



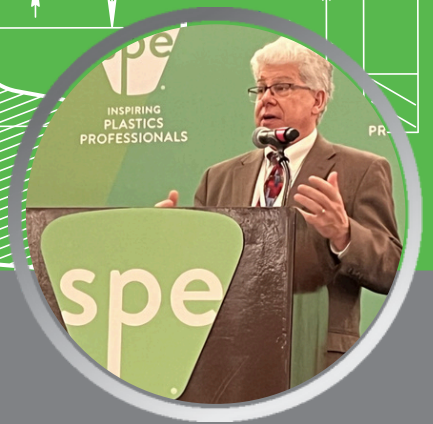
2024  
**Spring  
Newsletter**



**PRODUCT DESIGN  
& DEVELOPMENT**



**BREAKING  
NEWS**



Mark MacLean-Blevins Wins President's Cup

Page 8

# Letter from the Chair

By: Erik Foltz



Hello Product Design and Development Division (PD3) Members!

It is a nice spring day as I write this, and it is great to see people at the park getting more active and ready for their spring and summer plans. The PD3 board has also been active this spring with their participation in ANTEC. PD3 was highlighted in many facets at ANTEC this year. We helped organize the Glenn Beall Symposium, were honored as a Patron Ambassador for the SPE Foundation, and had one of our Members receive the prestigious President Cup Award! You can read some of the highlights about the Glenn Beall Symposium in this newsletter. We are also profiling Mark MacLean-Blevins in our newsletter to help highlight why he was a worthy recipient of the President’s Cup. Having such a prominent role at ANTEC gave credence to the praise I bestowed on our board in my previous Chair message. Beyond the PD3-centric highlights for us at ANTEC, I enjoyed attending the conference in St. Louis. The three-day conference consisted of great technical presentations, where I was able to increase my knowledge of PFA-Free Lubricants, the utilization of AI to accelerate UL-screening process for flame rating, and development of machine-learning algorithms for in-process optimization of injection molding. Additionally, this was a great event for me to reconnect with individuals I have not seen in-person since the pandemic. ANTEC certainly lived up to its reputation that it is the conference to grow and strengthen not only your knowledge but also your network! I look forward to next year’s event in Philadelphia.

Besides being active at ANTEC, PD3 has been busy with our Design for... webinar series. We had two great talks about metal-to-plastic conversion and how to better utilize design of experiment (DOE) methodology to optimize secondary plastic processes. Through the Design for... webinar initiative, we have been able to bring presenters both within and outside our current membership. This is exactly what we are trying to achieve with this webinar series: help educate our membership while engaging the greater design community. We will look to continue our webinar series with seminars from Dow on “Challenges and Opportunities with Circularity in Plastics” and from Sussex IM. Please follow us on LinkedIn to stay up-to-date on all our activities. You can access our LinkedIn Page [here](#). Finally, if you are interested in giving a presentation, please reach out to me to get on the schedule (cont’d).

## In this Issue:

Letter from the Chair.....	1	ANTEC 2024, The Glenn Beall Symposium...	6
Letter from the Editors.....	3	President’s Cup Award .....	8
Past BOD Minutes.....	4	Design For...webinar.....	10
		Board of Directors.....	12

# Letter from the Chair

The final item I'd like to address in this newsletter message is to thank our corporate division sponsors. We have been blessed to have many different sponsors that help us fund the activities and initiatives we have undertaken. The sponsors we currently have are leaders in the design field, and share our passion for highlighting the benefits of plastics in design when utilized responsibly. I encourage you to learn more about each of them, and how they may be able to move your design initiatives forward. That wraps up this message, please enjoy the rest of the newsletter!

Erik Foltz  
Chair, PD3 Board of Directors



*The PD3 Division was Inducted as a Patron Member of the SPE Foundation Ambassador Society.*

# Letter from the Editors



Dear Readers,

As each newsletter rolls around, I begin compiling updates, tidbits, emails, and any pertinent PD3 information that our readers will find informative and fascinating enough to continue reading and find value from. Some newsletter issues can feel more daunting to compose as I grasp the fringes of information and technical papers. On the contrary, this issue, The Spring 2024 issue for the PD3 division, was an exciting one to write.

Regrettably, I couldn't be present at ANTEC, the profoundly inspiring Glenn Beall Symposium, or the prestigious President's Cup ceremony honoring the exceptional Mark MacLean-Blevins. However, as I delved into the event summaries and heard about them, I could sense the electric atmosphere and the impact these events had on our division. It's been a thrilling period for the Product Design & Development Division, and I'm eager for you, our readers, to share in this excitement.

Each of you, as a PD3 member, holds a treasure trove of knowledge and experience. I urge you to continue championing our organization and to help newcomers to the industry recognize the invaluable opportunities and excitement it offers. It's our duty to pass on this rich history and knowledge to the next generation of product designers.

I hope you enjoy this issue of the Spring 2024 Newsletter. It is a pleasure being your editor.

Elizabeth Detampel

# Past BOD Minutes

Meeting Minutes | March 4, 2024 | PD3 Board Hybrid Meeting

## Call to Order and Roll Call

- Meeting started at 4:22 pm Eastern Time
- Present at ANTEC/Zoom: Erik Foltz, Al McGovern, Jason Suess, Chris Siler (Z), Mark MacLean-Blevins, Mark Wolverton, Glenn Beall
- Excused Absence: Ed Probst, Larry Schneider, Akanksha Garg, Elizabeth Detampel, Eric Rose, Vik Bhargava, Kyle Kulwicki, Michael Paloian
- Absent: Pavan Valavala
- Invited Guests: None

## Past Meeting Minutes

- Previous meeting minutes were distributed prior to meeting
- Minutes were approved as distributed

## Treasurer Report

- No report was discussed at this meeting because the Treasurer was not in attendance.
- A budget was discussed as distributed prior to the meeting by Erik Foltz - There was discussion about increased future income from additional website sponsors - No decision was made about the future budget. This will be a topic for the next meeting.

## Councilor Report

- No report was provided or discussed at this meeting as the Councilor was not in attendance.

## Website/Newsletter Report

- Continue to look for technical content - should be covered for content for a few issues
- For longer technical articles, a link will be provided to the website to drive more traffic

## Membership Report

- No new membership report was reviewed at this meeting
- Erik Foltz commented that our target audience for improved membership should be earlier career members

## Old Business

- ANTEC 2024
  - Al provided an update about the Glenn Beall Symposium
  - It is time and everything is ready
  - All speakers will make it except for John Bozzelli
  - Erik recorded John's presentation
  - The symposium will start promptly at 8:00 am and will follow the break schedule of ANTEC
  - Al will kick off the symposium, and Erik will wrap it up (cont'd.)

# Past BOD Minutes

Meeting Minutes | March 4, 2024 | PD3 Board Hybrid Meeting

- Design for Webinars
  - Eric Rose has a conflict to present in March
  - Erik Foltz is moving the March presentation into April to provide more time for a presenter who will talk about design of experiments related to product design Erik asked if we wanted to make an annual topic for the webinar series and then seek sponsorship as an income source - This can be a discussion topic for planning sessions for 2025
  - Right now, we are measuring success by getting an audience - We will focus on a funding mechanism from these sessions in the future

## **New Business**

- Mark M-B suggested the formation of a committee to define a bylaws review and update
- Mark M-B has volunteered to lead the effort, and others are needed to participate
- Will want to initiate discussions about targeting 2025 for technical conference for PD3

## **Adjourn**

- Meeting ended at 5:45 pm Eastern Time

**Submitted by Chris Siler**

**March 5, 2024**

# ANTEC 2024

## *The Glenn Beall Symposium*

*By: Albert McGovern*

This year's ANTEC was graced by a full-day Symposium dedicated to honoring Glenn Beall, a stalwart of the plastics industry and a luminary in plastic product design. With a career spanning more than six decades, Glenn's contributions were celebrated alongside heartfelt recognition of his late wife and partner, Patsy.

The Symposium boasted an impressive lineup of 10 speakers, personally selected by Glenn, who delved into various aspects of his legacy. Len Czuba commenced proceedings with a poignant overview of Glenn's life, setting the stage for Glenn himself to share memories and insights into effective plastic product design. Attendees were treated to Glenn's trademark presentation style, complete with his classic visuals and engaging discourse, including an unexpected reference to Monica Lewinsky.

Following Glenn's address, the Symposium showcased nine technical speakers, each representing one of Glenn's renowned pillars of plastic product design: Design, Material, Mold, and Process. Topics close to Glenn's heart, such as Rotational Molding, Thermoforming, and Additive Manufacturing, were also highlighted. Speakers included Michael Paloian, Mark MacLean-Blevins, David Tucker, Mark Wolverton, Mike Sepe, Ed Probst, Scott Peters, John Bozzelli (recorded earlier via Zoom) and Jon Ratzlaff who offered personal anecdotes and reflections on Glenn's profound influence on their careers. (cont'd)



*Len Presenting with Al McGovern and Glenn Beall\**



*(L to R) Mark MacLean-Blevins, Michael Paloian, David Tucker, Mark Wolverton, Scott Peters, Glenn Beall, Ed Probst, Len Czuba, Mike Sepe, Plastics Professional, John Ratzlaff*

*\*Photo Credits go to Pedro Matos at SPE, Mark MacLean-Blevins, and Albert McGovern*

# ANTEC 2024

## *The Glenn Beall Symposium*

*By: Albert McGovern*

The Symposium culminated in a lively social, providing ANTEC attendees with the opportunity to mingle with Glenn, the speakers, and fellow industry enthusiasts. This memorable event was made possible through the generous sponsorship of SPE HQ, PD3, the Medical Plastics Division, the Rotational Molding Division, the Chicago Chapter, and the Plastics Pioneers Association. Moderated by Al McGovern and Erik Foltz, past and current PD3 Chairs respectively, the Symposium was a fitting tribute to Glenn Beall's enduring legacy.

Albert McGovern  
April 16, 2024



*Ed Probst Presenting*



*Social Hour*



*Mark Wolverton*



*Social Hour*



# The President's Cup Award 2024

## Honoring Mark MacLean-Blevins

Our Membership Chair Mark MacLean-Blevins was honored at ANTEC 2024 with the President's Cup Award for his meritorious and outstanding service to SPE. The President's Cup is an award that is given at the discretion of the SPE president, where only 65 individuals have been awarded this honor since its inception in 1958. Mark is certainly a worthy honoree. Since joining SPE in 1988, Mark has served in many roles within SPE and within PD3, including Chair, Membership Chair, and Councilor. Mark has served with great dedication and has offered invaluable insight to the different groups to guide SPE and our division forward. He has always taken an active role in his volunteering, which he has stated has given him great benefit both personally and professionally. We took this time to ask him some of his favorite aspects and memories of his service during this time. Please enjoy, and reach out to Mark to congratulate him on this great honor!

Written by: Erik Foltz  
April 22, 2024

## Favorite Aspect of Being Active in SPE/PD3

By: Mark MacLean-Blevins

As an independent design services provider, active participation in PD3 and SPE gives me an extensive network of professionals with expertise in most any aspect of plastics that I might need for any given project for a client. In fact, many of these professionals have become friends that have further strengthened my background through discussions of similar projects and experiences. In turn, I have been called upon by others for my opinion and assistance in areas where I could bring value to their particular project or issue to be solved.



*Mark MacLean-Blevins Speaking after Receiving the President's Cup from SPE Past-President Bruce Mulholland (holding cup). Mark's wife, Kim, was also present for the ceremony.*

# The President's Cup Award 2024

## Honoring Mark MacLean-Blevins

### Favorite Memory of Active SPE Volunteering

By: Mark MacLean-Blevins

There are many fond memories from volunteering within SPE, however, I would have to say that meeting other members and learning about their past successes and failures is perhaps the one highlight worth mentioning. Attending ANTEC each year and contributing through meetings and discussions has always been rewarding for me as well. Opportunities to attend various functions, like the dedication of the reading room at the Syracuse Library, or the gathering to celebrate Patsy Beall's Honorary Membership in SPE, were also personal fond memories. In the end, it circles back to making and keeping good friendships with people in the industry from around the globe, people that we get to see each year at ANTEC to visit and share our lives with for a short time.

**Fun Fact**

The tradition is to introduce the honoree with a series of clues!

### President's Cup Recipients 1958-Present

- |                                |                               |                                |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1958 - Frank A. Martin         | 1981 - Samuel F. Rutland, Jr. | 2004 - Kishor S. Mehta         |
| 1959 - Wayne I. Pribble        | 1982 - John C. Moricoli       | 2005 - Alan J. Arduini         |
| 1960 - George B. Baron         | 1983 - Glenn L. Beall         | 2006 - Jon Ratzlaff            |
| 1961 - G. Palmer Humphrey, Sr. | 1984 - Fred E. Schwab         | 2007 - Lance M. Neward         |
| 1962 - Halman S. Nathan        | 1985 - Gwen Mathis            | 2008 - Gail R. Bristol         |
| 1963 - Richard B. Bishop       | 1986 - Lloyd A. Goettler      | 2009 - Barbara Arnold-Feret    |
| 1964 - Lloyd R. Whittington    | 1987 - George E. Nelson       | 2010 - Richard J. Bradley      |
| 1965 - Saul Gobstein           | 1988 - Jacques M.E. de Craene | 2011 - Yetty Pauwels           |
| 1966 - Jules W. Lindau, III    | 1989 - Paul H. Squires        | 2012 - Scott E. Owens          |
| 1967 - Henry A. Fuggiti        | 1990 - Thomas J. Gederner     | 2013 - Ken J. Braney           |
| 1968 - W. Howard Nicol         | 1991 - William A. Humphrey    | 2014 - Jaime Gomez             |
| 1969 - Parke Woodworth         | 1992 - Robert D. Forger       | 2015 - Wim De Vos              |
| 1970 - John H. Myers           | 1993 - Raymond J. Ehring      | 2016 - Sandra K. McClelland    |
| 1971 - none                    | 1994 - Stanley J. Anton       | 2017 - Roger C. Kipp           |
| 1972 - Paul N. Richardson      | 1995 - Robert G. Hills        | 2018 - Bruce Mulholland        |
| 1973 - none                    | 1996 - Franklin D. Palmer     | 2019 - William Arendt          |
| 1974 - Charles C. Zimmerman    | 1997 - A. Nelson Wright       | 2020 - Brian Grady             |
| 1975 - Alva E. Whitney         | 1998 - John R. Griep          | 2021 - Conor P. Carlin         |
| 1976 - Earle S. Johnson        | 1999 - Robert E. Cramer       | 2022 - Brian G. Landes         |
| 1977 - Henry L. Miller         | 2000 - Richard E. Heinke      | 2023 - Mark T. MacLean-Blevins |
| 1978 - Edward S. Bloom         | 2001 - Michael R. Cappelletti |                                |
| 1979 - John I. O'Toole         | 2002 - Ray Bush               |                                |
| 1980 - Sherman M. Crawford     | 2003 - Chi-Kai Shih           |                                |

# Design For.. Webinar Series



## Plastics Circularity Opportunities and Challenges

with: Akanksha Garg & Mahesh Sawant  
The Dow Chemical Company

July 18th, 2024 @ 12 CST

Addressing plastic waste and transitioning to a low-carbon, circular economy are the biggest challenges faced by the plastic industry globally. As a leading material science company, Dow is seeking, together with partners, solutions based on advanced recycling, mechanical recycling, bio-based materials, and product innovations to design recyclable packaging formats. Dow has committed to accelerating the circular ecosystem by transforming waste and alternative feedstock to deliver 3 million metric tons per year of circular and renewable solutions by 2030.

REVOLOOP™ resins create a second life for plastic waste that would otherwise end up in landfills, incinerators, or litter in oceans and the environment. In the recycling industry, discarded plastic waste is hauled to a facility to be separated by hand and/or automation; bales of sorted and cleaned plastics are then reprocessed into pellets. Even the best post-consumer recycled (PCR) pellets are inherently inferior and can only be down-cycled or used at less than 100% of the virgin resin counterpart. REVOLOOP™ resins counterbalance PCR deficiencies by well-controlled waste collection system, proprietary performance boosters, and advanced processing to remove contaminants. Commercialization of REVOLOOP™ resin is the result of innovations in PCR characterization, new molecular design, and cost-effective manufacturing at world-scale. It has been demonstrated that polyethylene (PE) PCR can be up-cycled into film applications by designing tailored performance boosters to recover the performance.

### About the Speakers

**Akanksha Garg:** Akanksha Garg earned her Ph.D. degree in computational mechanics from Carnegie Mellon University in 2014 and received her undergraduate degree in mechanical engineering from IIT Kanpur, India, in 2009. She joined Dow in 2017 and is currently a Research Scientist in Product R&D, Packaging & Specialty Plastics. She has led the development and commercialization of novel polyethylene resins in industrial and consumer packaging, health and hygiene, and post-consumer recycle (PCR) resins. Plastic News recognized her as a ‘Rising Star’ in 2021. In addition, Dr. Garg represents Dow at the Society of Plastics Engineers as a board member, the Awards and Recognition team, and as a speaker at SPE conferences. She has also shown leadership in the community, being the president of the non-profit IIT Alumni of Greater Houston, is active in the Society of Women’s Engineers, as well as at Dow-sponsored STEM events. (cont’d)

**Register Here**

[CLICK HERE](#)

# Design For.. Webinar Series

**Mahesh Sawant:** Mahesh Sawant is a Senior Research Scientist in Plastics & Hydrocarbons business at Dow Chemical. He started his career at Dow in 2007 where he worked extensively on process development, scale-up and commercialization of bespoke products for multiple Dow businesses. In 2019, Mahesh moved to his current role in Plastics Circularity and Sustainability where he leads the technology validation and implementation of key projects globally for advanced recycling of plastics and leads methodology development, evaluation, and external communication of sustainable plastics LCAs. He actively coaches young engineers within the organization, mentors students via community STEM activities and is currently coaching research graduates from HBCU (NCA&T University) and Department of Energy on a government sponsored research program. Mahesh has received 6 Dow global technology innovation and business excellence awards for commercializing breakthrough processes and products and is a co-inventor of 14 granted US patents. He was recently featured in Americas Change Makers showcase by the ACC Plastics division.

Mahesh earned his Master of Technology (M. Tech) in Chemical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (India) and Ph.D. in Chemical Technology from the Institute of Chemical Technology, Mumbai (India).

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Email Mark MacLean-Blevins or Erik Foltz:

- [Mark@maclean-blevins.com](mailto:Mark@maclean-blevins.com)
- [Erik@madisongroup.com](mailto:Erik@madisongroup.com)

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Here**

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**Become a Part of Something Great**

- Want to Help Shape the Future of Product Design?
- Want to Connect with Leaders in the Industry?
- Looking to Build Your Network?

**JOIN NOW**



# Call for Sponsors!

## ***BOOST YOUR BUSINESS WITH SPONSORSHIP***

The SPE Product Design and Development Division is seeking sponsors for our website as we continue to provide valuable content and engage with our ever-growing community! By becoming a sponsor, you will have a prominent presence on our website and within our newsletter, reaching a dedicated audience interested in your services.

Your support not only helps us maintain and improve our platform but also enables you to connect with potential customers who align with your brand!

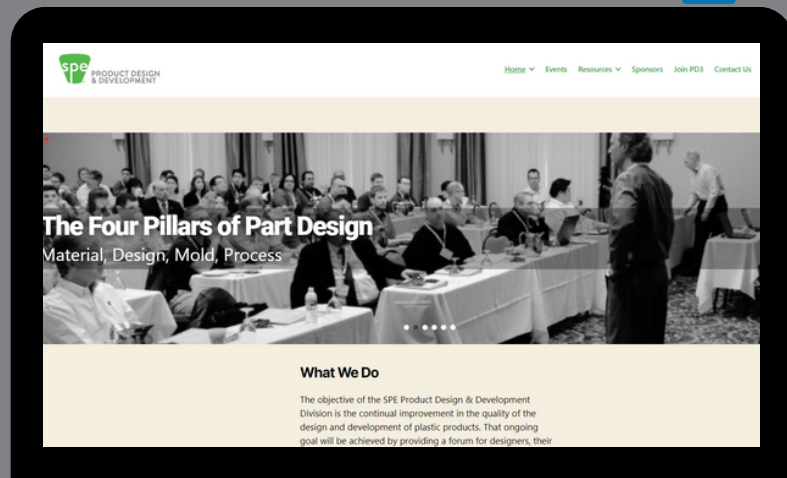
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[www.pd3.4spe.org/sponsors](http://www.pd3.4spe.org/sponsors)

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### Sponsorship Summary

- \$350/yr
- Logo Slider on PD3 Homepage
- Sponsor Bio and Link on Website
- Sponsor Spotlights
  - Webinars/Newsletters/LinkedIn



# PD3 Board of Directors

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Technical Program Chair:	Akanksha Garg
Treasurer:	Larry Schneider
Division Historian:	Glenn Beall
Web/Newsletter Editor:	Elizabeth Detampel
Member at Large:	Eric P. Rose, NPDP, MBA
Member at Large:	Ed Probst
Member at Large:	Michael Paloian
Member at Large:	Jason Suess

To learn more about our board members, [click here!](#)

## ***SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT***

In practice as an independent product design consultant since 1992, Mark MacLean-Blevins has spent his career developing products manufactured from plastics. His primary work has been in consumer products – lawn and garden, pet goods, consumer electronics, sporting goods, some automotive aftermarket goods, etc., – but he’s also done work for the medical industry that includes diagnostic electronics packaging or durable hospital equipment and some biomed research packaging.



Visit [maclean-blevins.com](http://maclean-blevins.com) to learn more!