



Institute of Industrial Engineers Chapter 47, Greater Detroit Area, Michigan

NEWSLETTER

Mission: It is the mission of the Greater Detroit Chapter to promote the advancement of Industrial Engineering by providing professional development information and resources to our members and the community.

**July 2009
Volume 53, No. 3**

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IIE New Member Profile: Kimberly Gunn

Our New Member Profile for this quarter is Kimberly Gunn, an accomplished professional and mother of two. Read more about her story from an IE freshly graduated from Kettering in Flint, MI through many exciting projects in different facets of the auto industry.

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IIE National Conference Summary

The IIE National Conference was early this last month and our own VP of Chapter Development Lanie Dixon was fortunate enough to have the privilege of attending. Although she had to leave lovely Detroit to spend some time in Miami, she did not let that deter her fun. She returned with, among other things, pictures and a brief article.

Details and picture on page 3.....

Regional Vice President Update

Gary Altman (IIE-GDC President 2008) was elected to the position of Region Vice President this year. He has been working hard to increase membership and strengthen the IIE program in the Great Lakes Region.

See page 4 for a message from Gary.....

2009 Programs

Upcoming Programs

- **Sat, Jul 12** Region IV Put-In Bay BBQ Social
- **Fri, Sept 18** Harbour Report Presentation
- **Sept, TBD** IIE-GDC Chapter Meeting/Student Outreach

Check out details at Greater Detroit Chapter Website at:

www.iiedetroit.org

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Six Sigma Symposium & IIE National Conference Updates

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Kimberly Gunn

IIE New Member Profile

My name is Kimberly Gunn and I'm a returning IIE member. I recently found my original membership certificate from college, tucked away in a folder, which brought back a lot of great memories of Kettering University, or General Motors Institute, as it was known when I first started.

After graduation from GMI/Kettering, my time at GM included many assignments. The most interesting was running the Lean Lab which included a Packaging Test facility, and Ergonomic Assessment area.

We trained operations teams on Lean principles and methodologies, and then facilitated the actual design of manufacturing work cells incorporating what was taught in the classroom, using lightweight materials for the cell mock-ups. A picture is worth a thousand words, and in this case, the ability to physically simulate the work in the mock cell created many implementation benefits, including getting equipment modifications before launch, gaining operator buy-in of a process which they helped design, and resolving potential ergonomic issues upfront.

In the meantime, former classmates were describing the fun they were having across town at Chrysler, so I jumped ship in 1997 and joined the management staff at Sterling Heights Assembly. I was only there 18 months, but it was a great operations deep-dive, dealing with union represented labor, and leading teams to develop solutions jointly, including designing changes to improve assembly efficiency.

I then spent the next few years at the Auburn Hills headquarters working in the Procurement & Supply organization as a Supplier Development Specialist. Daimler and Chrysler had just announced the 'merger of equals', so I spent the next year and a half working on the Integration Team, which meant frequent trips to Germany and frequent host events where we worked with our Daimler colleagues to identify Supply best practices and work on commonizing systems and strategies.

A few assignments later I was off to Mopar, which is the Service and Parts division of Chrysler. Service parts are managed completely different from production parts for many reasons, from having to maintain inventory for so many years to satisfy governmental regulations, to having to maintain extremely complicated 'supercedence' trees to identify which change level of a part is required to service a particular year/Vin sequence of a vehicle. Also, the supply chain is more complicated in the service world. Frequently, production vendors won't make service parts after the vehicle is no longer in production, so the service parts may be sourced to smaller vendors which mean more origination points. And since we paid for transportation from the vendors' dock, it means higher transportation bills. The challenge was always to balance between JIT inventory, obsolescence, and transportation costs, since a nickel increase in diesel fuel translated to millions in increased transportation expense.

The best part about Industrial Engineering is that the skill set is so transferable. Processes are everywhere, and making them better is what we do!

My husband, Lucius, and I have two wonderful kids who take up pretty much all of our free time, but I enjoy reading, traveling and learning to play golf.

The IIE Detroit Chapter #047 has 192 members in the greater Detroit metropolitan area. See our website at <http://www.iiedetroit.org/>.

You may contact the following local Greater Detroit IIE Chapter Officer for additional info:
Jeff VandenBoom, President president@iiedetroit.org



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2009 Program Updates

Lean Six Sigma Symposium

By: Gary Altman

The Lean Six Sigma Symposium held on April 24, 2009 was a great success for both IIE and Crittenton Hospital Medical Center. The 7th Annual Lean Six Sigma Symposium for the IIE Greater Detroit Chapter was hosted for the first time by Crittenton Hospital Medical Center in Rochester, MI. The event drew over 110 professionals to learn more about Baldrige, Lean, Six Sigma and Performance Improvement. The event resulted in 18 new local IIE members.

Thank you to those IIE members that came to support the event. We are already excited to grow the event more next year! A photo from the event is below.

IIE National Conference Summary

By: Lanie Dixon

Attending the 2009 IIE National Conference in is an experience I won't soon forget. The vast array of workshops, exhibits, keynote speeches, tours and presentations reminded me of just how diverse and dynamic Industrial Engineering is.

Much more valuable than simply reading an article or paper, interactive presentations on sustaining Kaizen event outcomes and using ABC Costing, Lean and Simulation made the topics I've studied and practiced over the years really come alive. It was a pleasure to be able to ask in depth questions, share innovative ideas and unique challenges with colleagues from around the globe.

A photo from the event is below.

2009 Lean Six Sigma Symposium

Kevin McManus presenting on "Pursuing Process Excellence"



2009 IIE National Conference

Lanie Dixon (2nd from right) and other attendees





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Regional Vice President Update

First, let me say thank you and introduce myself as your newly elected Great Lakes Region Vice President! The RVP role is gaining some responsibility this year as IIE looks to further strengthen its local chapter relationships and grow our student chapters. As part of these goals I am currently recruiting members for the Great Lakes Region leadership team. If you are interested in becoming more involved with IIE at the regional level please email me at gdaltman@gmail.com. We currently need help with our communications, newsletter, programs coordination, webinar coordination, and professional chapter outreach. If any of these roles interest you please contact me!

You can check updates to regional programs at <http://www.iienet2.org/Details.aspx?id=13564> Reminder, our first regional program this year is the Regional Picnic at Put-In Bay, OH on July 25th. RSVP to programs@iiedetroit.org if you plan to attend.

Thank you,
Gary Altman
IIE Great Lakes Region Vice President



Visit us on the web at
www.iiedetroit.org

Newsletter questions:
communications
@iiedetroit.org

Oliver Wyman's The Harbour Report 2009

WHEN: Friday September 18th, 2009
WHERE: Juliano's Restaurant, (Subject to Change)
27380 Van Dyke, Warren, MI
(586) 754-8383
North of I-696 (or 11 Mile Road, Exit #23), 4 Miles East of I-75 (Exit#61)

The Harbour Report will be a private report this year for its clients. Productivity Reports will not be published, no reports are being sold and information will not be sent to the Associated Press. We can still discuss insights into the industry such as the various factors that go into deciding what plant will be closed and Oliver Wyman's impressions of Fiat. The general productivity trends of the last 5-10 years can be discussed. Come join in the discussion about the changes in the North American auto industry. Oliver Wyman Consulting: <http://www.oliverwyman.com/ow/>

Contact: Dave Cottrill at programs@iiedetroit.com
With name, e-mail address and telephone number

MEMBERSHIP INFO

Total Members: 192
New Members: 9
Members Reinstated: 10

Over 20 memberships expire in the next 2 months!

Please check your membership status and renew if needed.

We have a lot of great programs coming in 2009 and you need to be a member to take advantage of discounted pricing!

Great Lakes Region Picnic at Put-in-Bay

WHEN: Saturday, July 25, 2009
WHERE: Put-in-Bay, Ohio
BBQ Picnic from 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
DiRiviera Park (Between the harbor and Delaware Avenue)

The menu includes hot dogs and hamburgers compliments of the IIE [Greater Detroit Chapter](http://www.iiedetroit.org). Please feel free to bring a dish to pass! Join us at the Islander Inn after the Picnic for swimming, or feel free to explore the island. There's so much to see and do! Later at night, enjoy dancing and fun till the last ferry leaves - about 1:30 a.m. The first ferry onto the island is about 8:30 a.m. Check out more at <http://www.iienet2.org/Details.aspx?id=13564>.