintendent of the Grand Rapids Wastewater Treatment Plant, discuss the latest information on the city's proposed limits on discharges for the metal finishing industry.

Orange County Metropolitan—The November meeting was attended by 20 members and guests. David Glick of SERFILCO Ltd. spoke on the use of eductors to improve solution agitation and performance.

Phoenix—Richard Dorset of Enthone-OMI spoke in November on "Alternatives to Hexavalent Chromium."

Rockford—The branch's 56th Annual Educational Session was attended by 40 people on November 6. Speakers included Mike Branstead, MacDermid Corp.; Marshal Handelsman, Cornerstone Systems; Mike Kellner, Enviropure Solutions; and Nick Plavets, Amerock Corp. P&SF

Buffalo & Rochester Branches Keep Long-standing Tradition

On November 2, the two neighboring Upstate New York branches—Buffalo and Rochester—held their traditional joint meeting. Rick Painter of PAVCO was the technical speaker for the evening. His topic was "Trouble-shooting Electroplating Operations." More than 45 members and guests from the two branches learned the systematic approach to unraveling plating mysteries and "de-mystifying"

troubles. After the talk, Painter (below left) was presented with a Rochester souvenir.

Joint meetings in this part of New York state occur annually and date back more than 10 years—not only between Buffalo and Rochester, but also between Rochester and Syracuse, whose next joint meeting is scheduled for April.

—Bert Stein

