



A WORLD IN MOTION® Newsletter

July 2008

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GM Hosts 7th Annual AWIM Volunteer Recognition Breakfast



More than 650 AWIM® volunteers gathered to celebrate another successful year of bringing relevance and hands-on examples of how much fun science can be to over 60 schools in the Southeast Michigan area. The June 10th Recognition Breakfast for GM's AWIM volunteers was hosted by GM President and CEO, Rick Wagoner and Vice President of North America Product Engineering, Ed Koerner. Both thanked the group for creating a spark in young lives that they will remember for many years to come.

One of the highlights of the Recognition Breakfast was a presentation by Matt Miller, Manager of the AWIM Program at SAE. Matt shared slides detailing AWIM's growth in the U.S. and Canada and included details on new programs being developed such as the Gravity Car Cruiser, Fuel Cell and a K-3 literacy based program. He also shared some results of the JetToy Olympics and enthusiasm for the Summer Engineering Experience for Kids, (SEEK), running this summer in Washington, D.C. and Columbus, Ohio.

The program also honored 52 volunteers by presenting them with Five-Year Awards for dedicating time to exposing students to the AWIM projects and opportunities since 2003. All volunteers in attendance received a certificate of appreciation signed by Rick Wagoner and Ed Koerner, both avid AWIM supporters.



During the past year, under the leadership of Jaclyn McQuaid, AWIM Program Manager for GM, volunteerism has increased by 20%. This allowed AWIM to be implemented at more schools. There were five plant communities and three retirement communities that joined the AWIM program. Four schools from the Detroit Public School system were also added.

Attendees at the Recognition Breakfast event included out-of-state GM employees, retirees and representatives from 26 corporations.

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North Huron Students Get Into Gear



Gregg Culling, a General Motors engineer, recently worked on a seven-week project with a team of 35 eager minds. Together they developed vehicles from the ground up, tested them, tweaked them and tested them again. Teamwork and problem solving propelled the project forward and the ending results made everyone proud.

Who Culling worked with on this project might surprise you – he worked with 35 fourth-graders. Culling contacted the North Huron Elementary principal to get the program in gear. Julie Case's students were the lucky ones to get involved in the hands-on project.

"When Gregg is here, he helps the students problem solve and test their JetToy," said Case. "He also offers advice on how to get the students' cars to go farther along with teaching the students different terminology."

Throughout the course of the project, students learned what made their JetToys travel faster and what slowed them down. They performed tests and graphed information.

"Students learned how to compromise with each other and to respect each person's opinion," said Case. Also, they did a great deal of problem solving. When things were not going well, students discovered that they had to go back to the drawing board and figure out how to improve their JetToy car.

"What I really liked about this project is how it taught students to work in unison," Case said. "It was not easy for some groups, but it was amazing how these students compromised with each other. I feel that they learned a great life skill; working and getting along with others."

Culling noted they would use terms they learned during the project – terms they had no idea about when they started. "I heard them saying things like, the tires are rubbing on the chassis," he said. "Most students originally didn't know what a chassis was."



Culling is planning on doing another AWIM® project at North Huron next year and would also like to go to other schools in the area. He believes it's important to reach out to students early to get them interested in science and engineering.

Recently, Culling attended the GM Volunteer Recognition Breakfast honoring all of this year's AWIM classroom volunteers.

A portion of this article was written by Traci Weisenbach, Huron Daily Tribune.

Future Engineers Test Their Knowledge at Urban League's Summer Camp

Fifty-eight 3rd, 4th and 5th graders explored engineering concepts through hands-on activities at the Urban League of Greater Chattanooga's Summer Camp. The young campers spent five weeks exploring engineering concepts and putting their knowledge to the test when teams competed against each other after building JetToys and Skimmers.



The following are A World In Motion workshops/conferences/events for July and August:

July 2-3, 2008

SEEK Camp
Washington, D.C.
Skimmer/JetToy
Motorized Toy Car/Glider
Training 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
fmoore@nsbe.org

July 10-11, 2008

SEEK Camp
Columbus, OH
Motorized Toy Car/Glider
Training 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
fmoore@nsbe.org

July 21-22, 2008

AIAA Joint Propulsion Conference and Exhibits
(American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics)
Hartford, CT
Teachers
Motorized Toy Car/Glider
lisab@aiaa.org

The following was received from
Ann Harper - Pope Memorial Elementary School

I am a 3rd and 4th grade teacher in a small rural school in Quebec and I just wanted to say how fantastic the Skimmers kit was. It was so complete and followed our curriculum so well! All the directions were easy to follow. It was so interactive and hands-on that the students absolutely loved every session. They wore their badges proudly and took their jobs seriously. They really were experts by the time they presented their finished products to the other students. It was exciting to see a student who had many difficulties in school make some discoveries that helped the whole class with their Skimmers. I have just retired as of June 30th and I was so happy to have had such a great program to use as I finished my year and my career!

Thanks to all who made it possible for this opportunity to be available.
Ann Harper
Pope Memorial Elementary School

SAE invites individuals or teams of elementary, middle or high school teachers from public, parochial, and private schools who have used AWIM during the 2007-2008 school year to apply for the following awards.

Lloyd Reuss Award for Teaching Excellence

This award recognizes elementary school teachers who have made creative and exemplary use of A World In Motion® Skimmer, JetToy or elementary Electricity and Electronics during the current school year.

Gary Dickinson Award for Teaching Excellence

This award recognizes middle and high school teachers who have made creative and exemplary use of A World In Motion® Motorized Toy Car, Glider, middle school or high school Electricity and Electronics during the current school year to further develop students' understanding of the principles of motion in a way that brings to light the excitement of math and science.

Bill Agnew Award for Outstanding AWIM Volunteers

This award recognizes volunteers who further develop students' understanding and experience in math and science by helping teachers use the AWIM® materials in the classroom during the current academic year. College and/or high school students who have served as volunteers, non-engineers, as well as professional engineers, are eligible for the award.

Act Now!

The application deadline is July 31, 2008.

Questions?

Contact awards@sae.org or 1-724-772-4091.

SAE and SME Join Forces to Offer Engineering Camps

Students in grades four through six from Ohio, Pennsylvania and Colorado learned the fundamentals of mobility engineering while attending Gateway Camps this summer.

The five-day camp is co-sponsored by SAE International and the Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) Education Foundation and is funded by the SME Education Foundation.



After adding the finishing touch one design team gives their presentation

Service Award for its work to increase the public's understanding of science and engineering. SAE was recognized for the AWIM curriculum and for the Collegiate Design Series program.



Gateway Camp participants used SAE International's award-winning A World In Motion® curriculum, which is funded by the SAE Foundation.

The Gateway Camp is a joint venture by the SME Education Foundation and SAE International to help talented elementary school students explore careers in science, technology, engineering and math.

"We are happy to partner with SME for the Gateway Camp," said Matt Miller, Manager of K-12 Education at SAE. "Programs such as these provide an important service by helping to educate students at an early age in the essential learning skills of science and math."

SAE recently won the National Science Foundation's prestigious 2008 Public

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For consideration in a future issue please tell us what you are doing with AWIM in your classroom. Articles/photos should be sent to:

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To make a contribution to the SAE Foundation, visit their website at <http://www.saefoundation.org>