



# Austin and San Antonio Chapter of the Association of Energy Engineers



May 2008



Volume 3, Issue 4

## A Note From The President

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◆ ENERGY STAR SALES TAX HOLIDAY!

Memorial Day Weekend

May 24 - 26, 2008

Texas shoppers get a break from State and Local Taxes for certain energy efficient products

Check Comptrollers website for more information:

*(Click on Texas below)*



Greetings fellow AEE chapter members!

May is my favorite month of the year. Spring cleaning is over and it is time to get ready for vacation. I like to get away before the sweltering heat settles in for the summer. The weather in May is great for most activities and I can enjoy the tourist attractions without crowds.

I would like to thank David Perkins of Active Power for his presentation on Flywheel UPS at our April meeting in San Marcos. The integrated flywheel genset offers many advantages over conventional batteries and is often the best solution to ensure reliable power when voltage sags are the dominant concern. This technology has been successfully used in data centers and industrial plants with sensitive equipment such as semiconductor.

In our monthly Board Meeting we continued to



discuss ideas on how to strengthen the chapter. We are committed provide quality programs, increase attendance at meetings, and attract new members. We will ask for your input on presentation topics as well as format, time and location of our meetings. Look out for a survey in the near future and play your part!

We have also been working with AEE national to streamline the chapter membership renewal process. The AEE will include the chapter dues as an optional item on the invoices of all members in the zip codes assigned to our chapter. This will result in a more efficient renewal process. We will communicate

more details soon. Also, if you are interested in joining AEE, the parent organization, there is a great discount for any chapter member joining AEE for the first time. Please look for more information in this newsletter and tell your friends and colleagues about it.

I will be on vacation in the second half of May. Thanks in advance to Chapter Vice President Michelle Noriega for standing in for me at this month's meeting. The meeting will feature presentation on Geothermal Energy by Dr. Richard Edlac. Some additional information can be found in this newsletter and our website. I hope you come to the meeting next week.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Mark Krawczyk, PE, CEM  
Chapter President

## May Presenter



### *Dr. Richard Erdlac*

Dr. Richard Erdlac joins Energy America Inc. as Director, Energy Technologies Research & Commercialization with over 27-years experience as a structural geologist and senior exploration geophysicist within the oil, gas, and geothermal industries; including the academic community. His work at Gulf Oil Corporation covered the Permian, Palo duro, Tatum, and Tucumcari Basis of Texas and New Mexico. Dr. Erdlac experience also takes him to the offshore Gulf of Mexico. He successfully co-founded a non-profit earth resources institute in Midland, TX, conduct-

ing regional energy studies for eighteen major and independent companies. He has conducted surface mapping in Guatemala and the Trans-Pecos region of Texas and in southeastern New Mexico. Dr. Erdlac brings enormous academic research experience from Texas Tech University and at The University of Texas of the Permian Basin Center for Energy and Economic diversification. Dr. Erdlac academically excels holding degrees in Physics and Geology from the University of Pittsburgh and The University of Texas at Austin. He is a registered professional geologist, and has over 70 technical articles published within the industry.

***" Significant energy infrastructure development is required to ensure production capability that will be capable of meeting the fossil fuels demands leading to 2030. Estimated required world-wide infrastructure development costs are projected to be \$17 trillion dollars (2004 dollars)."***

## May Presentation

### *Geothermal Energy: Harnessing the Energy Under our Feet*

Geothermal energy is a versatile renewable energy source utilizing our largest resource, the earth's temperature. Geothermal power can generate new electrons for the grid, provide geothermal heat for various indus-

trial processes, or improve energy efficiency by providing geothermal energy as a renewable energy source for space heating and air conditioning (HVAC). This resource can be used by the individual home or building owner, the manufacturer and the utility provider.

Geothermal energy is "The Energy Under Our Feet" and can be developed for human use anywhere on the planet.

*To Learn More About*

# ENERGY AMERICA

[Click Here:](#)



## Presentations/Field Trips 2008

The following speakers, presentations, and field trips are scheduled for upcoming meetings:

- May: Geothermal Energy: Harnessing Energy Under our Feet
- June: Residential Wind Energy - Wind Turbines for the Home
- July: Energy Studies - Accudata
- To be Scheduled: Lighting Retrofits

Do you have any ideas for future topics, speakers, or field trips? Please contact Linda Rickard  
[Linda.Rickard@AustinEnergy.com](mailto:Linda.Rickard@AustinEnergy.com)



## First Time AEE International Member Discount



\$90

\$90

SPECIAL DISCOUNT ON AEE MEMBERSHIP

Join your local AEE chapter and receive  
a \$90 discount on new membership in AEE International.\*

This discount applies to new members only, not to retired or student members. No other discounts apply.

*Name of Your Chapter:* \_\_\_\_\_

Please attach this card with payment to the AEE membership application.

\*All officers are required to be members in good standing in AEE International.  
It is anticipated that all other chapter members will join AEE International within six months of joining chapter.



## Understanding Engineers...Take 4

### Pilots and Engineers...

My brother-in-law, a pilot, related this incident between a fellow pilot and an engineer/mechanic at the airport...These two chaps were forever squabbling and trying to drive the other one nuts. The pilot once turned a plane into the shop with a complaint that read "Unfamiliar noise from engine." The next day, the plane was ready for him. The engineer's logbook entry read "Ran engine continuously for four hours. Noise now familiar."



Newsletter Comments? Contact:

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Frank Thomas at [fthomas1@satx.rr.com](mailto:fthomas1@satx.rr.com)



### 2008 Officers

Mark Krawczyk	President	<a href="mailto:Mark.Krawczyk@freescale.com">Mark.Krawczyk@freescale.com</a>
Bruce Dschuden	Past President	<a href="mailto:Bruce.Dschuden@nisd.net">Bruce.Dschuden@nisd.net</a>
Michelle Noriega	Vice President	<a href="mailto:Michelle.Noriega@austinenergy.com">Michelle.Noriega@austinenergy.com</a>
Karma Nilsson	Treasurer	<a href="mailto:knilsson@cps-satx.com">knilsson@cps-satx.com</a>
Felix Lopez	Membership (Austin)	<a href="mailto:felix.lopez@cpa.state.tx.us">felix.lopez@cpa.state.tx.us</a>
Brian Keller	Membership (San Antonio)	<a href="mailto:Brian.Keller@eeiengineers.com">Brian.Keller@eeiengineers.com</a>
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Robert Spiegel	Webmaster	<a href="mailto:Rspiegel@ieee.org">Rspiegel@ieee.org</a>
Linda Rickard	Programs	<a href="mailto:Linda.Rickard@AustinEnergy.com">Linda.Rickard@AustinEnergy.com</a>
Sid Rodriquez	Scholarships	<a href="mailto:isidro.rodriquez2@austinenergy.com">isidro.rodriquez2@austinenergy.com</a>

### *Our Mission:*

- ◆ Advance the professional careers and the common purposes of its members. Facilitate networking, social exchange and training.
- ◆ Present and discuss energy, environmental topics, and members' ideas. Stay abreast of fast changing developments. Anticipate their future.
- ◆ Disseminate information to the trade and to the general public via meetings, publications, trade shows and presentations.
- ◆ Build an exciting, expanding chapter
- ◆ Cooperate with other AEE chapters and related organizations.
- ◆ Promote energy efficiency.
- ◆ Promote renewable resources

*We're On The Web!!*



### May Chapter Meeting

May 27, 2008

*"Geothermal Energy: Harnessing the Energy Under our Feet"*

Grin's Restaurant

San Marcos, TX

512.392.GRIN

(See Website for Map)



# MEMBERSHIP INVOICE



Austin/San Antonio Chapter of the Association of Energy Engineers  
<http://www.txaee.org>

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Local Chapter Dues for 2008**

**\$ 20.00**

- New Member     
  Renewal     
  Discount AEE International  
*(Attach Coupon to this Form)*

Please fill out the following information.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

FAX: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Suggested Speaker Topic or Tour: \_\_\_\_\_

*Chapter meetings typically are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. Location for the meetings is posted on the Austin/San Antonio AEE Web Site <http://www.txaee.org/calendar.htm>. Look forward to informative, professional, and educational presentations in the energy field, plus field trips to various locations in Austin and San Antonio.*

Remit to: Austin AEE  
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 815-A Brazos Street  
 Austin, TX 78701-2509

*For inquiries regarding this invoice please contact:  
 Karma Nilsson at 210-353-2815 or [knilsson@cpsenergy.com](mailto:knilsson@cpsenergy.com)*

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