

**MidAtlantic Rubber & Plastic Group  
Winter 2011 Newsletter**



MidAtlantic Rubber & Plastics Group

[www.marubber.org](http://www.marubber.org)

## Chair's Message



Welcome to the MARPG 2011. Before we look at this year, we need to reflect upon 2010 and the fine work our board personnel did to bring the membership an event filled year. We would like to extend a special word of thanks to Bob Ohm the 2010 Chair whose tireless work kept the group on course, and also to all of the board volunteers in bringing you the technical programs and the golf outing.

We must also extend sincere gratitude to Don Slowicki for setting up the greatly successful seminar & plant tour held on October 28, 2010 at Home Rubber, whose facility was graciously offered to us by Rich Balka. Don had also made arrangements for us to use the State of NJ Training Center for the seminar presentation, which was most conveniently next to Home Rubber where the tour illustrated many things taught in the seminar. Bob Ohm and Dick Grossman put together a great intro course at the seminar and Chris Grossman's assistance in the logistics and support organizational work for the event was greatly appreciated. Every one of the attendees indicated that they were very glad they attended, and left with a feeling they had gained valuable information at a very small investment, which had been the design of this event since the beginning.

As for 2011, we begin our slate of events on March 3rd with our Spring Technical Meeting held at the Dolce Valley Forge at 3:00 to 5:30 P.M. Bob Ohm will be talking about factors in selecting EPDM Polymers for specific applications. Steve Willet will present an overview of the changes in the petrol chemical market that have had a global impact in these last 20 years. Also, Kathryn Wright and Marc Hein will discuss thermoplastic polymer applications in the pharmaceutical sector. Following the presentations, the program concludes with a social hour featuring heavy hors d'oeuvres.

Plans are in the works for a trip to a minor league baseball game expected to be held in May / June with detail to be announced. The MARG golf outing is planned for August or September, where the date and location will be forthcoming shortly. Finally, our fall technical meeting will be on September 22nd at the Dolce Valley Forge. An added bonus will be the likelihood of another seminar / education course in late October, where possibly a plant tour could again be included.

We encourage all of the membership to provide all of the MARPG Board with feedback on how we may be able to make the MARPG more relevant to the membership in the challenging business climate we find ourselves in. All ideas will be greatly appreciated, and certainly acted upon if at all possible.

James Gayler, III  
2011 MARPG Chair

## ***Area Director Report***

The 2011 Spring Technical Meeting will be held on Monday to Wednesday, April 18-20, 2011 at the Hilton Akron/Fairlawn. Technical sessions will begin at 8:00 am.

The 2011 Rubber Expo will be held October 11-13, 2011 at the I-X Center in Cleveland, OH. (Note this location is near the airport and not downtown at the convention center.) The technical meeting will feature Advanced Materials in Health Care.

The Rubber Division is without a Librarian, but they continue to advertise the position. In the interim, it is suggested people with technical inquiries to go on the Division's "LinkedIn – Rubber Division, ACS" website and post technical questions there. To post a question, you must link to a group, e.g. rubber division.

Bob Ohm  
MARPG 2010 Area Director

## ***TECHNICAL MEETING***

From the announcement dated February 3<sup>rd</sup> 2011:

Attached is the announcement of the upcoming MARPG Technical Meeting on March 3, 2011. This should prove to be an interesting program.

Please note that we are following the "heavy hors d'oeuvres" non-dinner protocol which was so successful at the last technical meeting. We cut your cost in half and allowed everybody to leave almost an hour earlier than usual.

Hope to see you there!

Regards,

Marty Sheridan  
MARPG Membership Director

Note – Attached is the March 3<sup>rd</sup> 2011 Technical Meeting Registration form

## **Education Committee Report**

### **Basics of Rubber Seminar and Plant Tour Thursday, October 28, 2010**

The Education Committee Seminar/Tour was held on Oct. 28, 2010 at the State of New Jersey Training Facility on Woolverton Ave, Trenton, NJ followed by a tour of the Home Rubber/Ivanhoe facility also on Woolverton Ave.

There were 31 paid registrants for the course at a fee of \$20 each. The charge was purposely minimal to promote the education purpose of the group. 12 attendees were from West Pharmaceutical Co.

The NJ training facility was an excellent training room in addition to the location. Nominal charge was \$100. The training started at 8:00 AM and the tour concluded around 4:00 PM

Excellent presentations were made by Bob Ohm and Dick Grossman who covered the basics of rubber technology from history through products, including polymers, ingredients, mixing and manufacturing processes.

Marty Sheridan, via Vanderbilt, provided copies of the Vanderbilt Handbook for all. Jim Gayler provided the rubber protective booties for the plant tour as well as taking pictures for the newsletter. Chris Grossman was the 'jack of all trades' in helping throughout the day.

Lunch was a variety of pizzas and salads eaten on the 'fly' because time was so precious given the breadth of the subject matter.

The tour of Home Rubber/Ivanhoe Rubber (1 hr) was hosted by Company owner Rich Balka. Rubber polymers and ingredients were observed in the warehouse as well as seeing mill mixing, calenders and the mandrel made product process. Good feedback on this tour was given by many in the group.

#### Satisfaction Survey Results

	Very Good	Satisfactory	Needs Improvement
Meeting site	15	11	0
Course content	20	6	1*
Speakers' knowledge	24	3	0
Sufficient breaks	19	8	0
Meals	17	9	0
Plant tour	10	2	0

Would you recommend? 23 Yes, 0 No

\* be more comprehensive about material selection; less chemistry

Special thanks to Dick and Chris Grossman, Marty Sheridan, Jim Gayler, Bob Ohm and the Home Rubber/Ivanhoe Rubber Company.

**Don Slowicki, Education Committee**

## Golf Outing

We do plan on having the 2011 MARPG golf outing in the August/September time period and will keep you posted on specifics as the plan is developed.

Robert E. Carroll III  
Wally Mack  
Golf Committee

## Scholarship Report

### **LAST CALL FOR APPLICATIONS!!!!!! DEADLINE EXTENDED**

**Know a Worthy Student who can use Financial Help?**

**Because of the delay in getting this Newsletter out with this reminder, the deadline for submitting an application form has been extended to March 2, 2011 from the February 28, 2011 deadline shown on the application.** The MidAtlantic Rubber and Plastics Group intends to provide a scholarship to a student with sufficient qualifications. The top award has been \$2,000 to 4,000 in the past and multiple awards are possible.

Attached is a MARPG Scholarship Application Form for 2011

**Bob Ohm**  
**Scholarship Committee**

## **Membership Report**

From last e-mail to membership dated 1/11/2011:

I trust you've recovered from the holidays and are back to the old grind, so this would be a good time to renew your MARPG membership.

Please note the changes in Officers and Directors for 2011, as well as the addition of PayPal as a means of dues payment. Remember if you use PayPal please be sure to email me your completed *Membership Form*, regardless of your current membership status, so that I have your latest information.

Thanks again for your support of the MARPG and have a healthy and prosperous 2011.

Attached is the 2011 Membership Form and Dues Notice

### **Membership Director's Report Year End 2010**

- 2010 Year End Membership Status:
  - *Current Dues-Paying & Emeritus Members* = 182 (Prior was 263 & was 267).
    - *Returning* = 70
    - *Emeritus* = 36 (Prior was 39). Some of our Emeritus members have passed on.
    - *Corporate* = 63
    - *New* = 19 (Prior was 18). 6 of the new members are also *Corporate* members.
    - *Unresponsive* (haven't acknowledged emails or paid dues) = 50
    - *No Email Address* = 17 (Prior was 16)
  - *Total dues paying members* = 152
    - PayPal: Total 2010 year end = 7
    - Dues payment thru the Rubber Division: Total 2010 year end = 5

**Marty Sheridan**  
**Membership Committee**

## 2011 Upcoming MARPG Dates to Remember

- **MARPG Winter Technical Meeting** **March 3, 2011**  
**Dolce Valley Forge, King of Prussia, PA**
- **ACS Rubber Division Spring Technical Meeting** **April 18-20, 2011 Hilton**  
**Akron/Fairlawn Hotel**  
<http://www.rubber.org/spring-179th-technical-meeting>
- **MARPG Fall Technical Meeting** **September 22, 2011**  
**Dolce Valley Forge, King of Prussia, PA**
- **Annual MARPG Golf Outing** **August/September 2011**  
**Date and Site to be determined**
- **ACS Rubber Division Rubber Expo 2011** **October 11-13, 2011**  
**I-X Center, Cleveland Ohio**  
<http://www.rubber.org/rubber-expo-2011>