



Milwaukee Gets Update On National Activities & Services
In December, the Milwaukee Branch hosted a visit by current AESF President Bob Groom and Executive Director Ted Witt, CEF.

President Groom introduced himself to the 52 members and guests, and gave a brief overview of AESF Week 1999. He also commented on progress made by the metal finishing industry in addressing pollution concerns. Groom suggested that most of the remaining problems in water pollution might stem from what the general population flush down their drains. He noted that, because the metal finishing industry has worked hard to improve its image with the government and the public, the industry is now experiencing a renewed vigor and is attracting new people to the work force.

President Groom then addressed questions from the floor concerning AESF, the NAMF and the MFSA. He emphasized that, of the three groups, AESF is unique because it is an individual membership and education-based organization, rather than corporate/trade-based, and its mission is to educate its members, as well as government agencies, in all aspects of the surface finishing industry.

Ted Witt's opening comments concerned AESF Week and the upcoming SUR/FIN® conference that will be held in Cincinnati this year. He also pointed out recent advances in course offerings by the Society, emphasizing the "Electroplating for Beginners" course, available on CD-ROM for a nominal price. He said this educational CD could and should be in every plating shop. He then closed by inviting members to phone, fax or e-mail him, as well as any member of the AESF Headquarters staff, for assistance or information on Society

activities. He also reminded members of the dues increase for 1999.

A question from the floor concerned the status of the website AESF shares with the NMFRC. Witt replied that the amount of information available on the shared site was limited by the amount of funding available, and that the government was expected to issue some grant money to expand the site. Another question was raised concerning the Common Sense Initiative (CSI), and why the government has not responded. President Groom said not to give up on the CSI just yet, because government and the industry are still discussing the issues, which is a significant step.

A brief business meeting followed, including the announcement that the annual banquet will be held on April 17, again at the Pfister Hotel. Results of the questionnaire for the upcoming June sports night listed three alternatives: Football game, brewery tour or Lake Michigan fishing trip. The evening ended with the traditional exchange of door prizes.

—Rick Lang

New York Wraps Up 1998 Meeting Season

The New York Branch had its final three meetings and a holiday party to wrap up its 1998 meeting season.

Ted Mooney, past president of the Garden State Branch and president of Finishing.com, was the September speaker. His presentation dealt with the future of the Internet and the metal finishing industry. He highlighted the features of the industry's first website (finishing.com).

The October 21 meeting was a joint meeting with the Masters Association of Metal Finishers. Robert Burford of Pasco provided information on the Common Sense Initiative.

The Garden State Branch joined the New York Branch for the November meeting. Bob Teichman, Garden State president, introduced the speaker for the evening, Tony Guglielmo of Technic. His topic was an innovative new method of barrel plating.

The final gathering of 1998 for the New York Branch was its annual holiday party, held at the Bistro in Staten Island. It was a festive evening of food, drink and live entertainment to send out the old and bring in the new. The 1999 season will include more combined meetings with the Garden State Branch and the MAMF. A plating school, offering basic electroplating material, began in January, and the Annual Joint Banquet in April will bring the two branches and the MAMF together again. May '99 brings the Garden State Annual Suppliers Night and AESF national officers.

Plans are to end the season with a fabulous dinner cruise on the Hudson River. One of the highlights of the cruise is an up-close nighttime view of the Statue of Liberty that is breathtaking.

Treatment of Spent EN Baths Discussed at Philadelphia
The Philadelphia Branch met December 8 at Michael's Restaurant in Bensalem, PA. With 35 members present, President Michael Horton called the meeting to order and



Educational Chairman John Deitzel, left, with guest speaker Rich Bellemare.

welcomed everyone. Educational Chairman John Deitzel then introduced Rich Bellemare,



In two special presentations at the Philadelphia Branch meeting, Dr. Samuel Heiman, left, congratulates Tom Vezzosi on 50 years of AESF membership, and then presents William Schobert, far right, with a plaque designating him as an Honorary Member.

Research and Development technical service manager at OMG Fidelity Chemical Corp. Using a slide presentation, he discussed the use of an electrolysis unit that is used to treat spent electroless nickel baths. This procedure would extend the life of a bath by removing such interfering species as orthophosphite. Electroless nickel baths would then be reusable with only minor additions. Following a question-and-answer session, John Deitzel thanked Rich for his informative talk and presented him with the Philadelphia Branch Certificate of Appreciation.

During the business portion of the meeting, President Horton presented a recommendation of the Board of Managers that long-time member and Branch Secretary, William Schobert, be made an Honorary Member of the Philadelphia Branch. The motion was made and seconded, and unanimously approved.

In other business, it was reported that the 1999 banquet will be held at Merion Caterers, Cinnaminson, NJ, on March 13. John Dietzel also thanked everyone for their support in making the full-day seminar, Finish It Better VI, such a success. He recog-

nized all those who helped, and especially thanked the suppliers. President Horton announced that the branch has a complete set of plating video tapes from AESF Headquarters, and has requested the new "Electroplating for Beginners" CD.

President Horton then introduced Dr. Samuel Heiman, AESF Fellow, who made two special presentations. Thomas Vezzosi was recognized for his 50 years as an AESF member, and was presented with a plaque commemorating this achievement. Dr. Heiman said he remembers when Tom was a worker at Philadelphia Rust-Proof—and now he owns the company. William Schobert was then awarded the distinction of Honorary Member in appreciation of his outstanding and dedicated service to the branch. Bill has been an active member since 1966, and has served in many offices of the branch, including president, and was chairman of the AESF Mid-Atlantic Regional. He is retired from RCA/GE, and currently is consulting at Hillock Anodizing.

—William Schobert

Regionals ... Regionals ... Regionals ... Regionals ... Regionals

27th Annual Eastern Canada Regional Springfest 1999
Thursday, April 15

Bingemans Conference & Recreation Centre
1380 Victoria St. North • Kitchener, Ontario • 519/744-1555



Thursday, April 15

9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Exhibits Open
For information to exhibit,
please contact
Wally Kirijewski, 905/455-1197.

Morning Technical Session

Moderator: Hellen Sencza

10 a.m. Intelligent EN Solutions
Richard Dorset, Enthone-OMI

10:40 a.m. Wastewater Treatment
Optimization & Sludge Reduction
Karl Sittner, Rochester/Midland

11:20 a.m. Trouble in Your Tanks?
Ask the Gurus

Frank Altmayer, Scientific Control
& Don Snyder, Atotech USA

12-2 p.m. Lunch Break
Exhibits Open; Cash Bar

1-2 p.m. CAMF Annual General
Meeting—ALL Welcome

Afternoon Technical Session

Moderator: Natalia Ilie

2 p.m. Biocleaners—Aqueous
Biological Degreasing Solutions
Tim Callahan, Bioclean USA

2:40 p.m. Nikotect—Regenerable
“Carbon” for Bright Nickel Plating
Don Snyder, Atotech USA

3:20 p.m. Environmental Consider-
ations for Anodizing Shops
Ram Roopnarine, Spectra Anodizing
& Greg Jessop, Clariant

5:30 p.m. Bavarian Style Dinner

6:30 p.m. Presentations
& Dinner Speakers

AESF President's Address
Robert (Bob) Groom



Keynote Speaker
John Lindstedt
“Industry, Government & You”

Advance Registration (until April 9) is
\$50, and includes meals. We pay GST.
Registration at the door will be \$60.
For a registration form and brochure,
call Ken Lemke (906/634-5168).

1999 Piedmont Regional
Thursday-Sunday
October 14-17
Kingston Plantation-Embassy
Suites • Myrtle Beach, SC

- Technical Sessions
- Vendor Displays
- Golf Tournament
- Fishing Tournament
- Banquet/Dancing

Watch for details in upcoming issues
of P&SF.

For more information, contact Rob
Sappenfield, Jr., 704/391-5756, x159.

Charlotte-Metrolina
Tours Atotech USA, Inc.

The Charlotte-Metrolina Branch held its January 18 meeting at O'Charley's Restaurant in Rock Hill, SC. Members gathered for cocktails at 5 p.m., and then enjoyed an excellent dinner. During the meal, the branch business meeting was conducted.

Following dinner, attendees met at Atotech USA, Inc., for a plant tour. Atotech is a manufacturer of plating materials for the electroplating and surface finishing industries. The tour consisted of an in-depth look at the company's operations—from the accounting department all the way to the manufacturing facility.

The branch would like to thank Fred Kaplan for hosting such an interesting plant tour. It was also great to see the largest branch meeting turnout in several years. There were 47 members and guests in attendance.

—Rob Sappenfield, Jr.

Syracuse Holds Annual Rescue Mission Holiday Dinner
On December 17, the Syracuse Branch held its annual celebration of the holiday season by serving a special dinner at the Syracuse Rescue Mission Food Service Center. The branch and its associated businesses make this dinner possible each year by providing the funds needed to purchase the food. Excess funds raised every year are used to help purchase kitchen equipment. This year—the branch's fifth to participate in this volunteer event—was the best fund-raising effort to date. The total amount donated was \$3,850, which will enable the Mission to purchase a new gas-fired commercial-sized grill for the kitchen.

The Syracuse Branch hopes other branches will begin similar charitable traditions. This type of tradition allows the industry to give back to its communities.

—Scott Greenleaf

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

Cleveland—The branch holiday party in December was held at "Liquid," with 24 members and guests attending. The new cocktail/appetizer format and the change of venue from previous years' parties were well received by all.

Colonial Virginia—The November 17 meeting featured John Beaulieu, district manager for NALCO Chemical Co., who gave a presentation on the different methods of precipitating heavy metals from wastewater and the effectiveness of each method.

Grand Rapids—The December 10 meeting was attended by 18 members and guests, who were informed by guest speaker Linda Van Kampen, manager of Georgetown Travel, Inc., Jenison, MI, that cruises for the arrival of the year 2000 are already booked. She advised planning trips for a few days after January 1, and suggested such exotic places as New Zealand and Costa Rica, as well as Hawaii.

Orange County Metropolitan—At the December meeting, 50 members and guests toured Kaynar Technologies in Fullerton, CA. Everyone in attendance agreed that the tour was impressive, and most commented on the changes made in the plating shop since the last tour three years ago. Dinner followed at the Fullerton Moose Lodge, with the appropriate holiday cheer.

Phoenix—In December, guest speakers Cathy Chaberski and Gail Bliss gave an interesting talk on "Small Business Compliance Assistance Programs."

Rockford—The December 7 meeting at the City Club was attended by approximately 60 members and guests. The speaker, Chuck Corely, from the Winnebago County Local Emergency Planning Committee, did a fine job explaining the Committee's role in emergency planning. The Rockford Branch and this organization are planning on working together more in the future. P&SF



Above, Branch President Bill Ormsby, left, is pictured with January's guest speaker, Frank Altmayer, CEF, AESF's technical director. Far right, John Tenison-Woods, AESF Board of Directors, also attended the meeting.

Orange County Metropolitan Welcomes Special Guests

The Orange County Metropolitan Branch met on January 19 at the Jagerhaus in Anaheim, CA, and enjoyed some great German food. Branch President Bill Ormsby opened the meeting by welcoming the 45 members and guests.

Gene Burman updated the branch on this year's golf tournament, which will be held on September 27. Because of a scheduling conflict, the tournament will be on the fourth Monday in September, instead of the traditional third Monday. Charlie Fritz was recognized for his work with the golf tournament. Gene also welcomed special guest John Tenison-Woods, AESF Board member, to the meeting.

During regular business, there was a short discussion on the status of the branch library. Anyone interested in the library can contact Bill Ormsby or Brian Day.

Guest speaker for the evening's technical session was Frank Altmayer, CEF, president of Scientific Control Laboratories in Chicago, and AESF technical director. He spoke to the group on "Alternatives to Electroplating." A special thanks to Frank, who flew in from Chicago that morning, gave his presentation and caught the "red-eye" back home the same evening. His talk was very much appreciated.

—Brian Day