



ASQ Section 1302 February '09 Newsletter



Message from the Chair
Dave McCracken

Greetings to all of the Members of ASQ Section 1302. The economy may have slowed but the business of ASQ is moving along very well right now. There are several important activities on the horizon and I hope you will enjoy some of the things that are being offered.

The ASQ Annual Quality Conference is coming up in May and all members should have received information on the upcoming Conference. This year the event is in Minneapolis and should be somewhat easier for members from this area to attend. I know that there are members planning to go to the Conference and hope that you will consider participating. The Conference is the largest event of its kind and offers wide variety of Sections on all Quality related topics. The Conference also includes one of the largest Quality only trade shows available and is an excellent opportunity to meet with those

who offer Quality related goods and services.

Section 1302 Scholarship program is in full swing right now. Scholarship applications are due and will be reviewed soon. Winners are chosen and the Scholarships are presented at our May meeting.

Section elections are coming up in March so be looking for more information on the slate of officers for the coming year. Be sure to plan to attend the March meeting to vote on the Section officers for next year.

Regular Section meetings will be in Omaha in February and March is the annual joint meeting with the Sub Section in York. Watch for further information on these activities coming soon.

Dave



Section 1302 Earns Total Quality and Gold Excellence Award

The Nebraska Section (Section 1302) of the American Society for Quality (ASQ) has earned the 2007-08 Quality Management Process Total Quality Award, one of the highest honors a section can earn in the Society.

Only 94 of 255 ASQ sections earned this award for the 2007-08 year!

The Nebraska Section (Section 1302) will be honored at ASQ's 62nd annual conference; the World Conference on Quality and Improvement, on May 16, 2008 in Minneapolis, MN. Members of the ASQ Board of Directors will present the award to the section.

The Quality Management Process (QMP) Total Quality Award is awarded to sections that have proven their commitment and ability to serving local ASQ members and the community. QMP is a management model and planning tool that assists sections in their planning and implementation of programs and services that will meet the needs of current and future ASQ members. The model is based on the plan-do-check-act cycle of continuous improvement and is proven to aid the sections in delivering superior value to their members.

In order to earn the Total Quality Award, sections must meet certain criteria. First, they must determine a section volunteer roster and set long-term targets. Second, the section must develop an annual business plan with objectives and goals. Finally, a section must meet 75% of the goals set forth in their business plan.

ASQ Section 1302 is proud to be winners of the Total Quality and Gold Excellence Awards from ASQ. The Section strives to provide value for it's members and serve their interest in programs to enhance Quality in Nebraska. These Awards reflect a high level of involvement by the Section leadership and dedication to achieving it's goals.

Some examples of the goals set by the Section that were achieved in the Gold Excellence Award include: Awarding scholarships to student to help them recognize and incorporate Quality objectives in their educational experience, providing Certification Exams for anyone interested in furthering their career and having the recognition that comes from achieving levels of excellence in the body of knowledge needed for a number of Quality disciplines, partnering with the State of Nebraska to sponsor the Nebraska Edgerton Award, conducting member meetings to provide continuing education opportunities for members, providing classes to prepare for Certification exams and improve job performance for anyone interested in knowing more about Quality disciplines.

Member dues are used to support the programs named above and all the other activities of the Section. Member dues are the primary source of income for the Section so it is important to recognize that the entire section had a part to play in achieving these goals.

Thanks to all the Section Leaders and members for your support.

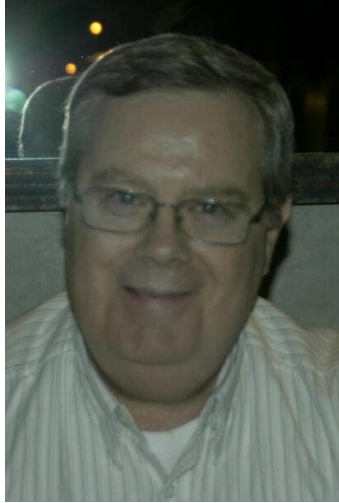
FUTURE MEETINGS

March 19th - Joint Meeting with Subsection in York, Nebraska

April 16th -Joint Meeting with APICS

May 21st – Scholarship Presentation

Benefits of coming to meetings:
Good Fellowship with Quality Peers
CU's for Recertification
Interesting Opportunities to Learn



Jon Ridgway
Treasurer

ASQ SECTION 1302 ELECTIONS

It is that time again. We are looking at section elections, as required by our Section Operating Agreement. The following offices - Section Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer - are coming up for elections. Each office is a 1-year term of office. The term runs from July 1 to the following June 30.

The following people occupy each office:

- * Section Chair David McCracken
- * Vice Chair Al Schrader
- * Secretary Becky Nickel
- * Treasurer Jon Ridgway

Vice Chair and Secretary have no term limits, although I'm sure Becky and Al would step aside to give another a chance. Section Chair and Treasurer have a mandatory maximum of 2 terms. This is my first term as Treasurer. While I could serve a second term as Treasurer, I will gladly allow someone else the opportunity. David is in his second term as Section Chair and at the limit. So we need someone to step up and take over in July as Section Chair.

The Section needs new leadership to take an active role in running Section affairs. In addition to the four offices above, we have many more duties and roles.

What's in it for you to step up to a section leadership position?

- * It is satisfying to give back to the section.

- * It is an opportunity to guide the section in directions you're interested in.
- * If you've never been in a leadership role before, section leadership is a very user-friendly way to expose yourself. You'll learn how to organize and report at Board meetings; help decide on topics at section meetings; organize events; etc. Board members are always helpful and enthusiastic in developing leaders, so you'll have a great safety net - we have a vested interest in your success.
- * Section leadership experience can be added to your resume.
- * RUs can be claimed for serving on the Section Board, and this always helps at recertification time.
- * We need you. Ultimately, the section is only as good as each one of us makes it. Serving on the Board as a section officer helps to engage you in section business.

If you are interested in serving your section, please contact me at 402-408-5138, by e-mail at jridgway@airliteplastics.com, or let a member of the Board know you're interested.

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PHIL SHANLINE SCHOLARSHIP



Randall L. Nelsen

Greetings from your Section Scholarship Chair! By the time you read this article the scholarship application period, which

runs from January 1st to March 15th, will be winding down and the process of reviewing the applications will begin. Some of you may be asking “What is the Phil Shanline Scholarship?” I know that I was unaware of the scholarship program until about five years ago when I was asked to serve on the Scholarship Committee.

The Phil Shanline Scholarship program consists of a total of nine scholarships. One \$1000 award based on the essay response and financial need, four \$500 awards based solely on financial need, and four \$500 awards based on a combination of the essay response and financial need.

The scholarship program is open to students who will be attending any post-secondary learning institution in pursuit of a Certificate, Diploma or Degree. Applicants must either be residents of the ASQ Section 1302 territory or be attending a learning institution within ASQ Section 1302 territory. Applicants must also possess an overall GPA of at least 2.0.

Applicants are required to fill out the application form, provide financial data to verify need and to write an essay on Quality. In the essay they are required to (1) provide their own definition of Quality, (2) indicate how they use or apply their vision of Quality in their daily lives, (3) state how quality affects their community and (4) describe their future education and career aspirations.

The applications are reviewed, evaluated and discussed by the Scholarship Committee. Based upon this evaluation, the nine winning applicants are chosen. The scholarships are presented to the winners at the Section’s Scholarship Awards Dinner which is held annually at our May meeting.

I will be in need of two or three ASQ members to assist me in the application review process, which needs to be completed between March 16th and the end of April. This is a great opportunity for anyone who is looking to acquire additional recertification units (RUs). Participants will

receive 0.5 RUs for serving on the Scholarship Committee. If you are interested helping out, please email me at randynelsen@windstream.net.

Randall L. Nelsen
Nebraska Section 1302 Scholarship Chair

Check Out Our Website!
<http://www.asq-1302.org/>

There are employment opportunities posted on the website.

Unemployment Program Available

ASQ headquarters is offering resources for members who have encountered job loss. One benefit for those who want to retain their membership, but have difficulty renewing because they are currently unemployed, are discounted membership dues. Participating members receive a discount on their membership renewal based on consecutive years of membership. Currently, membership dues are \$129 for current Full (formerly Regular), Senior, and Fellow members. For more information, and to check out other resources available, visit <http://work.asgquality.org>.

2009 ASQ Certification Exam Dates

Following is this years exam schedule and application deadlines:

Exam Dates	Application Deadline	Certifications
March 7, 2009	January 11, 2009	CQI/ CQT/ CRE/ CMI/ CHA/ CBA/ CMQ/OE/ CSSBB
June 6, 2009	April 17, 2009	CQE/ CQA/ CSQE/ CQIA/ CCT/ CQPA / CSSGB
October 17, 2009	August 21, 2009	CQI/ CQT/ CRE/ CMI/ CHA/ CBA/ CSSBB/ CMQ/OE
December 5, 2009	October 16, 2009	CQE/ CQA/ CSQE/ CQIA/ CCT/ CQPA / CSSGB

Questions about certification or advertising in the Newsletter contact
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