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Contact Information

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Message from the Chair

September is now behind us and it's on to October. Before moving on though I'd like to thank our September host, Mr. Bob Jordan of STM Distillery, and our speaker, Mr. Hector Davila, who spoke on whisky manufacturing. It was a great presentation and seeing the process in action was very interesting. Attendance was great and thanks to everyone who could come out and support the section. That was a very nice change of pace.

Our October meeting will be hosted by the Clemson AIChE chapter in Earle Hall at Clemson University. If you can, come out to support the section and meet the students. Our presenter is my boss for the last 15+ years, Scott Brotherton of Ortec, Inc. When I came through Clemson 44 years ago, we heard all about DuPont, Dow, Union Carbide, Celanese and the other heavyweights of the chemical manufacturing world. About 30 years ago I got involved with the tolling world while working for FMC's lithium division. Tollers are usually smaller enterprises whose innovation, flexibility, and cost structure provide a cost-effective way to provide chemical process development, scale-up, and production. The chemical and pharmaceutical majors have used them for market development and overflow capacity. More and more companies are using tollers as virtual production departments for specialty items or to manage capital resources more efficiently. For the chemical engineer, they offer the opportunity to work in a more creative and challenging environment with greater opportunity to grow and develop as an engineer. I thought I had interesting career, then I joined Ortec. Since then, it's been fascinating and challenging like nothing I'd ever experienced. I've worked on and implemented more technologies and unit operations in the last 15 years than I did in the first 29.

For a new graduate willing to learn fast, work hard, and “wear many hats”, there is nothing quite like the tolling world. It’s just as true for the experienced engineer. So, if you can, come and hear about the tolling world and the unique 43-year journey of Ortec, Inc.

Bill Thompson, Chair, WSC AIChE

NEXT MEETING - October 10, 2023

The Ortec, Inc. Story - By Scott Brotherton.

Scott Brotherton is a 1989 graduate of Clemson’s chemical engineering program. He started out as a new graduate working for Columbia Nitrogen in Augusta, GA. He later worked for Noramco in Athens, Georgia before returning to Ortec, Inc.

He designed, built, and operated Ortec’s first GMP facility in Piedmont, SC and has since risen to be Sr. VP of Ortec’s Life Sciences Division.

Scott will be presenting on The Ortec, Inc. Story. Ortec, Inc. was founded by Dr, Larry Brotherton in 1980 and it has grown steadily over the last 43 years and now has 4 plant sites, including one in Europe. It’s truly one of the great success stories, not just in the tolling world, but in US industry in general. We forget that all the big names in industry started out as 1-3 people with a vision and a drive for success.

Meeting Information

TITLE:	The Ortec, Inc. Story
DATE:	Tuesday, October 10, 2023
Event timing:	6:00 PM Social 6:30 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Presentation
LOCATION (in-person event):	Earle Hall S Palmetto Blvd, Clemson, SC 29631
PARKING:	RSVP Form includes instructions for parking around Earle Hall.
LOCATION (virtual event):	Zoom Connect via link on the WSC AIChE website
COST	No charge for dinner.
RSVP by 10/8/23	RSVP [HERE] if you plan to join us for dinner.

RSVP [\[HERE\]](#) - by October 8th if you plan to join us for dinner.

Opportunities to Assist

We welcome your participation on any level in this organization. Several committee positions are open, and this year's officers will gladly mentor members who would consider holding officer positions next year. If interested, please reach out to any of the wscaiche.org email addresses below.

2023-2024 Officers and Executive Committee

POSITION	NAME	COMPANY	E-MAIL
Chair	Bill Thompson	Ortec	bthompson@ortecinc.com chair@wscaiche.org
Vice-Chair	James Young	Fluor	James.H.Young@fluor.com vchair@wscaiche.org
Secretary	Devon Clymer	Jacobs	Devon.clymer@jacobs.com sec@wscaiche.org
Treasurer	Kevin Pait		kipait100@gmail.com treasurer@wscaiche.org
Former Chair	Conny Walker	Independent	connyw@earthlink.net
Newsletter	(open)		
Webmaster	(open)		
Historian	(open)		
Executive Committee	Karl McCaleb		kmccaleb2@bellsouth.net
	Donald P Gurney, Jr., ScD, P.E.	Consultant	degurney@charter.net
	Anil Wagle	Retired	Anilwagle123@gmail.com
	Anastase (Tasso) Ghionis	Omega Chemicals	

2023-2024 Calendar of Events

DATE	LOCATION	TOPIC
October 11, 2023	Clemson	Tolling Manufacturing
November 2023	TBD	Joint meeting with ACS
December 2023	TBD	WSCAICHe Holiday Social
January 10, 2024	Clemson	TBD
February 13, 2024	Jacobs office	TBD Clemson professor
March 13, 2024	Jacobs office	TBD
April 2024	TBD	Plant Tour
May 2024	TBD	WSCAICHe May Social
