

TIDEWATER TIMES

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NAVAL ENGINEERS TIDEWATER SECTION



APRIL 2024 NEWSLETTER

ASNE TIDEWATER “QUICK LOOK”

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CHAIR'S LETTER TO THE MEMBERSHIP

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(757 area code)

Greetings Tidewater Members and Friends,

Wow! If you were not able to make the March dinner/meeting, you truly missed an engaging speaker with relevant discussion. **RADM(ret) Matthew Zirkle**, Regional Director Submarine Industrial Base (SIB), provided us with a preeminent prospective of the challenges we are all facing and what SIB is doing about it when it comes to recruiting and retaining a professional maritime workforce to build “giants”. It was also noteworthy to share this dinner with our friends from the Hampton Roads Submarine League. It is our hope that we will continue to foster relationships with our sister professional societies and organizations in the region.

Thanks to **Andy Vasquez** we were able to get a great tour of the VRC Cold Weld facility in Chesapeake. We had an awesome turn-out with the limited spots filling up almost immediately upon the announcement.

For April, **Ms. Erin Gatling** will be our guest speaker. Erin is literally a “Rocket Scientist” and a visionary leader that will inspire us all. She was raised in Hampton Roads and graduated from Western Branch High School in Chesapeake. After getting inspired at a career / STEM fair to be an engineer, she went on to North Carolina State for Electrical and Electronics Engineering and then landed a job with NASA. She shared a cubicle with **Elon Musk** which led to her to being part of the start-up of SpaceX where she led the Falcon Heavy projects. After meeting her husband at NASA and SpaceX, they decided to retire early to start a family. They took their family around the world on a sailboat, then returned to Hampton Roads and became owner of two marinas. Erin is co-owner of Electrified Marina which is bringing electrical propulsion to the commercial pleasure craft world. She brings a lot to ASNE to include promotion of women engineers, support of PEP, Marine Electrical Engineering, and you name it. FROM SPACE TO MARITIME!

For May, we wrap up the dinner program with another great woman engineer. **RDML Dianna Wolfson** will be joining us to provide us the latest on Fleet Maintenance. I think **Juan Orozco** and **Garrett Farman** deserve recognition for the great speakers they have lined up this year!

Elections for officers for the Program year 1 Jul 2024 through 30 Jun 2025 will be coming up this Spring. **Renee Reedy** is chairing a Nominating Committee to help manage the elections. If interested in running for office (Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer) or being part of the Nominating Committee, please reach out to Renee at reneereedy@cox.net.

I am going to continue put the call out over the proverbial IMC ---- Membership --- Membership ---- Membership. Rates are going up 1 July. It is a good time to lock in your new membership for 2024/2025 and also bring in that office colleague, friend, neighbor and family member.

Lastly, do not forget about the upcoming events:

- **PEP Competition:** 15–16 April, First Landing State Park, VA Beach
- **Build-a-Boat** at Harborfest: 8–9 June, Towne Point Park, Norfolk
- **MACC 2024:** 15–19 July, Renaissance Hotel, Portsmouth
- **ASNE TW Golf Tournament:** 16 Sept, Cypress Point Golf Course, VA Beach
- **FMMS 2024:** 17–19 Sept, VA Beach Convention Center

Joe Kosteczko
ASNE TW Section Chair
ASNE.Tidewater.Social@gmail.com
asne-tw.org



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ASNE TW DINNER/MEETING PROGRAM APRIL 2024

The ASNE Tidewater Section will hold the next dinner/meeting program on **April 17, 2024**. Our guest speaker is **Ms. Erin Gatling**, CEO and Co-Founder of Electrified Marina and a retired SpaceX Rocket Scientist. We look forward to seeing you!

Place: [Holiday Inn Virginia Beach-Norfolk at 5655 Greenwich Road, Virginia Beach](#)

Time: 5:30-6:00pm Cocktails and Networking; 6:00-8:00pm Dinner and Program

- Cost: • Members: \$35 in advance / \$37 at the door
- Non-members: \$40 in advance / \$42 at the door
- Military: \$20 in advance / \$25 at the door
- Students: \$10 in advance / \$15 at the door

Please register on our [website](#) by **noon Monday April 15th**.

“Empowering the Future Engineers: The Journey of a Visionary Rocket Scientist from Space to Maritime”

Erin Gatling started her career with hands-on internships at NASA Langley Research Center and BMW Manufacturing where she cultivated a strong foundation in electrical engineering and a passion for innovation.

Joining Raytheon’s Space and Airborne Systems in 2006, she demonstrated multifaceted engineering skills and set the stage for her career at SpaceX.

In 2008, she joined SpaceX, a small company at the time, at the forefront of private space exploration. For over a decade, she progressed through increasingly pivotal roles, starting as the first Falcon Manufacturing Engineer in the company and culminating as the Manager of Falcon Integration & Test. She was instrumental in the success of the Falcon rockets, including the Falcon Heavy, which marked a significant milestone in space travel history.

During her time at SpaceX, Erin was involved in building the very first Falcon 9 rockets and she was responsible for creating a team of build engineers and laying out the Falcon 9 assembly line. Her team was responsible for solving all issues that arose during the build of the rockets, finding and implementing changes to improve production build times, and performing final walk downs and testing to give final approval for the rocket to ship from the factory to the test and launch facilities.

Once the Falcon 9 build process was stable, Erin became the first person at SpaceX with the title Lead Falcon Heavy Engineer. She oversaw the build of the test tank followed by figuring out how to build the first flight Falcon Heavy rocket - which was the most powerful operational rocket in the world in its time; only surpassed recently by Starship, SpaceX’s rocket that will go to Mars & the Moon.

Her work has not only advanced the capabilities of space exploration but has also served as a beacon of inspiration for women in STEM. In a field where female engineers are still underrepresented, her achievements resonate as a powerful reminder of the contributions women can make to science and technology.



Beyond her professional accomplishments, she is a proponent of mentorship and diversity in engineering. She was the VP of SWE (Society of Women Engineers) when in college at North Carolina State University and believes in empowering the next generation of engineers, especially women, to pursue careers in STEM, advocating for equal opportunities and representation in the field.

Erin is now the co-owner of two local marinas and a 100% electric boat sales and rental company - helping push the industry innovation forward. Electrified Marina, an innovative business venture, launched in Norfolk, VA in the Spring of 2023.

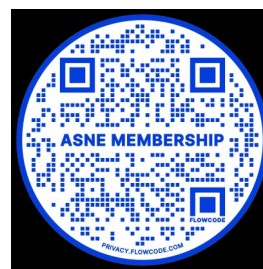


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March 2024 Dinner/Meeting Program Highlights

RADM Matthew Zirkle delivered an engaging presentation to ASNE Tidewater members on March 20th. He highlighted Submarine Industrial Base activities across the nation in support of Virginia and Columbia Class submarine construction, emphasizing maritime workforce development for the future. A lively Q&A session followed.

For our [May dinner/meeting program](#), we will have **RDML Dianna Wolfson**, USN, Director, Fleet Maintenance U.S. Fleet Forces Command as our guest speaker. Join us!





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Nominations for ASNE TW Executive Committee!

ASNE Tidewater,

Time is running out -- we are still looking for nominations for our new Program Year. As you know, our Section year runs from 1 July to 30 June. We have only received two nominations for next year – one for Secretary and Chuck Doty has agreed to stay on as Treasurer. **WE STILL DO NOT HAVE ANY NOMINATIONS FOR VICE CHAIR.**

As a review, here are our current officers and timeline for serving in each position:

Position	Current Officer	Timeline
Chair	Joe Kosteczko	2023/2024 (voted in and served as Vice Chair 2022/2023)
Vice Chair	Ken Blair	2023/2024 (will serve as Chair for 2024/2025)
Secretary	Vacant	2023/2024
Treasurer	Chuck Doty	2023/2024

For the 2024/20245 Section year, we will be voting for **Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer**. The schedule for nominations and voting is:

- March Dinner/Meeting – accepting nominations for Secretary, Treasurer and Vice Chair
- April/May – ballot generation and voting

If you are interested in serving in one of these positions or interested in nominating someone for one of these positions, please let me, **Stephanie Douglas** or **Jessica Galassie** know ASAP. All nominations need to be accepted and vetted prior to being put on the ballot.

Thank you,
Renee Reedy
 (757) 328-0030 // reneereedy@cox.net





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Maritime Conference at ODU

Free event! Please RSVP by April 8, 2024

Who should attend?

Students: learn about the maritime industry, including employment & internship opportunities

Faculty: network with industry representatives

Industry: learn about Maritime at ODU, and network with faculty and students

For agenda and more information, please visit:
odu.edu/maritime

Thank you to our sponsors: Coastal Virginia Adaptation & Resilience Consortium, and Honor Builders

[Click here to RSVP](#)

**OLD DOMINION
UNIVERSITY**

You are cordially invited to attend a

Maritime Conference

Friday, April 12th, 2024

Featuring keynote address by
Rear Admiral Ann C. Phillips, US Navy (Ret.)
*Administrator, Maritime Administration,
U.S. Department of Transportation*

2:30 P.M. – 6:00 P.M.
Darden College of Education and
Professional Studies Building,
Multipurpose Auditorium, 1st Floor

Followed by an
**Art Exhibition Grand Opening
and Reception**

*Message in a Bottle:
Picturing Maritime Culture in Hampton Roads*

6:00 P.M.
Barry Art Museum



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Committee Corner

STEM Outreach

The ASNE Tidewater Section is engaging in great STEM outreach! In mid March we discussed shipbuilding with middle & high school students at the [ODU Virginia Modeling, Analysis, & Simulation Center \(VMASC\)](#). In April, we'll welcome hundreds of collegiate engineers to compete in the Promoting Electrica Propulsion (PEP) competition. Then, we will provide free registrations to all undergraduates attending MACC and FMMS. In addition, we are partnering with [STARBASE Victory](#) to integrate MACC & robotics into Portsmouth City summer camps.

Keep up with the section at asne-tw.org
Email education@navalengineers.org to volunteer at these important STEM events!

Multi-Agency Craft Conference (MACC) Committee

The MACC Committee has engaged Headquarters and the Portsmouth City Council on what is shaping up to be a great event in Downtown Portsmouth. MACC is scheduled for July 16-18, 2024.

The Committee is working on outreach for participants and sponsors, actively engaging city leadership to include school programs with the next generation of aspiring Engineers, and involving local USCG and Navy representation. This event has had Portsmouth **Mayor Shannon Glover's** attention since last year and he has been personally involved with our local team since then to ensure this year's event is bigger and better. If you'd like to join this high energy team, please reach out to **Andy Vasquez** at mightymo5@verizon.net or **Courtney Culpepper** at courtney@courtneyculpepper.com.

2024 Golf Tournament

The committee will be reaching out for assistance in the near future, look for a note or listen up for an announcement at dinner. If you would like to participate and help plan our local ASNE event that benefits the ASNE Scholarship fund, please reach out to the committee co-chairs (collectively).

Calvin Smith - calvins@standardcal.com
Nicole Rogers - nrogers@weldamerica.com
Cliff Shearer - cliff.shearer@blueravencorp.com
Tom Bray - lawrence.bray@cox.net



Other News

There is an opportunity for a **free** one-year membership for government employees (uniform or civilian). **RADM (Ret.) Mark Whitney** has graciously created a fund to help with membership for government employees for 2024. If interested in this opportunity please go to <https://www.navalengineers.org/register> to create a profile using a government e-mail address. If there is already a profile with no membership history, please use the password recovery to ensure you can log in. Next, e-mail membership@navalengineers.org with a message identifying yourself and the section (Tidewater) or person (Joe Kosteczko / Mark Whitney) referring you, along with a note about the opportunity for a free membership.

Membership & Marketing updates provided on [page 8](#) ...



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ASNE Membership & Marketing

ASNE Tidewater members have had great discussions regarding volunteerism, social media, tours, program events for next year, networking events, and many other ideas.

From those discussions, here are a few suggestions for encouraging membership and spreading the word about our Section, future events, and opportunities to serve:

- Bring your mentees to events, expose them to symposia, dinner events and introduce them to the membership.
- Pass on your networking skills while at ASNE events.
- Post and share, or just share ASNE related posts on social media.
- Committee leadership will be called on at each monthly dinner event to provide updates to the society.
- Consider sharing your marketing ideas with the committee.
- Communicate the numerous opportunities to volunteer!

Why Membership?

- Professional societies provide community and social opportunities for students, future leaders, and established professionals.
- Opportunities for professional development and professional development hours. Leadership opportunities, either elected or appointed committee members.
- Networking opportunities.
- Exposure to job opportunities and resume building.
- Access to focused customer leaders within the community and expands on one's perspective of the industry.
- Mentoring: provides exposure to potential mentors and mentees.
- Resources, academic, tours, OJT, symposia, and other professional events.
- Training, workshops, professional development.

Bottom line, professional societies rely on its members to expand membership, to encourage those in the community to join and volunteer. In our case, the future of Naval Engineering is evolving quickly, we appreciate new ideas and volunteers to act on those ideas.

Please encourage those in your circles to attend, join and participate in everything ASNE.





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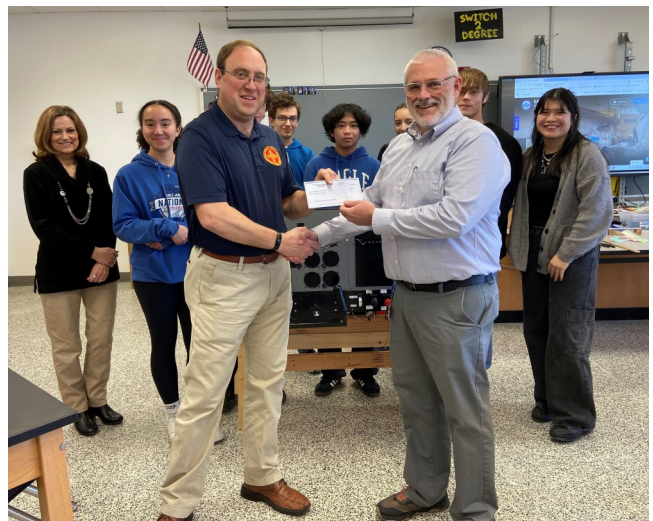
ASNE TIDEWATER STEM AWARD

On March 1, 2024, the ASNE Tidewater Section was thrilled to present a STEM award to Landstown High School and the Landstown Governor’s STEM Academy. The specific program the award benefits is the Academy’s Aerospace Technology 1 & 2 Courses. These courses promote interest in the fields of aviation such as aerospace engineer, commercial and general aviation, air traffic control, and aviation mechanics. Naval engineering is also a field that is frequently discussed in the class. The STEM award will be used to enhance a flight simulator (pictured right), donated by Old Dominion University.



ODU’s Office of Enterprise Research and Innovation possessed the Cessna 172 control panel simulator. It was constructed for a previous project but was no longer being used. The Academy was excited to receive it. The simulator can provide students with basic knowledge and skills of how to fly a Cessna 172 and likely expand their interest in the world of aviation.

Some of the components of the simulator were not provided; therefore, the STEM award will help pay for the software and hardware needed to make the simulator operational.



ASNE TW Chair **Joe Kosteczko** presents the check to **Keith Leonard**, the Academy’s Physics, AP Physics and Aerospace Technology instructor.





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ADVANCED MACHINERY TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM



Advanced Machinery Technology Symposium

April 30-May 2, 2024 | Philadelphia, PA

[Lock in your Registration Today!](#)

If you missed AMTS 2022, you don't want to miss AMTS 2024! AMTS returns May 1st at the Delta Hotel Philadelphia, conveniently located near Philadelphia International Airport and NSWCPD. Register today and save with early registration rates.

The AMTS planning committee is busy crafting a robust agenda featuring both NSWCPD and industry leadership, in-depth technical papers, informative panels, and exclusive networking opportunities to provide you with the crucial insights necessary for fostering successful partnerships.

Researchers: The call for papers is now open. Visit the AMTS event page for more information on abstract submission details as well as potential topics. Abstracts are due January 19th with author registration opening after accepted papers have been selected.

Looking to elevate your organization's brand and gain valuable exposure in front of the AMTS audience? Whether you're showcasing your cutting-edge products and services with an exhibit or seeking to boost your organization's visibility as a sponsor, exciting opportunities are available.

Visit www.navalengineers.org/AMTS2024 to learn more.

[Register Today!](#)



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MEGARUST 2024

MEGARUST
MAY 21-23, 2024
MARRIOTT MISSION VALLEY, SAN DIEGO, CA
CALL FOR PAPERS DEADLINE IS EXTENDED TILL APRIL 5!



Important Dates:

Abstracts Due: April 5, 2024

- Notification of Acceptance: April 19, 2024
- Drafts Due: April 25, 2024
- Final Papers Due: May 15, 2024

[Click Here to Submit an Abstract](#)

MegaRust is conducted annually to provide a consolidated focus on maritime operations corrosion issues.

Corrosion is a major factor in the readiness and total ownership cost of naval systems and this conference is intended to provide updated information on programs, policies, standards, and Fleet experience related to corrosion and to promote discussion and sharing of information on technologies and strategies for controlling corrosion.

The professional symposium provides an impartial forum for dialogue between government and commercial organizations, and providers of coatings and corrosion control products, processes, technologies, and solutions.

Participants include representatives from military, industry, and government organizations involved with research and development, design, engineering, construction, maintenance, modernization, and operation of naval systems that are potentially affected by corrosion.

The symposium covers all segments of the naval services including commercial, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Merchant Marine, sea, air and ground vehicles, and shipbuilding/maintenance facilities.



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2024 ASNE-Sika ULTIMATE BUILD-A-BOAT CHALLENGE

WANTED!



Teams and Sponsors for the 28th Annual

ASNE-Sika ULTIMATE *Build-A-Boat* CHALLENGE



@ Norfolk Harborfest
Sat-Sun June 8-9, 2024

- ✓ Field a two-person team
- ✓ Design your craft in advance
- ✓ Build and decorate on Saturday
- ✓ Race it on Sunday!



For more information,
contact Mike D'Amato at Michael.Damato@hii-tsd.com
or visit www.asne-tw.org.



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MULTI-AGENCY CRAFT CONFERENCE 2024



AT THE RENAISSANCE WATERFRONT
★ ★ ★
July 16-18 2024
Portsmouth, VA

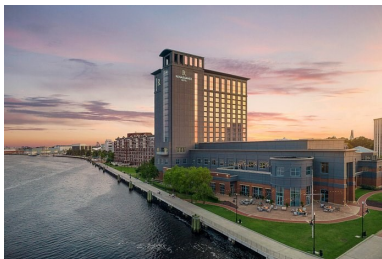
Save the Date!

July 16-18, 2024

Renaissance Portsmouth-Norfolk Waterfront Hotel

The Multi-Agency Craft Conference (MACC) is an open forum for the exchange of operational and technical information on small boats and craft between Government agencies and the maritime community. Information on new technologies and new product offerings as well as information on Army and Navy service craft, Navy and Coast Guard patrol boats, Navy and USMC expeditionary craft, and Naval Special Warfare craft are highlighted in chaired technical presentations, vendor and agency displays, and in-water demonstrations.

Since its founding in 1998, MACC has served as a primary venue for leveraging knowledge and lessons-learned across multiple Government agencies that develop, procure, or operate small boats and craft. Previous MACC symposia have covered a broad range of professional development topics including: requirements generation, boat and craft design, acquisition processes, maintenance and repair practices, logistics and training, and new technology development and integration. The shared information results in effective use of resources, opportunities for collaboration, a more knowledgeable industry-base, and best-value small boats and craft for all end-user communities.




Venue
Renaissance Portsmouth-
Norfolk Waterfront Hotel
425 Water Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704



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FMMS 2024 - VIRGINIA BEACH



Fleet Maintenance & Modernization Symposium

SEPTEMBER 17-19, 2024
VIRGINIA BEACH CONVENTION CENTER
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA

ASNE's Fleet Maintenance & Modernization Symposium (FMMS) is coming to the Virginia Beach Convention Center!

The American Society of Naval Engineers (ASNE) is excited to return to the East Coast and the Virginia Beach Convention Center for the 2024 Fleet Maintenance & Modernization Symposium (FMMS).

The symposium will take place **September 16-19**. In addition to the professional Keynotes, Panels, Technical Paper presentations, and Innovation Theater discussions, FMMS will have maritime industry exhibitors in the Virginia Beach Convention Center Exhibit Hall, with superb government ~ industry networking opportunities!

The Fleet Maintenance & Modernization Symposium also has partnership events - including the **Industry/Navy Discussion Panel (INDP)**, the **Port Engineers Symposium**, and **National Shipbuilding Research Program (NSRP) Panel Meetings**.

ASNE's FMMS allows for an open forum of communications and exchange of technical information on ship maintenance and modernization between the Maritime Services, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Merchant Marine, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, Military Sealift Command, industry, academia, deck plate users, think tanks, Labs, FFRDCs, and [hopefully] you.

This forum seeks to engage everyone who has a stake in building, repairing, sailing, innovating, updating, training, fighting, and winning on or from the sea on a U.S. or allied military vessel. We are stronger when people with different backgrounds, education, jobs, trades, and experience discuss issues and solutions facing the fleet.

Important dates:

- 16 September: Exhibitor Setup / Professional Development Course
- 17-18 September: Fleet Maintenance & Modernization Symposium
- 19 September: Industry – Navy Discussion Program (INDP), NSRP Panel Meetings

[REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE!](#)

ASNE Tidewater will be hosting another Golf Tournament during FMMS and needs volunteers to help organize the event.

If interested, please contact **Joe Kosteczko**
(757) 232-1859 // jkostecz@odu.edu

