Western South Carolina Local Section



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Message from the Chair:

Hello Members and Friends of WSC AIChE,

We have faced many challenges again this year and extend our condolences to all who lost family members and friends recently. We hope that you, and those important to you, are well (or recovering) and that you

April 12 Meeting Chemical Engineering on a String a SC Story

Ben Walker will be presenting an overview of the production of PAN Carbon fiber in the upstate. Ben graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1981, and immediately hired in as a design engineer for Union Carbide in Piedmont SC. He was part of the design of the first domestically produced PAN fibers in the United States. In his 38 years he assisted in design, production, quality, and safety control of two additional production lines to meet the continuously increasing, yet cyclical, demand in the industry. During that time, the facility changed hands four times: from Union Carbide to Amoco, to BP, to Cytec and finally to Solvay (a Belgian based company). This presentation will focus on the technical aspects of the production of PAN fiber using the wet spinning technology and the high temperature conversion/carbonization process. The Solvay plant tour will be held as a separate event.

This meeting will be held in our standard "hybrid" form with a ZOOM room link provided the day of the event.

Registration is requested for in-

Finance and Outreach Committees

The WSC AIChE Section is looking for members to join two committees to better serve our membership and our community.

The **Finance Committee** oversees the section's investment and banking accounts. The committee also prepares an annual budget and makes recommendations for scholarship amounts, speaker expenses/honorariums, and the like. Austin Crooks, Anastase (Tasso) Ghionis and Anil Wagle are current members. Email treasurer@wscaiche.org for more information or to volunteer your time.

The **Outreach Committee** will explore opportunities to support local schools and to make ourselves known in the broader community. Please contact Tasso Ghionis at sec@wscaiche.org if you have suggestions on what we might become involved with or if you would be willing to serve on this committee.

2021 2022 Calendar of Events

DATE	LOCATION	TOPIC		
April 12, 2022	Innovate Bldg Greenville, SC	PAN Carbon Fiber		
April 14, 2022	Solvay Facility Piedmont, SC	Solvay Plant Tour		
April 14-May 11	WSC LS website	Voting for 2022-2.79 86.5pv(