



American Institute of Chemical Engineers

# The Western Palmetto Informer

April 2024

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April 9<sup>th</sup> 6:00PM
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## Contact Information

Visit our website:  
[www.aiche.org/wsc](http://www.aiche.org/wsc)

E-Mail us at:  
[sec@wscaiche.org](mailto:sec@wscaiche.org)  
[chair@wscaiche.org](mailto:chair@wscaiche.org)

## Message from the Chair

Our thanks to Jim Young for our March presentation on recycling plastics. As expected, it was an excellent presentation well-presented. It's remarkable how environmental issues have gone from an afterthought to a primary purpose in industry over the course of my career. It appears we're all contaminated with microplastics at low levels and hopefully if we get a handle on this and history lasts long enough, we'll get it purged from us and the environment.

Join us this April 9th at Soteria's facility at ICAR in Greenville. Their founder gave an excellent presentation back in 2022 describing their efforts to improve the safety and energy density of lithium-ion batteries. They have kindly agreed to host us for a presentation and lab tour of their activities. Their objective is to develop and license technology in the lithium-ion arena. Some of their work you'll recognize immediately. I'm sure you've heard of the e-bikes catching on fire during charging and burning out apartments in New York and other cities where messengers make heavy use of these bikes. Unsurprisingly the news media isn't getting the story straight. It's a more in-depth problem with design, cost, and quality playing a very large role. One of their projects is to understand this problem and develop solutions that are economical. That's one of the things they will be talking to us about. I worked in this industry many years ago and am impressed with their approaches to improving energy density in the battery cells. So, please come out for a meal, presentation, and tour on the 9th. We will be providing CE credits for this meeting.

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One more thing, in May we have a social rather than a presentation. If anyone has any ideas of a venue or activity they'd like to suggest, please let us know. As I've said many times, this is your section and should cater to your needs. Any guidance you can provide would be greatly appreciated.

It's also time to get started on next year by nominating candidates for next year's officers. Please submit nominations by email ([sec@wscaiche.org](mailto:sec@wscaiche.org)) by April 12th.

Bill Thompson, Chair, WSC AIChE

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## Meeting Information

<b>TITLE:</b>	Soteria Presentation and Tour For more information on Soteria, visit <a href="https://soteriabig.com/">https://soteriabig.com/</a>
<b>DATE:</b>	Tuesday, April 9th, 2024
<b>Event timing:</b>	6:00-6:30 PM Meet and Greet 6:30-7:00 PM Dinner 7:00-8:00 PM Presentation/Tour
<b>LOCATION (in-person event):</b>	Soteria Battery Innovation Group 1 Research Drive, Suite 110 Greenville, SC 29607
<b>LOCATION (virtual event):</b>	There is no virtual event for this meeting.
<b>COST</b>	No Charge for Dinner
<b>RSVP by 4/8/24</b>	RSVP <a href="#">HERE</a> if you plan to join us for Dinner

**RSVP [\[HERE\]](#) - by April 8<sup>th</sup> if you plan to join us for dinner.**

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## May Social Location

Our annual May social is coming up quickly. If you have any recommendations on a venue or activity, please send an email to [sec@wscaiche.org](mailto:sec@wscaiche.org). Any input or recommendations are appreciated.

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## 2024-2025 WSC AIChE Elections

As the 2023-2024 season comes to an end, we will be opening up elections for the WSC AIChE 2024-2025 leadership committee. If you are interested in the role of Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary, Webmaster or Newsletter roles, please send an email to [sec@wscaiche.org](mailto:sec@wscaiche.org) with your name.

If you are interested in what a role entails, please feel free to reach out to the person in the role currently (listed below), and they will be happy to share their experience.

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## Opportunities to Assist

We welcome your participation on any level in this organization. Please reach out to Devon Clymer, [sec@wscaiche.org](mailto: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

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## 2023-2024 Officers and Executive Committee

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

POSITION	NAME	COMPANY	E-MAIL
	Anastase (Tasso) Ghionis	Omega Chemicals	

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## 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 <sup>th</sup> 2023	Think Tank Brew Lab	WSCAICHe Holiday Social
January 7, 2024	Jacobs Office	Compressed Air Systems
February 13, 2024	Clemson	Engineering Preclinical Tumor Models to Study Cancer Drug Resistance and Metastatic Spread Clemson professor
March 12, 2024	Jacobs office	The Circular Economy And Plastics Recycling by Jim Young
April 2024	Soteria	Plant Tour
May 2024	TBD	WSCAICHe May Social

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