



ASQ Section 1302

January /February 2008 Newsletter

Special points of interest:

- Scholarships updates
- Welcome back for Former Section member
- Contributions to the Newsletter...
- What's up with Edgerton?
- Total Quality for Section Leadership

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Call for Nominations

Three section leadership positions will need to be filled for the next year. Section Chair, Section Secretary and Section Treasurer are the three elected positions. All other committee chairs are appointed positions. The term for all positions, elected or appointed, runs from July 1, 2008 to June 30, 2009. The election process is laid out in our Section Operating Agreement, as follows.

First, when the call for nominations goes out any section member in good standing may be nominated or nominate themselves. Anyone who is interested in serving the section as Section Chair, Section Secretary or Section Treasurer may be a nominee. This Call for Nominations will last until the next meeting, March 20th. This fulfills the 30 day minimum requirement.

Second, if you are interested in serving as Section Chair, Section Secretary or Section Treasurer, submit it to the Board.

That is, contact me, Dave McCracken or any other Board member on or before March 20 with the position you are interested in. We will then work with you to help you meet any requirements.

Third: If only one person indicates interest in a elected position, that person will fill the position without an election. This will occur by acclamation at a designated meeting. If a position has more than one nominee, an election will be scheduled. The membership will be given the list of nominees per contested position, notified of the election date and method, and the nominees given time to provide the membership with information about themselves relevant to the position.

Last: Once the results of the election are published, I will prepare a list of elected officials which must be submitted to National no later than May 1, 2008.

This is a call to action to all members. Please con-

sider stepping up to a leadership position. This will benefit both yourself and the Section. The benefit to you is an opportunity to lead and grow and to gain leadership experience. The benefit to the Section is the diversity we all gain from the perspective of all members. So please, I urge you to consider a Section leadership position.

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Jon Ridgeway, Former Board Member, Returns to Section 1302! Tells of Past Four Years Experiences.

I'm Back! Its been 4 years but I'm back with Section 1302. First Data needed a quality manager so I relocated to Chesapeake, VA, in mid-2003. I managed the quality management system in two buildings for 2 products, with 12 direct reports. My boss, Pat Keenan, and I made a good team. Pat handled the strategic end: he had the vision and the ability to get buy-in at the highest levels. I was the tactical implementer. Together we transformed Omaha's and Chesapeake's Plastics quality system. We anticipated the merger between Plastics and Print by several years and were already making it a reality. I also served on the Executive Board for Section 1128, Tidewater and edited the newsletter. 1128 was a great section with a lot of good people. After 6 years with FDR, 3 in Chesapeake and 3 in Omaha, I was given an opportunity to try out my Blackbelt skills fulltime with Covalence Coated Products, a division of Covalence Specialty Materials (CSM), in Doswell, VA, north of Richmond. I received my ASQ SSBB certification in 2006 - this is in addition to my CQE and CQA certifications. It was a tough, grueling year but I achieved my

goals and company certification - and I grew a lot. The business I worked with on my first project shut down and I lost the first six months. So I had to get a year's worth of saves in half the time. I did it but at the cost of any spare time. I joined Section 1114 in Richmond but attended few meetings. Then CSM was bought out by Berry Plastics in April, 2006. Berry has a different philosophy regarding Six Sigma - not wrong, just different than CSM. That and some consolidating initiatives created enough uncertainty to make me wonder if it was time to look around. As it turned out, I moved into the quality manager role for Berry at Doswell. But by then, I had begun dreaming of home. My wife's sister and her family live in Omaha, so that made it an easy sell. We moved back in October. My wife, Catherine, who worked for First Data in Chesapeake, is working with FDR's Fraud. I took a QE position at Airlite Plastics, working for Beccy Smith (one of the founders of 1302) and the rest is history. Beccy is a great boss and a lot of fun. We live in



Millard with our pool, Sophie, and cat, Maxine. What do I do in my spare time? I've always been a big reader and now I have time to indulge. In addition to work-

related reading, history - especially military history - is my passion. I also need to return to school and finish my MBA. And I enjoy serving on the Section Board. I am the current Nominations chair. I'm also considering Section Treasurer for the next term. My ambition is to leave the Section better off than I found it. And that means getting involved. One last reason for my ASQ involvement: my last 3 opportunities came from ASQ contacts. That to me is an important distinction: not "jobs" but opportunities. Each provided rewards but also challenges that taught me and helped me grow as a quality / process improvement / problem-solving professional. I will always keep my eyes and ears open because I never know what opportunities await me. All it requires is a positive attitude and a willingness to roll up my sleeves. It is good to be home.

Welcome Back Jon!

American Society for Quality Nebraska Section Earns Top Honors

Lincoln, Ne, February 22, 2008

The Nebraska 1302 of the American Society for Quality (ASQ) has earned the 2006-07 Section Management Process Total Quality Award, one of the highest honors a section can earn in the Society. 90 of 255 ASQ sections earned this award for the 2006-07 year!

The Nebraska 1302 will be honored at ASQ's 62nd annual conference; the World Conference on Quality and Improvement on May 3, 2008 in Houston, Tx. Members of the ASQ Board of Directors will present the award to the section.

The Section Management Process (SMP) Total Quality Award is awarded to sections that have proven their commitment and ability to serving local ASQ members and the community. SMP 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 member leader 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.

"Total Quality sections are typically the most successful of ASQ sections. They consistently show higher levels of member retention, satisfaction and loyalty, which can be directly attributed to their efforts to assess and meet the needs of members through careful planning.

The American Society for Quality is a knowledge-based global community of quality experts. Its more than 100,000 members are dedicated to the promotion and advancement of quality tools, principles, and practices in their workplaces and in their communities. Established in 1946, ASQ supports its members by providing a wide range of resources, from certification and training to publications and conferences. Globally, ASQ has formed relationships with other nonprofit organizations that have comparable missions and principles. Our collaborative efforts are helping to meet the quality needs of companies, individuals, and organizations worldwide.



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To promote quality awareness in Section 1302 through education in quality technology and systems, while fostering communication and interaction among quality professionals.

We're on the Web!
www.asq-1302.org

COMING UP!!



THE EDGERTON AWARD

Keep your eyes peeled for information about the Edgerton Award in the near future. The Edgerton award is Nebraska's state Quality award, and the for their annual awards banquet is drawing near. We'll have details for you in the next newsletter.

Want to contribute a piece to the newsletter? We are open to submissions from the section. Read a good Quality Book and want to share? Write a review! Did you have recent success with a project at work? Tell us about it.! Need to do a little advertising? Give us a call! Contact Bryce Pearson, Newsletter Chairperson, or any other board member.

March 15th Deadline for Phil Shanline Scholarship Applications!

Section 1302 offers nine scholarships every year to students who show an affinity towards Quality. The scholarship application period begins January 1st of every year, and continues through to March 15th. Beware the ides of March, as this is the final day by which your favorite student must have their scholarship application sent. Time to give those students of ours a friendly reminder to



write their essays!

The Scholarship application consists of a short application form, and a 750 word essay. Winning applicants will be contacted in April and are invited to attend our annual Scholarships meeting in May.

Eight of the awards have a \$500 value, and the First Prize award is \$1000.

The Scholarship Committee reads all applications, and award Recertification Units (RUs) to any volunteers willing to help read and evaluate applications. This is a great way to earn some RUs for upcoming recertification, and to participate directly in section activities.

Applications are available on the section website listed below. Click on the Scholarship link to the below.

<http://www.asq-1302.org/scholarship-1302.php>