



The Western Palmetto Informer

American Institute of Chemical Engineers

January 2024

Volume 23, Issue 5

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Contact Information

Visit our website:
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Message from the Chair

My thanks to everyone who could make the December social and for those who couldn't, I hope we'll see you in the coming year. As always if there is something we can do to help you, please let us know.

Welcome to 2024! It seems like just yesterday that Y2K was a thing to worry about, but that was 24 years ago! Time accelerates as you age and, interestingly enough, technology innovation does too. It's quite a challenge to keep up as I'm sure you're all aware. However, it's often the old and boring things that trip us up. Most process engineers don't think about utilities much. We assume, steam, compressed air, nitrogen, cooling water, etc. will be there when needed. Utilities are like breathing air, they don't seem important until you're not getting any. I've received an education on that point in the last two years concerning dry compressed air systems.

The first cylindrical air compressor was created in 1792! Compressed air was used to keep water out of the caissons of the Brooklyn Bridge starting in 1870. It's an old technology as chemical engineering goes, but it runs control valves, pumps, mixers, lift mechanisms and a host of other equipment. In most applications it's important that the air be dry as well. It was wet compressed air that sank the USS Thresher.

Our speaker in January will be Taylor Quackenbush, Regional Director for Kaeser Compressors. He will speak on compressed air systems including compressors and air-dryers. There are 9 grades of compressed air, and my company uses the 2nd highest grade. I've learned the hard way just how complicated it can be to reliably supply grade 1 air to an entire facility with wildly varying demand. Thanks to the help from Mr. Quackenbush and Len Horne, the local vendor, we have been able to create a reliable system.

Taylor's presentation will be an opportunity to learn or relearn some important lessons regarding compressed systems, and this will qualify for CE credit.

Bill Thompson, Chair, WSC AIChE

NEXT MEETING - January 9, 2024

Compressed Air Systems

Join us for dinner and a presentation by Taylor Quackenbush, of Kaeser Compressors, on Compressed Air Systems at the Jacobs Engineering Office.

Meeting Information

TITLE:	Compressed Air Systems
DATE:	Tuesday, January 9th, 2024
Event timing:	6:00 PM Social 6:30 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Presentation
LOCATION (in-person event):	Jacobs Engineering 1041 E Butler Rd, Greenville, SC 29607
LOCATION (virtual event):	Zoom Connect via link on the WSC AIChE Website
COST	No Charge for Dinner
RSVP by 1/8/24	RSVP HERE if you plan to join us for Dinner

RSVP [\[HERE\]](#) - by January 7th if you plan to join us for dinner.

2024 WSC AIChE Clemson Scholarship Application

The 2024 WSC AIChE Scholarship application is now OPEN! This scholarship is to be awarded to rising Clemson seniors, majoring in Chemical Engineering (or a closely related field), and with an anticipated graduation date between August 2024 and May 2025. Two scholarships will be awarded: one for \$1,500 and a second for \$1,000.

If you, or someone you know, meet the criteria listed above, complete the application [HERE](#) for consideration by 11:59pm January 31st, 2024.

Winners will need to be present at the February WSC AIChE Meeting at Clemson University.

Opportunities to Assist

We welcome your participation on any level in this organization. Please reach out to Devon Clymer, sec@wscaiche.org, if you have any feedback on any of the following:

- You or someone you know would like to give a technical presentation at an upcoming meeting.
- Provide meeting topic or location recommendations to the leadership team.
- Provide recommendation or access for a plant tour (usually in the spring).
- You have interest in joining our Officers or Executive Committee.
- Any general question or comments on meeting times, locations, and topics

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	Spartanburg Community College	Complexes with M-M bonds. Joint meeting with ACS
December 13 th 2023	Think Tank Brew Lab	WSCAICHe Holiday Social
January 7, 2024	Jacobs Office	Compressed Air Systems
February 13, 2024	Clemson	TBD Clemson professor
March 12, 2024	Jacobs office	TBD
April 2024	TBD	Plant Tour
May 2024	TBD	WSCAICHe May Social
