



THE SCIOTO VALLEY VOICE

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR QUALITY SCIOTO VALLEY SECTION 0815

"ASQ's First Section of the New Millennium"

March 2004

Volume 7, Number 3

Editor – Mike MacCrae (maccraem@ettp.net)

In this Issue:

- MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR – MARCH 2004
- MARCH MEETING
- NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS
- ASQ OFFICER BIOGRAPHIES
- MEMBER MEMORABLE MOMENTS
- ASQ CERTIFICATION EXAMS
- EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES
- PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR 2004
- OF SPECIAL INTEREST – NEW LIVING COMMUNITY MEMBERSHIP MODEL

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR – MARCH 2004

Your ASQ Board of Directors has just made a very important decision in passing a new living community model for the Society's membership. Newsletter editor Mike MacCrae provides some basic information about the new model at the end of this newsletter.

Our Region 8 Director, Fletcher Birmingham, has scheduled a conference call for Tuesday, March 2, from 12:00-1:00 p.m. EST to 1) explain the Living Community Model, membership categories, membership dues and the likely impact on sections and members; and 2) solicit feedback and questions for ASQ Headquarters. The toll-free number is (877) 807-5706. The participant code is 590716.

As a key element of ASQ's recent Branding Campaign, all Sections have been provided with a new complementary banner that bears ASQ's new corporate logo. The Scioto Valley Section has received its new banner, which was displayed for the first time during the Liebert dinner tour program.

Those of you who didn't make the drive to Ironton on February 12 missed a fabulous tour and dinner! It was well worth the trip!

We had the opportunity to hear from Plant Manager Bob Walters and then see the Liebert Corporation manufacturing facility. Section member Debbie Mays worked hard to set up this presentation and tour. D. J. Gore and Plant Manager Bob Walters were involved in the arrangements. The Liebert cafeteria staff provided an excellent dinner afterward, at no cost to SVS members and guests courtesy of Liebert management.

I extend my thanks to each who attended our February program. Section member Debbie Mays at Liebert has my sincere appreciation for such an accommodating and interesting evening. If any of you talk with Debbie at an upcoming dinner program, thank her for working with us to plan the evening and make the arrangements, and for providing us with an excellent presentation, tour and meal. Everything was just perfect!

We're beginning to receive some Scioto Valley Section reservations for the joint program with the Columbus Section coming up on Tuesday, March 9. The topic is "Why Implement Six Sigma at a Community Health System?" The location is J. R. Hooks Café in Circleville. See the meeting announcement elsewhere in this newsletter.

In April, we'll tour Mill's Pride. And in May, we're hoping to hear from management at Austin Powder about that plant's quality program at a dining location near McArthur. In June, we'll have excellent speakers on the topic of quality and Baldrige in Education and close out the fiscal 2003-2004 program schedule.

I hope to see you at each of these quality activities!

Tim Matchett
Section Chair, FY03-04
Tim.Matchett@HorizonPCS.com

MARCH MEETING – PRESENTATION BY BERGER HEALTH SYSTEM, "WHY IMPLEMENT SIX SIGMA AT A COMMUNITY HEALTH SYSTEM?"

This is a joint meeting with the ASQ Columbus Section.

DATE: Tuesday, March 9, 2004

LOCATION: JR Hooks Restaurant, 115 Watt Street, Circleville, Ohio

Berger Health System (BHS) began its Six Sigma initiative in June 2002. The heart of its Six Sigma focus is improving customer satisfaction. By utilizing the Six Sigma methodology and multidisciplinary project teams, the organization has completed many successful projects. Through its initiative the system has increased customer satisfaction, streamlined/created efficient processes, and is working towards a cultural change in the way opportunities are viewed. Another positive benefit is the realization of substantial savings of financial resources that can be used for the provision of future growth and services.

The agenda includes (1) an overview of BHS and a look at its newest service lines and enhancements, (2) "Why would a not-for-profit community health system decide to implement Six Sigma?", and (3) Six Sigma at BHS - benefits, success stories, and lessons learned.

The presenters are Larry Thornhill, Sister Monica Justinger and Susan Strawser.

Larry W. Thornhill has served as the President and Chief Executive Officer of BHS since 2001. He is a Fellow of the American College of Healthcare Executives. Sister Monica Justinger is the Executive Director of Six Sigma and has been with BHS since 1997. Before her present position, she served as Assistant Vice President of Patient Care Services. Susan Strawser is a Six Sigma Black Belt at BHS and has been with the System since 1995. Prior to joining the Six Sigma initiative, she held the position of System Project Development Coordinator.

All Scioto Valley Section affiliates, other local ASQ members and anyone interested in the Society or the subject of quality or continuous improvement are encouraged to attend. Society members holding certifications **earn 0.3 re-certification units (RUs) for attending.**

MEETING AGENDA:

5:30 to 6:00 p.m. - Arrive, register and network
6:00 to 7:00 p.m. - Dinner
7:00 to 8:15 p.m. - Presentation

MENU:

Dinner buffet including roast pork loin, char-grilled chicken, stir-fry, broccoli, baked potato and rice pilaf.

DINNER COST:

\$21 each pre-paid for ASQ regular members or visitors and \$10 each for retired or unemployed members

RESERVATIONS: Pre-registration is required by 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 5.

Mail a check made payable to "ASQ Scioto Valley Section" along with name, employer, address and telephone number of each person attending to the following address:

ASQ Scioto Valley Section
PO Box 1947
Chillicothe, Ohio 45601
Attention: Bill Hoey, Arrangements Chair

Telephone and E-mail reservations are acceptable, subject to payment. Bill's telephone number is (740) 703-2705 and his E-mail address is bill@wmhoey.com. You can also register with:

Bob Rinderman, Program Chair, at qualpro@eurekanet.com or by telephone at 740-897-2440.

Tim Matchett at Tim.Matchett@HorizonPCS.com or by telephone at 740-710-8946 (Jackson exchange) or 740-772-8673 Chillicothe exchange.

Meal commitments made, but not honored, are subject to payment unless canceled by phone or electronic mail before 4:00 p.m. Friday, March 5. The Section must pay for all meals ordered. There will be no refunds of paid reservations canceled after the deadline. No-shows will be billed.

You may attend the program only, without dinner, if you choose. However, pre-registration is still required.

DIRECTIONS:

1. Take Route 23 to Circleville.
2. Exit on Route 22.
3. Take Route 22 east to Court St.
4. Make a left turn onto Court Street going north.
5. Go one block and turn right onto Watt Street. The restaurant is on the right.

NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS:

Our newly elected officers for the fiscal year that begins on July 1 are:

Bill Hoey, Chair-Elect
Dave Boulay, Vice Chair
Doug Scott, Secretary, and
Bonnie Spencer, Treasurer.

Pamela Sperling will take over as Section Chair on July 1, having been elected Chair-Elect for this fiscal year at the annual meeting last year, in January 2003.

ASQ OFFICER BIOGRAPHIES

Beginning this month, we are presenting personal biographies of some of our section officers, past and present, so you can see the rich diversity and collective experiences that make up the individuals who represent us. Hope you enjoy them.

Our first bio is of Pamela Sperling, our next Section Chair.

"Mike, our ASQ Newsletter Editor, asked me to provide a short biography of myself for inclusion in the ASQ SVS newsletter, so here goes. To start, I am currently the Chair-Elect for the Section. I start my term as Chair for the Section July 1, 2004. The prospect of serving as your Chair is both exciting and frightening since I will be the first Section Chair who was not a SVS Charter Member. The previous Chairs have set a very high standard to follow too. However, I do look forward to the challenge and intend to do my very best for you.

"Now about me specifically, I am an Ohioan by birth. I was born in the greater Toledo, Ohio, area the same year ASQ was founded. I have an "older" sister by two minutes who is also my identical twin—just think, two of me. That is a scary thought! My higher education includes a Bachelor of Civil Engineering from Newark College of Engineering, as in Newark, New Jersey—not Ohio! My first Master's degree is from New Jersey Institute of Technology in Environmental Engineering. NCE became NJIT while I was working on the Master's. Hence, it only looks like I went somewhere new; it is really the same school. Later, I obtained two additional Master's degrees by taking advantage of employee education programs. These two Master's degrees are from the University of Findlay. One is in Environmental Management and the other is an MBA. I have also taken course work from a number of other educational institutions including advanced work in coastal hydrodynamics. I guess you can really say I was studying to become a professional beach bum.

“As for professional experience, I have worked in some very different locations and job assignments. Locations include New York City working for the American Society of Civil Engineers and on Kwajalein, RMI as an environmental engineer. Kwaj is a tiny little island in the middle of the Pacific about 2000 miles southwest of Hawaii and seven degrees above the equator. (If any of you have relatives that served in WW II in the Pacific, they can tell you all about Kwaj). I have also worked for the Clemson Hydraulics Laboratory in South Carolina and two State of Florida governmental agencies in Tallahassee before coming to the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant site about ten years ago. I started at PORTS as an environmental engineer in compliance and only transferred to the Quality arena in January 2000. I currently serve as the Quality Manager for *WASTREN*, Inc.

“Professional accomplishments include certification from ASQ as a CQA and a CQM. I also hold a Professional Engineering license in the State of Florida in civil engineering. In addition to ASQ, I have memberships in the American Society of Civil Engineers and the National Society for Professional Engineers. While living in Florida, I was very active in these two engineering organizations and held various offices for them. Unfortunately, I have not been able to be active in southern Ohio in either ASCE or NSPE. Honor society memberships include Chi Epsilon (the national civil engineering honor society), Tau Beta Pi (the national engineering honor society) and Sigma Xi (the national research honor society).

“In my spare time—when I have some that is, I like to stimulate my creative side. Hence, I knit, make lace, do needlework, sew, and make quilts. Last August I purchased a new sewing machine that does some machine embroidery. It has been fun and a challenge using the machine and figuring out how to get designs from the Internet into the sewing machine. Some of you have seen some of my various “creations” but probably didn’t know it. Also, I believe in and enjoy passing on some of my creative gifts. Hence I frequently end up sharing my skills with others both informally and in structured classes. I also read a lot; mostly murder mysteries and spy type thrillers. It is a wonder I don’t have nightmares since I tend to read in bed. I also tend to fall asleep with the light on and lose my place in the book. My roommate Dexter, a spoiled rotten brindle Scottie, doesn’t like it when I do fall asleep with the light on. He seems to think he needs his beauty sleep. Oh yes, if any of you think that my purpose in life includes anything other than taking care of Dexter, he will let you know that you are very sadly mistaken. After all it is he who owns me.”

MEMBER MEMORABLE MOMENTS

John Shewbrooks, Past Section Chair, won the 2003 National Championship for Inboard Hydroplanes (2.5 Litre Modified Class) with the American Power Boat Association! We celebrated his winning the 2002 Championship at our November 2002 meeting in Chillicothe. This is his FOURTH National Championship since 1996. In addition, John has won the 2003 Mid-American Championship.

John races throughout the United States and Canada six months per year traveling nearly 30,000 miles in a season. The winning of the National Championship is based on the accumulation of points for finishes at races throughout the season. Consistently high finishes won John the title. He was recently awarded a gold championship ring for his accomplishment. ‘Sho Nuf’ well done John!

Wade Midkiff and his wife are the proud parents of TWINS! Wade is our SVS Internet Liaison and does tremendous work for us.

Abigail Corinne Midkiff was born at 0712 on 5 November 2003. She weighed 5 pounds 10.9 ounces and was 18.7 inches long. Jacob Nathaniel Davis Midkiff was born at 0713 on 5 November 2003. He weighed 5 pounds 10.1 ounces and was 19.1 inches long. Both scored 9 out of 10 on their APGAR tests.

Mom is doing well. The twins sleep well for the first four hours each night. Then they sleep in staggered two-hour slots such that one of them wakes up each hour for the rest of the night. Mom and Dad suspect a conspiracy!

You can visit <http://babies.midkiffs.net/> for more information about the new twins.

ASQ CERTIFICATION EXAMS

The following table lists the various certifications offered by ASQ, the exam dates, the application deadlines, and costs:

| Cert. | Exam Date | Application Deadline | Cost |
|--------------|------------------|-----------------------------|-------------|
| CCT | 06/05/04 | 04/09/04 | \$155 |
| CHA | 10/16/04 | 08/20/04 | \$180 |
| CMI | 10/16/04 | 08/20/04 | \$155 |
| CQA | 06/05/04 | 04/09/04 | \$180 |
| CQE | 06/05/04 | 04/09/04 | \$180 |
| CQIA | 06/05/04 | 04/09/04 | \$155 |
| CQM | 10/16/04 | 08/20/04 | \$235 |
| CQT | 10/16/04 | 08/20/04 | \$155 |
| CRE | 10/16/04 | 08/20/04 | \$180 |
| CSQE | 06/05/04 | 04/09/04 | \$180 |
| SSBB | 10/16/04 | 08/20/04 | \$180 |

Certification examinations will be held at The Ohio State University, Research and Development Center in Piketon, since this site is at the approximate geographical center of the area served by section 815.

CERTIFICATION PREPARATION

The following link on the ASQNet.org web page provides valuable information on resources to help you prepare for the various certifications that ASQ offers:

http://www.asq.org/portal/page?_pageid=33,39211,33_39258&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&in_url=/career/index.html

Cindy Davis, (Quality/Continuous Improvement Mgr. at Mill's Pride, Sr. ASQ Member, and Past Section Chair) is planning to start a CQIA course at Mill's Pride. There is a possibility that she could open it up to ASQ Members outside of Mill's Pride, but Cindy could not be reached before press time. You might touch base with her to see if she has determined or finalized a schedule of presentations and if there is a possibility for attendance by others. Cindy can be reached at cindy.davis@millspride.com.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Check out the following link on the ASQNet.org web page for career opportunities:

http://www.asq.org/portal/page?_pageid=33,39211,33_39258&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&in_url=/career/index.html

Even if you are not looking for a job right now, just reviewing the postings from time to time will help you keep abreast of the kinds of qualifications and experience employers are looking for in the quality career market.

Also, keep your eyes peeled to the newspapers for upcoming jobs at the **Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant**. There will be a number of new companies coming into the area in the next few years as construction begins on the Gas Centrifuge Plant and the Depleted Uranium Processing Facility. As news becomes available, we will post it here (time allowing).

If you are interested in the possibility of employment in the **Oak Ridge, TN**, area, there was an ad in the Knoxville paper recently for a long list of positions including Regulatory Compliance, Training Specialist, Records Management, Document Management, QA Engineer, QA Manager, and a dozen or so others. The ad instructed the respondents to email a resume to opportunity@wsms.com along with salary requirements. The ad is probably a resume collection effort for some upcoming work in the area they plan on bidding on.

PROGRAM SCHEDULE FOR 2004

- April: tour of Mill's Pride in Waverly, Ohio.
- May: we're hoping to hear from management at Austin Powder about that plant's quality program at a dining location near McArthur.
- June; we'll have excellent speakers on the topic of quality and Baldrige in Education and close out the fiscal 2003-2004 program schedule. Location to be determined

**** OF SPECIAL INTEREST ****

ASQ has just released information on the new Living Community Membership Model. This new benefits and fee model has a direct impact on all ASQ members. Please read the news announcement below and also read the statement from Bob Rinderman, our Section Founding Chair and Region 8 Deputy Director, immediately following this announcement.

ASQ News Announcement February 10, 2004

ASQ Moves Ahead with New Membership Approach Board Approves Living Community Model Implementation, Affirms Bold Strategic Initiatives

At the February 2004 meeting, the ASQ Board of Directors approved Phase 1 implementation of the ASQ Living Community Model (LCM), the Society's reinvention of membership which features flexible options, and a new benefits and dues structure.

The new model maintains the tradition values of ASQ membership, yet builds on it by offering a variety of new and enhanced member types and benefits suited to all interested in the practice and/or profession of quality. The Living Community Model approach advances ASQ's Vision as the "community of choice for everyone who seeks quality technology, concepts or tools to improve themselves and their world."

The new membership plan ensures that ASQ near-term can invest in and the roll out, or enhance key strategic initiatives sought by members. These include:

- proving the economic case for quality;
- enhancing the image of the quality professional and ASQ;
- enhanced activity on national issues, including Washington D.C., presence;
- growing new and diverse communities of practice; and
- providing more personalized member relationship management.

"Historically, ASQ has taken a 'one-size-fits-all' approach to membership, a best practice in the association world for years. But the time for change has come; people expect more from their professional associations," said Ken Case, ASQ president. "At the same time, quality's scope and impact in business and in society is expanding. The Living Community Model provides value to individuals from all backgrounds and occupations who profess an interest in quality, offering them flexible choices of involvement and affiliation with the organization and the quality movement."

The model is designed to appeal to current and prospective members with new and more diverse benefits and choices, multiple points of access, varying dues structures, and networking community options.

"The beauty of the model—and the reason it is called 'Living,' in alignment with ASQ's Living Strategy--is its flexibility and adaptability. Our new membership approach is open to seed and grow new communities of practice and interest, and is able to evolve as new benefits and services are deployed within each member type," said Case.

After months of research and design, the Living Community Model's membership categories were proposed and approved in November 2003 by the board. They are: Regular, Associate, Forum, Student, Organization, Corporate and Sponsor. At that time, the board directed the model design team to present the benefits and dues associated with the categories, as well as an implementation plan, at the board's February 2004 meeting.

The Living Community Model Phase 1 implementation primarily addresses four individual membership types—Regular Member, Associate Member, Forum Member, and Student Member. Benefits and dues for these categories would go into effect for new and renewing members beginning July 1, 2004.

Dues associated with all levels of the membership will help fund new activities, such as delivering tools and materials to substantiate the impact of quality management in business improvement—also known as the "Economic Case for Quality,"-- and a sustained, national and global effort to enhance the image, value and voice of quality professionals, practitioners, and ASQ. Image enhancement is expected to include several promotional activities as well as a media campaign.

REGULAR MEMBER

For individuals who consider themselves quality professionals or practitioners, wherever they reside, a new, improved Regular membership is available. The Regular Member category continues the tradition of ASQ membership, while adding flexibility and value to the member experience. Regular members will receive all the current benefits of ASQ membership, plus exciting new benefits. Presently, all members receive a Section, or local geographic affiliation with their membership. Under the Living Community Model approach Regular members will receive a Section membership and will select a topic- or industry-specific Division/Forum membership. Also new to the Regular member will be the top benefit requested in all membership research in recent years: bundles of topic-specific articles delivered electronically. Initially these bundles will focus on the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award, Six Sigma, ISO, and customer satisfaction, with additional quality management, business and community improvement subjects to follow. The articles will be frequently updated to ensure that the material remains fresh and relevant to members' needs.

Regular members also will receive the new ASQ Quality News Today, an online news service that will bring members daily quality-related news from around the globe. And, they can expect to receive upgraded leisure and affinity benefits, such as the addition of World Points to the ASQ MBNA credit card, valid for discounts on retail purchases, travel, and more; as well as insurance and identity theft options. And, ASQ has entered into an arrangement with Kinko's that provides a 15% discount on select business and personal services.

Senior and Fellow members receive all of the benefits of a Regular member plus the choice of one additional Section, or two additional Forums/Divisions, or one journal. Senior and Fellow member dues are equal to the Regular member dues.

Regular members are eligible to serve at any level of the Society and are eligible to upgrade to Senior and Fellow status (per Society By-laws).

Summary of ASQ Regular Member Benefits (includes, but are not limited to the following)

- *Quality Progress* (print)
- Topic-specific article collections (electronic)
- ASQ Quality News Today
- One Section membership
- One Forum/Division membership
- Quality information search access and support
- Leisure and affinity benefits (Kinko's discount card, credit card, insurance options, etc)
- Back issues of *Quality Progress* (electronic)
- Annual salary survey (electronic)
- Discounts on ASQ products and services
- Web-based ASQ information

A La Carte Options (additional fee)

- Additional Sections and Forums/Divisions
- Journals, books, courses, conferences, certification

Annual Dues: Regular member renewal for \$119 with a \$10 instant rebate
New members \$119 (no rebate)

ASSOCIATE MEMBER

The Associate Member is a new category of membership for the Society. This membership type is designed for individuals who are interested in quality tools and techniques, such as continuous improvement or customer satisfaction, even though quality management may not be their primary job function. The Associate member category may include individuals who choose ASQ as a secondary organization or supplement to their primary professional association. Individuals who select this mid-level path of entry into the Society will receive member benefits electronically. This category is appropriate for individuals around the globe.

Summary of ASQ Associate Member Benefits

- *Quality Progress* (electronic)
- Online discussion boards
- ASQ Quality News Today
- Electronic Section membership (not a local, or geographic, section)
- ASQ general public content
- Access to salary survey (electronic)
- Affinity benefits (Kinko's discount card, credit card, insurance options)
- Society newsletters
- Discounts on ASQ products and services

A La Carte Options (additional fee)

- Books, certification, conferences, courses, additional Sections and Forums/Divisions, journals, quality information searches, *Quality Progress* (print)

Annual Dues: \$69

FORUM MEMBER

The Forum membership is intended to appeal to those individuals who have an interest in quality focused within a specific industry or topic, as represented by a Forum/Division. As with the Associate member, benefits are primarily delivered through electronic means, although some face-to-face interaction and networking opportunities may further engage Forum members. This category is appropriate for individuals around the globe. In addition to ASQ's 26 Divisions and Interest Groups, ASQ's Six Sigma Forum, Koalaty Kid, and AQP are also considered Forums/Divisions that interested individuals may join. The model's design and intent is to evolve and grow Divisions and Forums, and, as well, to create communities of practice, with more precise orientations, under Forums. Under the model's design, AQP will become the Teamwork and Participation Forum, and Koalaty Kid becomes a community within ASQ's existing Education Division. (One Forum/Division membership will be offered within ASQ's new Regular membership.)

Summary of ASQ Forum Member Benefits

- Membership in the Forum/Division of choice
- All member benefits offered within ASQ's Divisions and Forums, including newsletters, content, Web sites, discussion boards, member search, etc. This base set will be expanded
- Society newsletters (electronic)
- Access to salary survey (electronic)
- ASQ general public content

A La Carte Options (additional fee)

- Books, certification, conferences, courses, additional Sections and Forums/Divisions, journal subscriptions, quality information searches, *Quality Progress* (electronic or print)

Dues: \$29

STUDENT MEMBER

As with current ASQ Student membership, Student members are those individuals currently pursuing a degree at an accredited university or college on a full-time basis who are interested in advancing their knowledge of quality tools, techniques, and applications within their field of study. Student members are eligible to hold volunteer positions within their chosen student branch. Through the student branches Student members become local Section members.

Summary of ASQ Student Member Benefits

- Quality Progress (electronic)
- Student branch membership
- Annual salary survey (electronic)
- ASQ general public content
- Eligible for ASQ awards and scholarships
- ASQ Quality News Today
- Society newsletters

A La Carte Options (additional fee)

- Books, certification, conferences, courses, additional Sections and Forums/Divisions, journals, quality information searches, *Quality Progress* (print)

Annual Dues: \$25

STILL TO COME

Phase 2 and Phase 3 of ASQ's Living Community Model are now in the research and design mode. Phase 2 will be presented, with its implementation plan, for board approval in May 2004; roll out of Phase 2 would then be scheduled to begin later this year. Phase 2 will primarily focus on group, organization and corporate memberships and sponsorships. Phase 3, also dependent on board approval, is envisioned for January-July 2005. It would include implementation of further benefits across member types and conducting an initial assessment of member satisfaction with the model and its accompanying membership types. Questions on the Living Community Model can be directed to membermodel@asq.org.

Bob Rinderman, SVS Section Founding Chair and Region 8 Deputy Director, Responds

Bob Rinderman has made this following statement, "I fully expect that this recently approved "New Member Model" will cause a great deal of concern and question on the part of many of our current members. In my opinion, we owe them the opportunity to hear about it from us (SVS) before they read about it in

Quality Progress or in the Dues Notices which are set to be distributed no later than April. I also believe that our members need to have some visibility of the work and effort that Tim Matchett and others have put into trying to assure that the Voice of Section has been heard by the ASQ Board of Directors.

“The SVS Executive Committee (EC) will be discussing the New Member Model (NMM) at our upcoming meeting on March 2, 2004. I have discussed, in general, the agenda for the next EC and Tim was agreeable to including a discussion of the NMM in our next meeting.

“As for any mention of the approach that the Section will be taking to this new initiative, or any action that the Section might be contemplating to discuss and evaluate this new program, I invite you to contact Tim Matchett. Tim speaks for the Section and the SVS Executive Committee and any reference or discussion in the newsletter about the Section's or Executive Committee's consideration, discussion, or approach to the NMM should, most appropriately, come from him.”