FES ACE AWARD

Entry Title: Chapter Camaraderie in Promoting Engineering Students

FES Award for Chapter Excellence

Presented by the
FES Leadership Advisory Committee

Deadline for Application: April 30, 2020
FLORIDA ENGINEERING SOCIETY
APPLICATION FOR 2020 FES ACE AWARD

I. Chapter: Treasure Coast Chapter

Administrative year from: 2019 to 2020

President: Arthur Dylan O’Berry, P.E.

Address: P.O. Box 8674

Port St Lucie, FL 34985

II. Provide a brief description of the activity.

• Outreach to local engineering students
• MATHCOUNTS
• Scholarship Awards

III. Provide a summary of the plan or timetable for the activity:

• Outreach to local engineering students
• MATHCOUNTS
• Scholarship Awards
IV. Provide a brief statement of the purpose of the activity.
   • The purpose of the Chapter activities is to promote engineering education.

V. Provide a statement as to how this program could serve as a model activity, which could be adopted by other FES chapters.
   • The events planning could be modeled as a viable option for increasing the applicants for the local scholarships and promoting volunteer efforts as part of Chapter membership.

VI. Membership as of March 31, 2019 Membership as of March 31, 2020

Members: 81 Members: 78
Chapter Camaraderie in Promoting Engineering Students

Introduction

Over the past 33 years, the Treasure Coast Chapter has seasoned many eras in engineering; showing their unbridled ambition to be the best. Though other good Chapters exist, the Treasure Coast Chapter is able to demonstrate their strength of camaraderie through the tests of time. The past year has given three shining examples of the Treasure Coast Chapter’s commitment to the core values of engineering education. The activities presented for the 2020 ACE Award are our latest local involvement with outreach to local engineering students, local MATHCOUNTS volunteering event, and local scholarship awards.

Outreach to local engineering students

To reach new students, the Board connected with the Intro to Engineering Instructor at our local Community College, IRSC. We setup a time to come give a presentation to his class regarding our annual scholarships and tell the students about FES. On November 4th and 8th, 2019 the Treasure Coast Florida Engineering Society was invited as a special guest to speak to the students attending the Introduction to Engineering classes at Indian River State College. The Introduction to Engineering class exposes potential engineers to multiple disciplines of engineering such as civil, electrical, mechanical and structural. Students are introduced to some of the engineering programs that are used every day like AutoCAD and ArcGIS.

The majority of students were interested in perusing a degree in mechanical engineering, followed by aeronautical then civil engineering. The Chapter President, Dylan O’Berry, P.E., and Student Development Chair, Brian Arnold, P.E., spoke about some of the challenges that engineers are faced with and the innovative ideas that are needed to solve problems. A special thanks to Gary Koser, P.E., for inviting us to his classes and allow us to make a positive impact on the future of the engineering profession.
MATHCOUNTS

Our next notable activity is our local MATHCOUNTS 2020 event. This event has seen more middle school student participation over the past few years. This year we faced the difficulty of finding new teams. Thanks to Treasure Coast Young Engineer of the Year and Secretary Steven Frink, E.I, we were able to secure two new teams for the local event. We hosted 5 teams with a total of 25 students and coaches. The local engineers who volunteer from the Chapter are like the pillars of the event and it has challenged our Chapter to provide more volunteers to facilitate the event. Many thanks to our facilitators Chad Rucks, P.E., Dan Zrallack, P.E., and Steve Doyle, P.E., for another great year of hosting and volunteering. Our total membership participation was 6 members (7% member participation) and 2 non-members from the field of engineering. With the growing size of our local MATHCOUNTS event we have seen the cost of the event increase too. We had much local support from our faithful sponsors AACE, Ardaman, Bowman, C&T, CAPTEC, EDC, IRSC, WGI, and Velcon.

Engineering Week

Mid-February saw the annual recognition of engineers and brings to the attention of the public the importance of the engineering profession as a whole. This recognition, known as e-week, is used to emphasize the importance of learning math, science and technology and how it relates to the engineering profession.

In an effort to highlight the importance and impacts that the engineering profession has on the general public the Treasure Coast Chapter was able to obtain a proclamation issued from the City of Port St Lucie. The proclamation dedicated the week of February 17, 2020 to February 21, 2020 to the engineering profession and was officially observed in the City.
On February 20, 2020, the annual e-week banquet was held at Monarch County Club in Palm City, FL. The Treasure Coast Chapter takes this opportunity to announce important events, such as the proclamation issued by the City of Port St Lucie, and to award the annual Engineer and Young Engineer of the Year. This year the Engineer of the Year was awarded to Laney Southerly, P.E. Laney has been a member of the Treasure Coast Chapter for more than two decades and has been a professional engineer for 25 years. This year’s Young Engineer of the Year was awarded to Steven Frink, E.I. Steven graduate from Florida Atlantic University in 2017 and currently serves as the Treasure Coasts Chapter Secretary.
Local scholarship awards

Our most important notable activity is our local college scholarship efforts. The Treasure Coast Chapter Board members decided to set the mark and give $4,000 each year in scholarships to high school seniors and first year engineering students. The scholarships are funded by our annual golf tournament. Unfortunately, the golf tourney was canceled due to the State mandate in response to the COVID-19 issues. Despite the unfortunate circumstances, the TC Board met virtually and unanimously voted to give to our highest standards and to provide 4-$1,000 scholarships again this year. Even though we did not have a fund raiser to support the scholarships, we decided that the best decision was to continue to follow the Chapter mission statement through difficult circumstances. On April 27, 2020 we announced and awarded the scholarships to the 4 new great young engineering students.
Conclusion

In closing, our medium size Chapter is committed to our community and promoting engineering education. Our volunteering energies towards local engineering students, MATHCOUNTS and local scholarship awards demonstrate our core values of camaraderie which are commendable of the 2020 ACE Award. Our Chapter will progress into the next year motivated by the great results we have found by putting forth an extra effort.