

DISTILLATES

American Institute of Chemical Engineers

[Indianapolis Section](#)

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May 2011 Newsletter

Editor: Kevin Keating

May Meeting – Annual Meeting / Dinner Meeting

Our final event of the year will be a dinner meeting and election of Officers for 2011-2012.

Date: Tuesday, May 31, 2011

Schedule: 5:30 PM for Dinner followed by Annual Meeting and Election of Officers.

Location: TBD (See below, *From Your Chairman...*)

Description: Joins us for our Annual Meeting and Election of Officers. Once again we are inviting spouses and guests to the Annual Meeting.

RSVP: Please RSVP to your Chairman, Alan Schmidt at alan.schmidt@att.net or call 317-233-5190 (office) or at his cell phone 317-695-5741. Please provide your name, company, and telephone number.

Price: To encourage attendance, the meal cost for local AIChE section members and accompanying spouse or guest will be covered by the local section.

From the Chairman ...

Join your local AIChE chapter members on Tuesday, May 31 for an evening dinner meeting to elect Indianapolis Section of AIChE officers for the upcoming 2011/2012 year. To encourage attendance the local section will cover the dinner cost for a local member and accompanying spouse or guest. The dinner meeting will be at 5:30 PM at a downtown Indianapolis restaurant arranged among those reserving with your Chairman for the meeting.

We need some volunteers for chapter Vice-Chairman and Chairman to help continue activities of the chapter. Potential candidates for Chairman and Vice-Chairman should convey their interest to your current Chairman. John Elliott is willing to continue as Secretary/Treasurer and your current chairman will become past-chairman, which is an official officer position. Kevin Keating has agreed to continue as Distillates editor and Karl Schnelle will continue as webmaster, both critical positions for the function of the chapter. You may want to show up to make sure you are not elected in absentia.

Through our member, Charles (Chuck) Appley, we enjoyed a tour of Knauf Insulation on April 20. It was fascinating to see the actual fluffy insulation being created and a broadening experience to see an entire operating plant operation. We had good networking conversations over dinner.

We have had a variety of activities and networking opportunities over the last year.

- Sept 7, 2010 was a networking opportunity over Chinese dinner and idyllic stroll around Lilly Lake in Eagle Creek Park,
- October 27 was a tour of Stellar Wind BioEnergy's algae to oil pilot plant,
- November 6 was interacting with hundreds of students for National Chemistry Week,
- January 18 was a tour of Organic Power Solutions and their waste to energy pyrolytic research,
- February 7 was a joint meeting with Sciencetech on Industrial Agriculture and the Global Threat of Antimicrobial Resistance, and
- February 26 was the properties of Silly Putty for Engineer's Day at the Children's Museum.

Suggestions for future tours and activities are welcome and needed.

Dr. Alan Dale Schmidt, Chairman, Indianapolis Section of AIChE
alan.schmidt@att.net 317 233-5190 day work, 317 695-5741 cell phone

Escaping the Boss From Hell: Three Steps to a Better Career

Nearly everyone has suffered this at least once in his career—the boss who makes each workday a living terror. You can find the “Boss from Hell” in any industry or occupation. Even the best companies slip up from time to time, allowing bullies to rise through the employment food chain to management.

If a national survey were taken to find out the reasons people change jobs, by far the number one reason for job dissatisfaction would be bad management. As a career coach, surprisingly, I’ve found that increased earning potential usually ranks far below the desire to leave a mean, unreasonable boss. If you wake up each day dreading the next eight to ten hours, your problem might be your supervisor.

You’re working for the Boss From Hell if:

- He (or she) bullies you and your coworkers with threats and temper tantrums.
- His unpredictable moods keeps the office environment constantly tense and second-guessing his next move.
- He sets unrealistic and unattainable goals.
- You live in constant fear of being fired.

Fear and intimidation never motivate employees to excel. Tyrannical supervisors create an atmosphere of distrust and isolation. If you work for someone like this, your confidence is probably not what it used to be. In fact, you are probably second-guessing your decisions on the job constantly. As long as you work for management that rules by fear, you’ll never reach your career and earning potential.

There are three steps to escape the Boss From Hell and move on to a happier, healthier work place.

1. Gain perspective to think rationally about your career options.

Fear in the workplace tends to leave people thinking they have no better options than to stick it out. Such thinking is a result of loss of confidence and the inability to see beyond the present distress. One way to gain perspective and see new options is to spend some time browsing job postings. The right direction might be within another department or division of your current employer, but away from your current boss. Or it might be somewhere else altogether. If you keep an open mind, you’ll see that there are many options for you outside of your current job.

One way to get the most out of this career reconnaissance is to search for job postings based on skills rather than job titles. Do a job-skills self-analysis to identify the tasks and activities you enjoy performing on your job. Use those skills as your search terms at online job boards. You may be surprised to see that you qualify for positions you had not thought of before.

2. Take inventory of your career accomplishments and contributions.

In order to get moving toward a new position you'll need to regain your confidence. Think about, and then write down, situations of where you:

- Came up with an idea for saving time
- Helped your team reach a production goal
- Identified cost savings opportunities
- Solved a customer problem leading to increased customer satisfaction

As you think back on your accomplishments, you'll begin to realize the value you have added to your company. Remember, other employers have similar problems to solve. They are looking for candidates who have experience in handling difficult situations. The more specific the examples of your accomplishments are, the more marketable you will be in the job market.

3. Update your resume.

Once you have your accomplishments listed, use them to update your resume. Think of your resume as your initial marketing tool; it should announce to potential employers your ability to help them reach their bottom-line corporate goals. For example, your resume should appeal to potential employers' desire to increase efficiency, cut costs and improve productivity. When employers see what you can do for them, they're sure to be impressed.

Your resume should also have a clear career focus. Updating your resume doesn't mean simply adding your current work history to your old resume format. Without a careful resume strategy, your resume will begin to resemble an old house with too many tacked on additions. Make sure your resume presents a cohesive, well-thought out, professional front.

Additionally, if your career has taken several interesting turns, you'll want to adjust your resume toward your current focus. Take the time to refocus your resume on your current job search. Highlight the items from your career that are relevant, and minimize the things that are no longer relevant.

Once you have invested the time to gain perspective on your career options, take inventory of your accomplishments, and update your resume, you'll be mentally and emotionally ready to seek other employment opportunities, either within or outside your current company. You don't have to remain in an unhappy job. You do have choices. Take the steps to help yourself—you'll be glad you did!

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**Deborah Walker, Certified Career Management Coach**

email: [Deb@Alphaadvantage.com](mailto:Deb@Alphaadvantage.com)

Read more career tips and see sample resumes at: [www.AlphaAdvantage.com](http://www.AlphaAdvantage.com)

## Meeting Activities for Indianapolis 2010 - 2011

| Date      | Activity                              |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| May 2011  | Dinner Meeting – Election of Officers |
| June 2011 | TBD                                   |

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### Welcome to AIChE

The global professional community for over 40,000 chemical engineers in 93 countries. AIChE provides members with technical resources as well as tools to manage their careers and lives.

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Visit the <http://www.aiche.org/> web site to find information, visit forums, renew membership, or find benefits, career listings, and other advice from our national headquarters. Current items include those shown below;

### Job Hunting?

CareerEngineer is still the only job posting system built exclusively for chemical engineers. New listings appear daily. Be sure to visit CareerEngineer at <http://www.aiche.org/apps/careerengineer/index.asp>.

### Also from AIChE National ...

| 2011 Conferences                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">AIChE-DECHEMA Global Conference on Energy Sustainability in the Process Industries (ESPI)</a><br>Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST), Hong Kong SAR, China, June 5-8, 2011 |
| 56th Annual Safety in Ammonia Plants and Related Facilities Symposium<br>Sheraton Montreal Hotel, Montreal, QC, September 11-15, 2011                                                                     |
| <a href="#">AIChE-SPE Joint Workshop - Challenges in Flow Assurance</a> , Omni-Houston Westside, Houston, TX, USA, September 26-28, 2011                                                                  |
| <a href="#">2011 AIChE Regional Process Technology Conference</a> , Moody Gardens Hotel Galveston, TX, October 6-7, 2011                                                                                  |
| Annual Meeting <a href="#">AIChE Annual Meeting</a><br>Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, MN, October 16-21, 2011                                                                                |
| <a href="#">International Congress on Energy</a><br>Minneapolis Convention Center, Minneapolis, MN October 16-21, 2011                                                                                    |

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## Call for Officers – Indianapolis AIChE

We are looking for members who would like to become officers for the 2011-2012 year including those wishing to start the climb to the role of Section Chairmanship. There are committee chair openings, if you can help or have an interest, the officers will help you with a committee.

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**Fellow Chemists:** The **Indiana Section of the American Chemical Society** is proud to announce its newly refurbished Indiana Section Website...

[Indiana Local Section - Home](#) = <http://indiana.sites.acs.org/>

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## Science and Engineering Presentations:

Sciencetech meetings are held nearly every Monday at the Northside Knights of Columbus just west of Keystone on 71st Street starting at 11:15 am with a buffet luncheon (\$10.00 or \$2.00 for beverages only). Announcements and introductions are at noon, followed by the presentation which continues to 1 pm. Some meetings may be replaced with a tour of some place of interest. Any exceptions are noted in the calendar listing below.

For further details contact Dr. Alan Schmidt at (317) 233-5190 or 865-3545. For later Monday programs check the Sciencetech calendar at <http://www.sciencetechclub.org/programs/calendarpagecss.html>

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## Officers and Volunteers for 2010 - 2011

|                     |                                                   |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| Chairman            | Dr. Alan Dale Schmidt, IDEM, 317-233-5190         |
| Vice-Chairman       | Open                                              |
| Secretary/Treasurer | John Elliott, IDEM, 317-233-0703                  |
| Past Chairman       | Thomas Leas, IDEM, 317-234-4051                   |
| Webmaster           | Karl Schnelle, Dow AgroSciences LLC, 317-337-3140 |
| Newsletter Editor   | Kevin Keating, Eli Lilly, 317-651-1698            |

Link to Indianapolis chapter website: <http://www.indyaiche.org>