

SENIOR SCIENCE SOCIETY NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, No. 4
July 2016

**General Members Meeting
15 August 2016, 7:00 P.M.
HCC Chesapeake Center
Dining Hall South**

**Featured speaker: Richard Smith,
HCC eLearning Dept.**



Join us on Monday, August 15, 7:00 PM for an important SSS General Members Meeting at Harford Community College's Chesapeake Center Dining Hall South (accessed from 2nd entrance along Thomas Run Road, north of intersection with MD 22). On this night, we will award SSS transfer scholarships to two talented HCC graduates going on to four-year colleges in STEM areas. We will also elect new members to the Board of Directors (see article below) during the business meeting.

Mr. Richard Smith, from the HCC eLearning Department's Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL), will cap off the evening with a presentation exploring the evolution of teaching delivery systems and how they parallel the general history of computing. Mr. Smith will demonstrate the current state of systems that offer students the opportunity to take classes from anywhere at any time via Online, Hybrid and Web-Enhanced Courses. CETL serves as an umbrella organization to coordinate professional development activities and training for all who are engaged in the teaching and learning process at HCC. CETL is intentionally designed to be a hub both digitally and physically for innovation, collaboration, and learning transformation through a variety of events and resources.

Wanted:

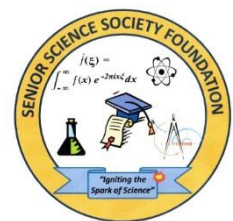
SSS Board of Directors Members



SSS is in need of electing new Board of Directors members from the General Membership. This election will be held at the August 15 meeting.

"What does a Director do?" you ask. The primary responsibility is participation in monthly meetings at which many new ideas are discussed, school participation is scheduled, and decisions are made about what to bring to the general members for action. BoD meetings are held once a month, currently the second Wednesday of the month at 8:00 AM. All members are encouraged to consider this opportunity.

If interesting, please contact Nominations Committee Chairperson Deidre DeRoia (deidre.m.deroia.civ@mail.mil, 410-278-0536).



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Senior Science Society Foundation Awards STEM Scholarships

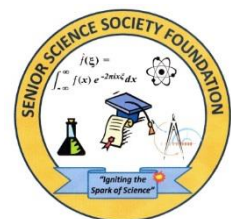
The Senior Science Society Foundation recently awarded \$1,500 STEM scholarships to three highly qualified Harford County High School graduating seniors who will be pursuing a bachelor's degree in science, engineering or mathematics. The 2016 scholarship recipients are: Patrick Heritier-Robbins of Havre de Grace, who will attend the Georgia Institute of Technology and major in bioengineering; Matthew Patrick of Jarrettsville, who will attend the University of Maryland-College Park and major in computer engineering; and Claire Macatee of Street, who will attend Gettysburg College and major in biochemistry and molecular biology. Patrick and Matthew are graduates of the Science and Math Academy (SMA) at Aberdeen High School; Claire graduated from North Harford High School .

Susan Luckan, President
Senior Science Society Foundation



Pictured presenting the ceremonial “Big Check” to two of the SSSF scholarship recipients at the SMA Senior Capstone Gallery Walk on May 24 are (from left to right): Susan Luckan, Chair of the Scholarship Committee and President of the SSSF; Matthew Patrick and Patrick Heritier-Robbins, Science and Math Academy at Aberdeen High School; and Bruce Burns, member of the Scholarship Committee and Past President of the SSSF.

A third SSSF STEM scholarship was presented to Claire Macatee during the North Harford High School senior awards assembly on May 26.



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As we enter the new fiscal year, you should have received a letter regarding payment of your new year's membership dues. The tax-deductible status and the amount have not changed, but you will see that a new wrinkle has been added in how you pay your dues. Instead of writing your check to the Harford Community College Foundation (HCCF) with "Senior Science Society dues" written on the memo line, you will now have the option of writing the check to the Senior Science Society Foundation (SSSF), with the same memo.

So the obvious questions are why these two options, and how should I choose to whom I write the check? Well, both foundations are tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organizations, so that should not be an issue. But there are some features associated with each option that you might want to be aware of. Dues checks written to the HCCF are necessarily split out upon receipt such that \$25 goes to SSS operations, and the balance (\$75 or more depending on your donation) is deposited in the HCCF cost center obligated to the issuance of SSS transfer scholarships -- that is, scholarships we grant to graduates of HCC going on to four-year colleges and pursuing a degree in STEM. This requirement necessarily limits SSS activities other than the transfer scholarships (such as I mention below) to those fundable by the \$25 per member allocation. This prescription seemed an unreasonable limitation to some SSS Board Members, and motions were recently passed by both the SSS and SSSF allowing SSS dues to be collected and kept in the SSSF account, but separated by rule. By doing this, the requirement that some 75% of the dues collected be spent on transfer scholarships will not govern these funds.

So why might one continue paying dues through the HCCF, considering the limitations on how these funds can be spent? First, the \$25 per SSS member collected when dues are paid through the Harford Community College Foundation funds an operations account at HCC that allows us to avail ourselves of college services, such as printing, procurement, and food services. With SSS dues also being managed by the SSSF, we are not required to use these HCC services, but it may be valuable to maintain this option. Second, HCC provides a number of free services to us (e.g., meeting rooms, computer projectors, and liaison services), and despite the fact that we do not have an official Memorandum of Operations with the college, we might reasonably feel some obligation to continue sending our dues to the HCCF. And finally, some members might prefer to continue to make donations to the HCCF, in amounts beyond our required dues and perhaps for other HCC programs, and would thereby like to receive public recognition for being an HCCF sponsor.

For these reasons, the SSS and the SSSF have both voted to allow SSS dues be paid either to the Senior Science Society Foundation or to the Harford Community College Foundation. The choice is yours; we're just appreciative of having you as members, supporting the SSS both financially and with your skills and time.

Thanks,
Al

Albert Horst, President
Senior Science Society



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Report from STEM Summit XIV – The Future Classroom

Several times per year the Northeastern Maryland Technology Council (NMTC) sponsors a "STEM Summit", bringing together businesses, government agencies, educational institutions, and non-profits to "ensure the preparation of our students for critical, high-impact STEM careers". The theme of the 14 July 2016 summit held at Towson University was "The Future Classroom". There were three speakers with 45 to 60 minute presentations plus a four-person panel discussion for the last hour. The Senior Science Society was well represented with Charlie Nietubicz, Dennis Hiebert, Rob Lieb, and Dick Schwanke attending (the latter three in their royal blue SSS shirts; see page 7).

This STEM Summit tried to explore four drivers of education transformation. The first speaker discussed various technology business models, especially at the college level, for credit and not-for-credit, as online and face-to-face. The second speaker spoke on her research on the cognitive and neurosciences with their potential to change teaching-learning models. In part, this related to the human response side of what Dr. Mark Chachich discussed at the SSS May General Membership Meeting – without the dissecting of the subjects' brains. The third speaker was an architect, specializing in the design of higher education academic buildings. There was more scientific research behind this than many of us had suspected. The panel discussion on educational technology discussed K-12 software and programs. It was potentially good, but suffered from running into lunchtime.

The date and theme for the next NMTC STEM Summit has not been set, but in the late fall would be a good guess for the date. Since the Senior Science Society is a organizational member of the NMTC, if there was a meeting fee, any SSS member attending would pay the "member rate" for the Summit.

Dick Schwanke, Vice President
Senior Science Society

DRIVING
TECHNOLOGY





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SSS Participates in STEM Fair at Riverside Elementary School

May 19, 2016



Clockwise from bottom left: (1) Peter Plostins, Al Horst, Dick Schwanke and Susan Luckan represented SSS. (2) Dick uses a bicycle wheel to teach this eager student about gyroscopes. (3) Peter and the “Things That Fly” module inspire the next generation of aerospace engineers. (4) Al uses a Newton’s cradle in the “Click and Dunk” module.

SSS will return to Riverside Elementary on October 17 during school hours to present three or four modules at their next STEM day. Learn about other events planned for SSS by visiting www.seniorsciencesociety.org/ and clicking on the ‘Calendar’ tab.





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HCC's Destination Imagination Team Participates in Global Finals

As reported in the previous SSS newsletter (Vol. 4, No. 3), HCC's Destination Imagination middle school team earned a trip to the DI Global Finals as a result of their solid third-place finish in the April 9 Maryland State Tournament. Seventy-nine teams representing 27 states and 8 nations gathered for the finals from May 25-29 at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville. HCC's team, named "There is no I in DI", did a fantastic job, tying for 39th place – Kudos! SSS members Rob Lieb and Ed Davidson served as technical mentors to the team.

SSS Shirts Available Now!



Back when most Senior Science Society members were in elementary school, teachers wore formal business attire and at some schools they still do. However, such clothing does not work well with the active nature of the SSS school demonstrations. A solution to this dilemma is the new sharp-looking, royal blue golf shirt (see photo, left). The shirt is emblazoned with a fully embroidered, circular logo. The logo includes an S-cube in the middle, surrounded by a ring saying "SENIOR SCIENCE SOCIETY" and "Igniting the Spark of Science".

Shirts are available in small, medium, large, extra large and 2X sizes. And at only \$20 per shirt, they are a bargain. See Dick Schwanke to place your order after the 15 August 2016 General Membership Meeting.

The Senior Science Society is a membership-based, unincorporated organization operating under the auspices of the Harford Community College (HCC) and whose activities are limited to direct support of HCC programs. The Senior Science Society Foundation, Inc. (SSSF) is a qualified 501(c)(3) charitable foundation that maintains a cooperative relationship with SSS. The focus of the SSSF, is to provide scientific educational scholarships and training to deserving individuals and groups external to the HCC environment. Both the SSS and SSSF exist to leverage the information within the minds of Harford County senior scientists to benefit county youth by working within the educational community, business, and government organizations to foster and promote the scientific, rational and creative thinking processes through education, networking, advocacy, and professional and field development.

SSS Board of Directors

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Bruce Amrein
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SSSF Board of Directors

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