# June 2015 Newsletter

## From the President:

I was thinking about volunteering the other day. It started when my neighbor questioned why I spent so many hours volunteering for my professional society (INCOSE), at the USS Midway Museum, and at the Japanese Friendship Garden. “And you don’t get paid??!!!” All together I average over 80 volunteer hours a month, and now found myself in a position where I needed to justify myself.

Serving, giving back to the community, supporting causes that are near and dear to my heart have always been a part of who I am. Anyone who has ever served in the military understands the concept of being a part of something much bigger than yourself, subjugating your personal desires and interests to a bigger cause, and thereby accomplishing great things that one man alone could never dream to accomplish. This has always been a part of my life, and I guess I took it for granted.

If you haven’t tried it, I can whole-heartedly recommend it. I call it work-life balance, and it has vastly enriched my life. When I joined Tau Beta Pi at the University of Michigan and we gave free tutoring to underclassmen, we called it ***Noblesse Oblige.*** This is a French phrase literally meaning "obligation of nobility". It is the concept that nobility extends beyond mere entitlements, and requires the person with such status to fulfill social responsibilities, particularly in leadership roles. I thought it sounded somewhat arrogant at the time, but now I understand its deeper meaning, and I fully embrace it. This is also part of what INCOSE is about, and we encourage our members to become involved.

*-Mark Halverson*

## Upcoming Events

Membership meetings are open to all. They are held at Giovanni's Restaurant in Kearny Mesa from 6:00-7:00pm with an optional buffet between 5:00 and 6:00 ($5 for members, $10 for non-members). Reminder emails will be sent.

- **June 20th Tutorial on Agile Development and Systems Engineering** – Agile Development is a very active topic relevant to all systems engineers, as we are continually under pressure to complete our projects "faster, better, and cheaper." INCOSE San Diego is happy to welcome Nate Crews on June 20 as the presenter on principles of Agile development. This tutorial costs $70 and is from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, lunch included. It will be held at UCSD Extension, 6256 Greenwich Drive, San Diego, CA 92122. **Please sign up at www.sdincose.org.**

- **July 22nd Membership Meeting** – Our speakers will be Jim Gottfried, Eric Villhauer, and Mark Halverson, who will be reporting on the INCOSE International Symposium 2015. Note that our membership meeting is one week later in the month due to the IS 2015.

- **USS Midway Event** – This event is *on* and will be held in late September or early October (stay tuned for the exact date). Needless to say, we are extremely excited to carry on our yearly tradition aboard the Midway, honoring STEM students and educators. Please see the full write up on the following page.

- **INCOSE Annual International Symposium** – INCOSE’s IS is the largest annual gathering of systems engineers for four days of presentations, case studies, workshops, tutorials and panel discussions. It returns to Seattle on July 13-16, and will be attended by several members of our chapter. Please get with Mark Halverson for details (president@sdincose.org).

## Recent Events and Happenings

- On May 21st, at our regular membership meeting, Charley Patton from Northrop Grumman Information Systems gave a great presentation on how he has successfully employed **Model Based**

**Systems Engineering** on Quick Reaction Programs. His slides are available on the INCOSE San Diego chapter website: http://sdincose.org/news/may-chapter-meeting-presentation-available-download

- **A request for proposal for STEM grants has been released to San Diego public schools.** Teachers have the opportunity to be awarded from $400-$1100 to support STEM activities. **The teacher proposals are due NLT June 26, 2015**.

  Do you know an educator who may like to apply? Please get with Jim Gottfried (gottjim50@gmail.com) or Evelyn Encarnacion (evelynwfan@gmail.com) for a copy of the solicitation.

## Congratulations!

- **INCOSE San Diego's own Ray Madachy** has not only been awarded tenure at the Naval Postgraduate School (NPS), but has also become **the very first remote tenured professor in the history of the NPS**. Ray is part of the NPS systems engineering division and is an active member of the INCOSE San Diego board of directors as well.

- **INCOSE San Diego's Eric Villhauer** has co-authored the technical paper "An Integrated Model-Based Approach to System Safety and Aircraft System Architecture Development." This paper, co-authored with Brian Jenkins of General Atomic, will be presented at the upcoming INCOSE International Symposium, and outlines a strategy to ensure that safety objectives are considered during System Architecture model development while maintaining the required organizational independence between System Safety and the domains with which they interface. Eric is also currently serving on the INCOSE San Diego board of directors.

## Welcomes

San Diego INCOSE is pleased to announce 13 new members to our chapter. While their full bios are forthcoming, please help us now welcome the following members:

- Ryan Bednar (SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific)
- Robin Felix (SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific)
- Mike Halderman (SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific)
- Jay Hamidi
- Rick Hemphill (SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific)
- Brian Jenkins (General Atomics Aeronautical Systems, Inc.)
- John Lima (SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific)
- Tim Sears (SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific)
- Paul Sheets (SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific)
- Horst Sollfrank
- Glenn Tolentino (SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific)
- Vincent Watson
- Jason Wong (SPAWAR Systems Center Pacific)

## Systems Engineering Professional Certification

The local San Diego Chapter of INCOSE is considering the idea of hosting study groups to help our members pass the test for the SEP certification. If you might be interested in being a member of such a study group, or a mentor to such a group, please contact either Mark Halverson (mark.halverson@ngc.com ) or Dan Durkin (mr.daniel.durkin@gmail.com).

## STEM Event and Grant Process

One of the most gratifying actions that INCOSE San Diego does every year is to raise funds for local schools programs in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). These funds help build the next generation of scientists, mathematicians, and engineers.

We are once again asking everyone to check with their employer's community outreach programs to see if they will contribute to STEM, and also to consider making a personal contribution. Please see our previous newsletter (link below) for exact details – and thank you for your efforts!

http://sdincose.org/sites/default/files/March%2B2015%2BINCOSE%2BNewsletter.pdf

## Geek Night on the USS Midway Museum

The San Diego Chapter of INCOSE hosts this event on board the USS Midway Museum in order to showcase the students who have received these STEM grants, and demonstrate what they have done with them. In addition, a fun night aboard the USS Midway Museum is held to get the younger students excited about STEM. A free meal is offered, the simulators are at the guests' disposal for free, there are free tours of the ship by the expert Midway Docents, romantic walks under the stars on the flight deck, robotics demonstrations, Professor Midway is there to demonstrate scientific principles, and the ever-popular raffle.

Tickets to this event are subsidized by the San Diego Chapter of INCOSE, which also covers all costs associated with the event, in order to make sure that 100% of the STEM donations actually reach the participating students and teachers. This event has grown in popularity each year, so that this year's event is expected to be bigger and better than ever.

## San Diego Chapter Awarded the INCOSE Silver Circle Award

After much hard work, we are pleased to announce that international INCOSE has awarded our chapter the INCOSE Silver Circle Award. This award honors our chapter for its contributions and accomplishments in 2014. This is a significant accomplishment.

This Silver Circle Award will be presented at the 2015 INCOSE 25th Anniversary International Symposium in Seattle, WA. In doing so, INCOSE recognizes and celebrates the contributions and achievements of the San Diego Chapter, its leaders, and its sponsors.

## San Diego Chapter Awarded INCOSE Foundation 25th Anniversary Chapter Grant

We applied for a $1,000 grant from the foundation to help cover the costs of putting on the "Geek Night on the USS Midway Museum", and ensure that we can keep this tradition going. Recently, in recognition of the important work for STEM that the San Diego Chapter has been doing on its own, the INCOSE Foundation decided to honor that work with this grant for $1,000. Congratulations San Diego Chapter!

## Fall Mini-Conference

**The Fall Mini-Conference Will Be Back in San Diego on November 7, 2015** –The INCOSE San Diego board of directors has decided to again hold our own MINI-conference in San Diego in 2015, and to defer consideration of a western regional conference for another year.

While the idea of a larger regional conference was certainly exciting, the regional chapters decided that given the short deadlines for commitment that they simply could not plan and execute such a conference in 2015. We will therefore instead hold what has always been incredibly popular with our members – our own event here in San Diego. Please watch for calls for papers in June or July.

## 2016 Western Regional Conference

INCOSE Los Angeles has decided to hold the western regional conference in the first quarter of 2016 rather than the fall of 2015. Please stay tuned for additional details in future newsletters.


## Advertise

Would you like to advertise in the INCOSE newsletter? Now is the time – we offer reasonable rates and are also investigating the hosting of the same ad on the San Diego INCOSE website. Please contact president@sdincose.org for details. Note that the San Diego chapter reserves the right to deny any ad it deems offensive or otherwise off-topic.