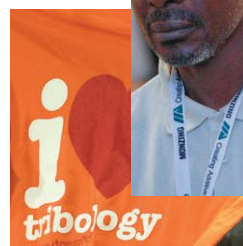
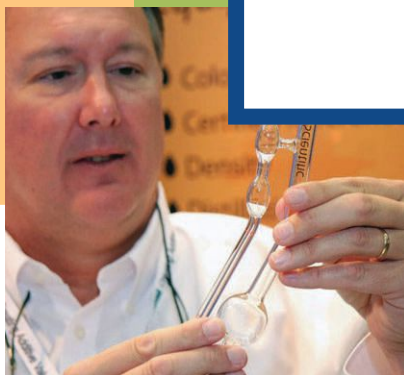


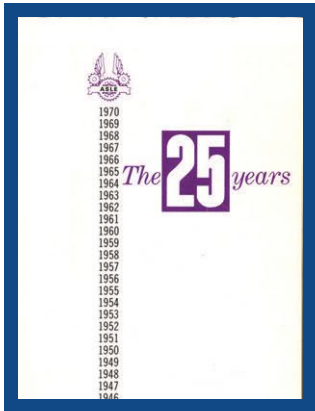
STLE at 75:
CONNECT.
LEARN.
ACHIEVE.

Former society presidents
tell the STLE story from
their personal perspective.



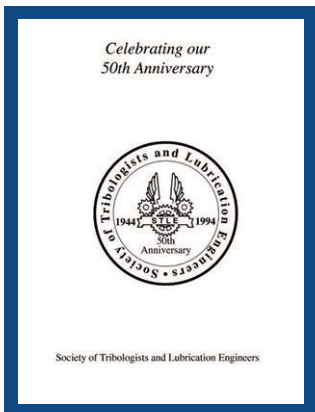
STLE: Feeling Good at 75.

This publication continues our tradition of telling the STLE story.



When the organization was created as the American Society of Lubrication Engineers (ASLE) in 1944, the founders made sure to preserve the incorporation documents and minutes of the first board meeting. Today, the documents are stored in the Park Ridge, Ill., headquarters building along with many other treasures from those early days. Among them are photographs taken at the first Annual Meeting, held in Chicago in 1946.

Great plans were made for a 75th anniversary celebration in Chicago, where the organization was born and is still headquartered. But the turmoil of a global pandemic forced cancellation of the 2020 Annual Meeting and much of the celebratory activities. Except for this one.



In 1969, at the end of the tumultuous decade of the 1960s, leadership decided to celebrate the occasion by publishing the story of the first 25 years in the commemorative volume shown on this page. Twenty-five years later, at the dawn of the Internet Age in 1994, a second similar volume was published to capture the history of those decades.

The latest installment of this STLE tradition takes a different editorial approach. The story of the past 25 years is told in a series of essays written by some of the distinguished women and men who as STLE Presidents worked in collaboration with hundreds of volunteers and professional staff to position the organization for continued success.

Original copies of both volumes are part of the historical collection at STLE headquarters. Digitized versions are accessible at www.stle.org.

Despite current and prior challenges, STLE continues to demonstrate its ability to evolve and find creative new ways to serve the needs of the tribology and lubricants community. This is an organization that's feeling good at 75 and ready to embark on our journey to the 100th anniversary in 2044!



The **STLE** Purpose:
CONNECT.
LEARN.
ACHIEVE.

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75th Anniversary Committee		

STLE celebrates its 75th Anniversary.

David K. Scheetz, Anniversary Committee Chair

The American Society of Lubrication Engineers (ASLE), the organization that would later be renamed STLE, was chartered March 3, 1944, in Chicago with fewer than 100 members.

To honor STLE's diamond birthday, the board in late 2018 appointed a committee of volunteers to plan a series of commemorative activities. The celebration started with an announcement at the 2018 Tribology Frontiers Conference and will continue to the 75th STLE Annual Meeting in New Orleans instead of Chicago. What can I say, no one saw the COVID-19 pandemic coming. Besides, the first Annual Meeting, scheduled for February 1945, was canceled due to war time travel restrictions. The first Annual Meeting was held in Chicago in 1946, our second year of existence.

While researching STLE's history, I could not help but notice the element that makes STLE great today was evident in full force when our organization was started in 1944—the volunteer spirit. It was a small group of volunteers (and, I think we can assume, competitors) who worked together to create an organization under the direst of circumstances.

It is easy to forget these things many years later, but STLE was born at the height of World War II. Our founding fathers initially gathered at a series of informal meetings in 1942 at the Union League Club in Chicago where one of the members was a lubricant executive named Walter D. Hodson. The society's bylaws reportedly were drafted the night bombings launched on Berlin. Three months after the society was chartered, Allied forces invaded Normandy.

The organizational skills of Hodson and the other founders were so good that our society essentially sprang to life fully formed and in adult shape. It took years to breathe life into our programs and activities, of course, but the society's basic concept and structure—awards, education, membership, governance, technical and administrative committees, publications—were put into place more than 75 years ago. The only critical STLE program missing was certification, which the society would not get to until the early 1990s.

In addition to their organizational skills, you must admire the vision of Hodson and the other founders. They organized their new society around five key objectives.



Note how relevant these 75-year-old founding principles are to everything STLE does today:

1. To advance the knowledge and application of lubrication science.
2. To study and develop theories, practices and techniques related to lubrication.
3. To accumulate and disseminate lubrication-related research.
4. To increase best practices related to lubrication.
5. To increase recognition of the importance of applied lubrication science.



I would like to share some interesting facts about STLE's birth and history that I found in the course of my research.

- ASLE's first president was C.E. Pritchard, who served from 1944-1946.
- Walter D. Hodson, often referred to as the father of STLE, never served as its president. He was, however, the first recipient of the National Award, the society's highest technical honor.
- The first seven local sections were created in 1945. In order of their charters, they were Chicago, Milwaukee, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Los Angeles, New York and Philadelphia.
- The first ASLE Annual Meeting was held in Chicago in 1946 and attracted 379 attendees. Ten years later in the same city, the meeting would draw more than 1,400 lubrication professionals.
- Although it abandoned the structure when becoming more international, STLE's Board of Directors originally included regional vice presidents who reported on seven North American sections: Atlantic, Central, Midwest, Northeast, South, West and Canada.
- *Lubrication Engineering* launched in 1945 as a quarterly journal featuring "applied-type papers and articles." *ASLE Transactions* followed in 1958 as a quarterly journal dedicated to publishing papers delivered at the society's annual meeting. *ASLE Transactions* changed its name to *Tribology Transactions* in 1988, and *Lubrication Engineering* was replaced by *TLT* in 2003.
- ASLE officially began honoring its technical people and volunteers in 1948 with an awards program so well-conceived that it remains largely intact. The key awards we bestow today—the National (now International) Award, the P.M. Ku Award, the Captain Alfred E. Hunt Memorial Award, the Wilbur Deutsch Memorial Award, the Al Sonntag Award, the Edmond E. Bisson Award and the Walter D. Hodson Award—all were created 71 years ago.
- The formal name change to the Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineers (STLE) occurred in 1987 to recognize the organization's international scope and increased focus on tribology research.

It's mind-boggling to think of what STLE has accomplished these past 75 years—the careers it has supported, the companies it has strengthened and the impact our volunteers had and continue to have on the world every second of the day. STLE's focus on the future is what has propelled us through these many years and keeps us relevant decade after decade.

Milestones like this, however, are a good time to look back and reflect on the ingenuity and commitment made by a handful of volunteers 75, no, 76 years ago.

Then, like today, our organization was made great by groups of dedicated individuals with vision, enthusiasm and a willingness to give of themselves for the betterment of all.

Thank you, STLE founding fathers! And a happy 75th STLE anniversary to everyone.

**STLE's focus
on the future is what
has propelled us through
these many years and
keeps us relevant
decade after decade.**

Introduction
Paul Hetherington, 2020 – 2021 STLE President

This society would not be where it is today without the amazing guidance and leadership of these past presidents.

It is a sincere honor, as the current STLE President, to be included in this publication. I have had the great pleasure of getting to know many of these great presidents during my 30 years as an STLE member. It would be very difficult, if not impossible, to adequately describe how many of these fine men and women have made me a better person and leader.

I started my tenure as STLE President quite a bit differently than all of my colleagues. All of the past presidents started their first few minutes as STLE President at the President's Luncheon surrounded by 800 or so of the greatest minds in the world of lubrication and tribology. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the cancellation of the 2020 STLE Annual Meeting, I had the honor of starting my term in the comfort of my home office while wearing a pair of slippers.

This publication is such a great idea, and I am definitely looking forward to reading through these reflections that have been written by these great leaders of STLE.

In 2019, STLE celebrated its 75th anniversary as a society, and in 2020 we planned to hold the 75th STLE Annual Meeting before it was canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This society would not be where it is today without the amazing guidance and leadership of these past presidents.

I am most definitely not looking to speed up my term during the coming year, but I will say that it will be an honor to join this group of STLE Past Presidents on the Presidential Council.



Paul Hetherington
Petro-Canada Lubricants

1946 – 2021

ASLE / STLE Annual Meetings

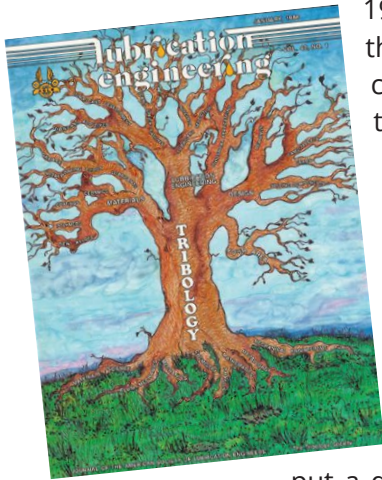
1946	Chicago	1971	Boston	1996	Cincinnati
1947	Pittsburgh	1972	Houston	1997	Kansas City
1948	Buffalo	1973	Chicago	1998	Detroit
1949	New York	1974	Cleveland	1999	Las Vegas
1950	Chicago	1975	Atlanta	2000	Nashville
1951	Philadelphia	1976	Philadelphia	2001	Orlando
1952	Cleveland	1977	Montreal	2002	Houston
1953	Boston	1978	Dearborn	2003	New York
1954	Cincinnati	1979	St. Louis	2004	Toronto
1955	Chicago	1980	Anaheim	2005	Las Vegas
1956	Pittsburgh	1981	Pittsburgh	2006	Calgary
1957	Detroit	1982	Cincinnati	2007	Philadelphia
1958	Cleveland	1983	Houston	2008	Cleveland
1959	Buffalo	1984	Chicago	2009	Orlando
1960	Cincinnati	1985	Las Vegas	2010	Las Vegas
1961	Philadelphia	1986	Toronto	2011	Atlanta
1962	St. Louis	1987	Anaheim	2012	St. Louis
1963	New York	1988	Cleveland	2013	Detroit
1964	Chicago	1989	Atlanta	2014	Lake Buena Vista
1965	Detroit	1990	Denver	2015	Dallas
1966	Pittsburgh	1991	Montreal	2016	Las Vegas
1967	Toronto	1992	Philadelphia	2017	Atlanta
1968	Cleveland	1993	Calgary	2018	Minneapolis
1969	Philadelphia	1994	Pittsburgh	2019	Nashville
1970	Chicago	1995	Chicago	2021	New Orleans



1985 – 1986

Carleton N. Rowe, ASLE President

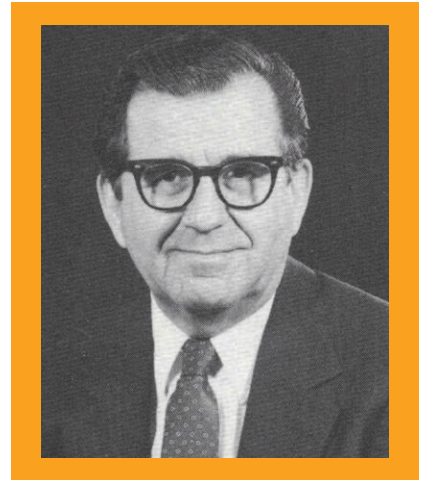
To attract the reader to the editorial, I created the 'Tribology Tree' for the January magazine's cover.



A priority subject in my term was to focus on the word *Tribology* as it was gaining recognition in England. As a starter, I wrote an editorial titled "Is it Time to Change ASLE's Name?" The editorial was published in *Lubrication Engineering* in January 1986 (Vol. 42, No. 1). To attract the reader to the editorial, I created the "Tribology Tree" for the January magazine's cover.

Much discussion over time occurred with the Executive Committee and the STLE Board of Directors with input from the committees and councils as well as Letters to the Editor. During 1986-1987, the board decided to put a question to all ASLE members for a vote.

A positive vote resulted in the name change to Society of Tribology and Lubrication Engineers (STLE) during the 1987-1988 presidency.



Carleton N. Rowe
Mobil Research &
Development (*retired*)

1993 – 1994

Robert L. Fusaro, STLE President

... it was my desire to increase membership both in the U.S. and internationally and to form local sections around the world.



Robert L. Fusaro

NASA (retired)

STLE was founded on March 3, 1944, so the end of my term marked the 50th anniversary of the society. In my "State of the Society" message, I was happy to report that the society was very sound financially and membership was stable. But it was my desire to increase membership both in the U.S. and internationally and to form local sections around the world. I was hopeful future presidents would pursue this.

As president, I identified a number of areas that I believed needed to be improved. They were:

1. too many weak Industry Councils and Technical Committees
2. an aging society membership
3. a tribology conference that some people considered had become too "academic"
4. a lack of industry and public recognition of the society and the word "tribology"
5. a need to inform industry of the importance of the correct tribological practices in their businesses
6. a need for a few technical people on the society headquarters staff
7. a need to increase society members
8. a need to streamline the editorial review process.

In order to address these and other current problem areas and to guide the society into the 21st Century, I asked James Steenberg, chair of the Organization & Operations Committee, to revisit the society's strategic plan. A questionnaire was sent to membership and produced more than 500 responses.

Review of the responses resulted in the formation of a number of smaller teams to address those responses with the hope that those findings would be integrated into a larger plan for the whole society.

In order to address new ventures, publicity, advertising and increasing society membership, I created a new Director/Sponsor for Promotions, Publicity and New Ventures that was headed by Director Bill Adams. Another new venture that was initiated during my presidency was the Lubrication Specialist certification (CLS) program, which has grown to be a big part of the society.

Also, at the time, STLE was not presenting scholarships to students. I asked Norman Eiss to form a committee and develop a plan for presenting a scholarship to a student who planned to pursue a career in tribology.

1994 – 1995

Wayne E. Ward, STLE President

Thus was born the Commercial Marketing Forum, which celebrates its 25th anniversary at the 75th STLE Annual Meeting.

STLE's Annual Meeting 25 years ago was a somewhat different experience than the one we have today. The technical program was only a fraction of today's, but after every meeting there was a lengthy discussion at the next Board of Directors meeting about "too much commercialism" in the technical program presentations.

Despite numerous attempts at stricter enforcement, and even a preview of presentation materials, still we were unsuccessful in keeping companies from submitting product development and marketing presentations for inclusion in the technical program.

To address the problem from a different direction, I suggested to

former Executive Director Maxine Hensley that we offer an alternative venue for these organizations to do what they want to do. If we clearly labeled this venue as both commercial and marketing oriented, perhaps it would draw the "offending" presentations out of the technical program in favor of this new venue. Maxine suggested a modest fee to cover the additional space and AV requirements.

The concept was presented to the corporate members, who enthusiastically agreed to manage this new addition to the annual meeting. Thus was born the Commercial Marketing Forum, which celebrates its 25th anniversary at the 75th STLE Annual Meeting.



Wayne E. Ward

U.S. Air Force (*retired*)

1995 – 1996

Andrew Jackson, STLE President

The Editorial and Publications Committee started the process of redesigning the monthly journal, *Lubrication Engineering*, that led to the introduction of *TLT* in 2003, which we now all admire.

The strength of STLE lies in its continuity of leadership. I inherited a strong society from Wayne Ward in May 1995 and hopefully left it in at least as good of shape a year later to my successor John Hermann. I had the honor of being inducted as STLE President at the 50th STLE Annual Meeting in Chicago, and it is hard to believe that 25 years has gone by and we are now celebrating the 75th.

The problem with the passage of time is that memories fade and one must rely on paper records. I meticulously kept all my minutes and notes from ASLE/STLE in the bottom two drawers of a file cabinet in our basement. Unfortunately, when we got two feet of water down there in 2000, they all were destroyed and I threw them out, thinking I would not need them anymore. I did not expect the kind invitation from Dave Scheetz to write about my recollections!



Fortunately, I remembered that on a shaky 2007 iMac, I had backups of several previous computers going back to the late 1980s, including a few old STLE files. Among them were my acceptance speech at the annual meeting in Chicago and my President's Report in Cincinnati in 1996. Jogged by these, here are my recollections.

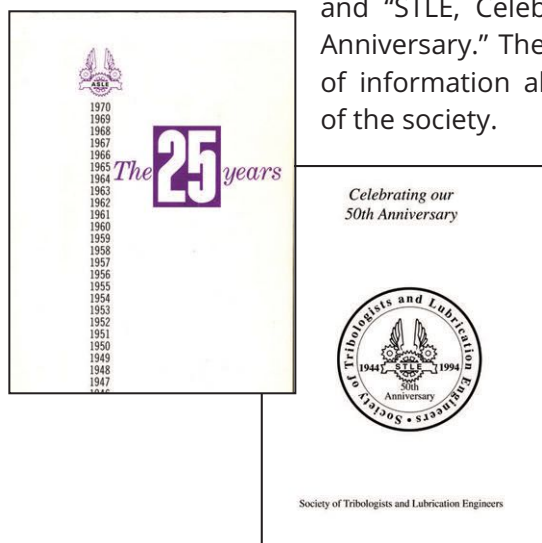
At the end of Wayne's term, we finalized the society's strategic plan, STLE 2000. I had been heavily involved with many others in developing the plan and had led the effort on redesign of STLE's publications. My job as president was to begin implementation of the plan. The Education Committee got off to a flying start under Mark Mulvihill's leadership, along with John Hermann's energy, presenting the STLE Basic Lubrication Course at the Fuels & Lubes Asia Conference in Singapore. The course was a resounding success, with 52 attendees, and led to the formation of a new section in Singapore.

The Finance Committee was reorganized under the leadership of chair Wayne Ward to manage the financial aspects of the STLE 2000 implementation. Although the society was financially strong, with net assets of more than \$1.5 million, we were facing a 5% budget deficit in 1995-1996. The board felt that sound finances were important to the health of STLE so, reluctantly, we raised the dues to \$70 and increased other fees for the first time in 10 years. Nobody complained, so I guess STLE offered good value!

The Editorial and Publications Committee started the process of redesigning the monthly journal, *Lubrication Engineering*, that led to the introduction of *TLT* in 2003, which we now all admire. One thing that happened under my watch, which I can't claim any credit for, was the installation of a new computer system at STLE headquarters and the introduction of the first STLE website. We became connected by email, which enhanced STLE's communications ability. Hard to imagine operating STLE without email and the internet!

By far, the most lasting effect I had on STLE was through the executive director transition process that took place in 1996. Executive Director Maxine Hensley had given us a reality check early in 1995 when she told us she was not getting any younger and would like us to do succession planning. Maxine became the executive director in 1970, our 25th anniversary year, and had taken the society from a position of near bankruptcy to its current state of strength. She was a key figure in the stability of the organization. Fortunately, she assured us she would not leave until we found a replacement that STLE was happy with. Following a search by the Executive Committee, we hired an assistant executive director, who started on April 1.

Unfortunately, the new employee did not work out and was terminated by the Executive Committee. We then started a new search and a new name popped up: Edward Salek. Ed was impressed with STLE, with its vision in the



Strategic Plan, its sound finances, strong meeting record and reputable publications, and he accepted the job when we offered it to him. Hiring Ed, which happened under John Hermann's watch, was the best thing we could have done for STLE, and the last 25 years has proved us right.

Just a note on anniversaries: the 75th anniversary of the formation of STLE (ASLE) was in March 2019, as the first meeting of the ASLE Board of Directors was held in Chicago on March 10, 1944, and ASLE was incorporated in Illinois on March 12, 1944. The first National Convention of ASLE was planned for February 1945 but had to be canceled due to war time travel restrictions.

The first annual meeting was held in Chicago in 1946 and had 349 people in attendance. Two booklets* I salvaged from the flood—they look a mess but are legible—are "ASLE, the 25 years" and "STLE, Celebrating our 50th Anniversary." They are a fountain of information about the history of the society.



Andrew Jackson

ExxonMobil Research
(retired)

* Digitized copies of both booklets are available on the STLE website.

1996 – 1997

John F. Hermann, STLE President

STLE became more aggressive in bringing its message to academic leaders and engineering students at the university level.



John F. Hermann

ExxonMobil Lubricants & Specialties (*retired*)

As a member of the Executive Committee, we were faced with replacing Executive Director Maxine Hensley after 27 years of service. We were fortunate to find Ed Salek, a highly qualified non-profit organization director. The challenge was to bring Ed up to speed quickly in the business of tribology and lubrication engineering. Arrangements were made to send Ed to Texaco's one-week distributor training in Port Arthur, Texas, which included visits to product development laboratories and a lubrication manufacturing plant.

Additionally, visits to other venues were arranged to interact with our membership base.

The focus of my tenure as STLE President was STLE's mission: "To promote the advancement and dissemination of the knowledge and application of the science of tribology and lubrication engineering, and to provide a forum for suppliers, educators, consumers and researchers to meet and exchange ideas, technology and product information." But with an increasing global economy, it would be necessary to execute this on an international basis, not just in the U.S. and Canada.

As a start, the STLE National Award was changed to the STLE International Award. A portable STLE trade show booth was designed by director and future STLE President Michel Murphy for trade shows and organization events. Fledgling sections were initiated in Manila, Philippines, and Ghent, Belgium, STLE Asia and STLE Brussels. Additionally, STLE became more aggressive in bringing its message to academic leaders and engineering students at the university level.



I made the following visits, in addition to U.S. section visits, education courses and technical talks, as vice-president-at-large, president and continued as chair of the Presidential Council to support the mission.

- *January 1996:* 2nd Annual Fuels & Lubes Asia/STLE Asia Annual Meeting/STLE Education Course
- *August 1996:* The Gear Research Annual Meeting, Chicago
- *September 1996:* Alberta Section, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada
- *October 1996:* Penn State University, State College, Pa.
- *November 1996:* STLE Toronto Section
- *December 1996:* STLE Montreal Section
- *January 1997:* NFPA (National Fluid Power Association) Contamination/Filtration: Issues and Perspectives, Chicago
- *October 1997:* 5th International LFE Congress, Brussels, Belgium
- *September 1997:* STLE Education Course in Conjunction with the World Tribology Congress, London, England
- *March 1997:* Symposium of Chemical Engineering Tecnológico de Monterrey, Monterrey, Mexico
- *January 1998:* 3rd Annual Fuels & Lubes Asia/STLE Asia Annual Meeting/STLE Education Course
- *March 1998:* SAIT (South African Institute of Technology), Johannesburg, South Africa
- *July 1998:* NACAT (North American Council of Automotive Teachers), Pennsylvania College of Technology, Williamsport, Pa.

1998 – 1999

William D. Marscher, STLE President

My goal as president was to find and pursue ways for STLE to have more relevance in the business lives of its members.

It was a pleasure serving as STLE President at the tail end of the 20th Century. My goal as president was to find and pursue ways for STLE to have more relevance in the business lives of its members. This was a task easier said than done because STLE has always had a very diverse membership, with obviously very different needs across the spectrum. However, I think we made good progress.

We maintained what was key to those who needed to network:

- lube sales
- researchers wishing to share and compare their efforts with others (other researchers as well as sources of new funding)
- government representatives who wanted to keep abreast of developments in the many fields associated with tribology and be on the lookout for areas worthy of new efforts
- corporate engineers who wanted to learn, share their work and get an idea of where their industry might be going.

The relevant “new and re-invigorated” efforts included the large well-lubricated Welcoming Parties at both the STLE Annual Meeting and Tribology Frontiers Conference, the popular Commercial Marketing Forum pioneered by STLE Past President Wayne Ward and others, the Annual Meeting Exhibition (I had proposed this to the board several decades ago), additional short courses and increased outreach to the individual sections to pitch the STLE brand locally.

Following the lead of STLE Past President John Hermann, we initiated or fostered new sections offshore and worked with some of them to present world-class short courses in their local venue. We also used the successful CLS certification program as a guide for establishing the Oil Monitoring Analyst certification program, of which I was the organizing chair.

Hopefully some or all of this has been useful to the STLE membership in the 20 years since.



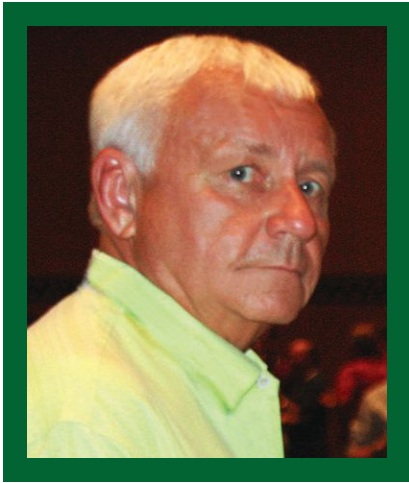
**William D. (Bill)
Marscher**

Mechanical Solutions Inc.

1999 – 2000

Leslie R. Heerdt, STLE President

My focus was not only on sections within in the continental U.S., but I encouraged the STLE governance review and update, which would coincide with the start of the 21st Century.



Leslie R. Heerdt

Falex Corporation

As the Millennial STLE President, the one main thrust of my presidency was to work with the Board of Directors to provide incentives within the organization to enhance the value of STLE membership to the industrial community. During each of my visits to local sections, I would try to visit major industrial companies and/or local corporate members to discuss what they expected or would like STLE to offer. Additionally, I worked with these corporate leaders to determine what STLE could offer to make them consider membership more valuable, not only at the corporation level but in the way it views its employee members.

The main issue discussed by the corporate leaders was education. How could STLE increase its ability to provide better education and provide offerings, such as certification programs, that would recognize these more knowledgeable employees? Additional courses would be administered at future annual meetings based on these discussions using talent from other organizations such as the American Bearing Manufacturers Association, NLGI and ILMA. Also during my term, the STLE Oil Monitoring Analyst (OMA)

certification program officially launched, offering a certification program more focused on professionals working in the field.

During these visits with corporate leaders, STLE established the corporate outreach program, which emphasized the need for STLE to recognize the businesses and organizations that support the society with contributions and dues payments.

Recognizing the local sections as the backbone of the society, I advocated for developing new relationships with local sections, with a focus on programs that gave sections the resources needed to support creative activities at the local level. I supported the scholarship matching funds program, which has provided sections with approximately \$250,000 in funds since it began.

My focus was not only on sections within in the continental U.S., but I encouraged the STLE governance review and update, which would coincide with the start of the 21st Century. These changes included a board reorganization to expand international representation and greater use of ad hoc committees to take on special assignments and tasks.

2000 – 2001

Michel Murphy, STLE President

... focused on establishing STLE as an international brand.

International Presence

- Positioned STLE to be able to host the 2005 International Tribology Conference (ITC) in Washington D.C.
- Focused on establishing STLE as an international brand
- Two trips to Trinidad and Tobago to help create a local section
- Two trips to Mexico City to help create their local section
- One trip to China for the joint China/STLE meeting
- Visits to Canadian STLE sections, including Hamilton, Toronto and Calgary



Certification

- Founder and initial chair of the OMA program, selected the initial OMA certification exam team
- Designed the OMA logo
- Designed STLE trade show booth for promoting CLS and OMA certifications
- Sponsored STLE online tutorial programs

Condition Monitoring (CM)

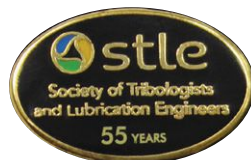
Group Impact

- Organized several CM-oriented meetings for STLE, including San Antonio and Dallas
- Established a Condition Monitoring Technical Committee for greater presence within STLE governance
- Created a budget to have board members trained by professional consultants in order to develop better governance skills



Michel Murphy

Michel Murphy Enterprises



2001 – 2002

Philip R. Miller, STLE President

I felt my biggest accomplishment, though, was taking the first steps toward establishing the STLE Metalworking Fluid Specialist certification.



Philip R. Miller

The Lubrizol Corporation
(retired)

Presented to Phil Miller
STLE President 2001-2002
By Dr. Bonnie Dunbar
NASA Shuttle Astronaut
At the Houston Annual Meeting
May 20, 2002

My year began with an Executive Committee meeting in Kennebunkport, Maine, in August followed by a successful bid in early September in Vienna to host the World Tribology Congress outside of Europe for the first time in Washington D.C.

Then there was 9/11. I was amazed to receive condolences from tribologists around the world. My trip to Trinidad the following week to welcome the newly formed Caribbean section to STLE had to be canceled due to travel restrictions. Then the decision whether to still hold the fall tribology conference had to be made. Fortunately, the hotel in San Francisco opted to waive our contract that had a minimum room guarantee. This saved a financial disaster. The meeting went on in spite of only half the number of attendees being able to attend.

Later in the year we were able to travel to Mexico City to determine the viability of starting a section there.

Future presidents would follow up on this initiative originally proposed by Michel Murphy. I also did my first section visit to the group in Singapore—by teleconference—in my pajamas from home. That was new technology in those days and saved time, expenses and jet lag.

I felt my biggest accomplishment, though, was taking the first steps toward establishing the STLE Metalworking Fluid Specialist certification.

With the input of Bob Gresham, Greg Foltz of Milacron and Don Smolenski of General Motors, we came up with a rough concept. I appointed John Burke to lead the effort, and he did a wonderful job seeing it through to the successful certification that we enjoy today.

At my outgoing speech in Houston, I encouraged volunteering, citing my saying yes to my fellow worker Gene Hyde, who got me involved by asking me to be teller (count the election votes) in the Connecticut Section Executive Committee election. One never knows where saying “yes” leads to!



President Phil Miller congratulates four STLE members elevated to the grade of Fellow in recognition of significant technical contributions to tribology and lubricants.

2002 – 2003

Josiah Knight, STLE President

A great strength of the organization has been the continuity of cooperative leadership spanning the tenures of many presidents and boards and relying on the professional staff.

Things that stand out in my memory of service as president are all parts of a continuum of progress by STLE before, during and after that particular year and linked to many individuals beyond myself. A great strength of the organization has been, in my view, the continuity of cooperative leadership spanning the tenures of many presidents and boards and relying on the professional staff.

For my term, much effort was devoted to maturing an evergreen strategic planning process tied to the society's recently adopted statement of mission, itself the outcome of facilitated discussions proposed by STLE Executive Director Ed Salek and supported by my predecessor Phil Miller. I was proud to chair the planning committee during my vice-president-at-large year, which concluded with the adoption of the mission statement.

As we knew, though, that was only the first stage of the process. With Selda Gonsel chairing the committee the following year and with many board and Executive Committee members contributing leadership and hard work, substantial recommendations

were made and acted on regarding committees, staff, publications, sections, meetings and other matters. Among the significant outcomes was the launch of *TLT* magazine in late 2003 on Selda's watch.

For me personally, highlights involved travel to a number of sections, including our relatively new ones in Mexico City and the Caribbean, where I participated in technical conferences that also included government officials of Mexico and Trinidad and Tobago. STLE had committed in 2001 to co-host the World Tribology Congress III, and I was honored to serve for the next four years, including my presidential year, on the oversight committee for that meeting held in 2005 in Washington D.C.

I will also mention that the events of Sept. 11, 2001, cast a shadow that affected STLE, its members and constituencies for a number of years that included my time as president. I give much credit to the steady hand of Phil Miller that we held up our end of a successful International Joint Tribology Conference the following month and gratitude to Bob Baker that the stage was set for the annual meeting I got to chair in New York in 2003.



Josiah Knight

Duke University

2003 – 2004

Selda Gonsel, STLE President

The creation of a technical agenda for our society has strengthened our core product and technical knowledge and enabled our organization to establish its importance with influential audiences.



Selda Gonsel

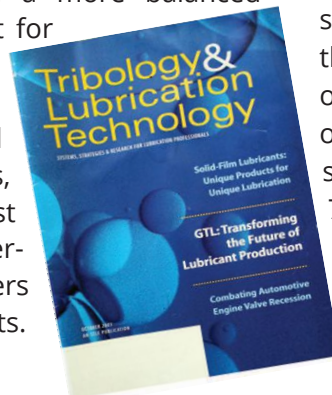
Shell Global Solutions
(US) Inc.

Primary objectives during my term as STLE President were:

- Establishing a Strategic Technical Agenda for STLE to identify emerging technology areas relevant to our membership
- Upgrading *Lubrication Engineering* magazine to address our member needs and provide a more balanced editorial content for our diverse membership
- Driving global leadership for STLE aligned with STLE's vision

I had the privilege of leading STLE's First Technical Agenda Summit at our 2003 STLE Annual Meeting in New York City with the purpose of identifying technical issues, challenges and breakthroughs that were transforming the industries represented by our membership. The creation of a technical agenda for our society has strengthened our core product and technical knowledge and enabled our organization to establish its importance with influential audiences. As a result of this initiative, we had nine expert panels and three topical symposia featuring future-oriented sessions such as biotribology, nanotribology, surface engineering, energy efficiency and advanced materials at the 2004 STLE Annual Meeting in Toronto, in addition to our traditional program. I am happy to see these themes are now part of our technical agenda, which keeps growing and evolving over time to keep up with the rapid pace of today's world.

My second major undertaking was to create an upgraded magazine to replace our 57-year-old *Lubrication Engineering* publication. Our purpose was to provide a more balanced editorial content for our members, including application-based feature articles, case studies, best practices, peer-reviewed papers and new products.



We launched the new publication, *Tribology & Lubrication Technology* (*TLT*), in October 2003. It is great to see that *TLT* continues to be a relevant magazine years after its first issue.

One of my fondest memories during my term was to get ready to hold the World Tribology Congress (WTC) for the first time in the U.S. As a member of the International Tribology Council representing STLE, I had made a successful proposal to hold the WTC in Washington D.C. on behalf of STLE and ASME. It was a tremendous planning effort, jointly with ASME, to lead the organization of this prestigious conference and see through its successful execution in 2005. Other global initiatives during my term included expanding the scope of STLE's online education program, LubeLearn, to include courses in Spanish and expanding the STLE certification program to Mexico and South America.

I would like to add that during my term in 2004, we celebrated STLE's 60th anniversary. As we reflected on our past, we realized many things have changed since the foundation of our society with the exception of one fact: the success of our society depends on the inspired volunteer leadership of our members. I believe this is still true today as we celebrate STLE's 75th anniversary.

2004 – 2005

Robert Baker, STLE President

... our areas of focus were membership development, with particular attention to the role of the corporate members, and professional development.



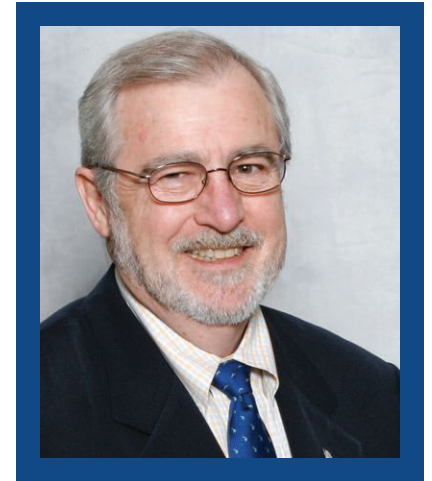
The 60th year began in Toronto and concluded in Las Vegas. I had the pleasure of traveling throughout the U.S. and to Canada, Mexico, Europe, the Caribbean and Japan for the 50th anniversary celebration of the Japanese Society of Tribologists.

Among our areas of focus for the year were membership development, with particular attention to the role of the corporate members, and professional development, with focus on education and certification.

After several years of dedicated effort, our Metalworking Fluid Certificate Course debuted in fall 2004, and the first Metalworking Fluids Specialist certification exam was given at the 2005 STLE Annual Meeting.

Our journals, *Tribology Transactions* and the still-young *TLT*, continued to strengthen under both internal and outsourced editorial and production leadership.

Also, although dwarfed by today's technology, the STLE website took a major step forward in 2005. The site was given a then-modern appearance and improved navigation. We also introduced the members-only section, which allowed dedicated benefits to our membership for the first time.



Robert Baker

King Industries, Inc.
(retired)





STLE Presidents giving their incoming and outgoing speeches at STLE Annual Meetings. Many share their goals and accomplishments throughout the year.

2007 – 2008
Edward P. Becker, STLE President

Of particular interest to me was the complete update of the STLE Constitution and Bylaws.



Edward P. Becker
General Motors
(retired)

Thanks to the efforts of numerous volunteers and staff, STLE accomplished a number of milestones during my term. In particular, the new STLE website was launched, and *Tribology Transactions* began publishing six issues per year (up from four).

Of particular interest to me, however, was the complete update of the STLE Constitution and Bylaws. The update was overwhelmingly approved by the society shortly thereafter.

I also had the opportunity to visit with over half of the STLE sections during the year, as well as attend several international events. It would be fair to say the contacts I have made through STLE over the years have directly impacted every project I have worked on throughout my career, and these are, I think, the most valuable (though the most difficult to quantify) benefit of STLE membership.



2008 – 2009

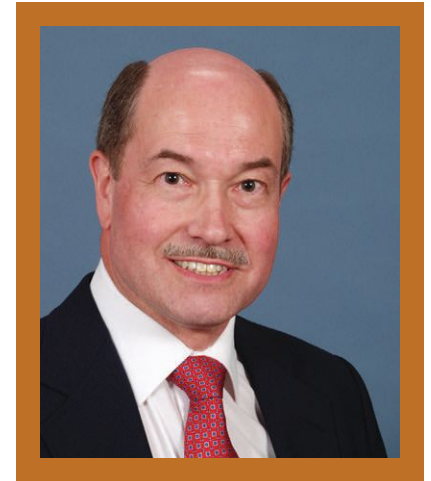
Robert W. Bruce, STLE President

The Young Tribologists group reached out to the next generation of tribologists by encouraging them to attend meetings, present their work and apply for scholarships and grants through STLE.

The board continued its focus on a major effort to modernize our 60+-year-old Constitution and Bylaws. A final version was endorsed by the board and approved by members in spring 2009.

I was able to establish a Young Tribologists group within our society, chaired by Dr. Ashlie Martini, who not long afterward served as an STLE director. The group reached out to the next generation of tribologists in a number of ways by encouraging them to attend meetings, present their work and apply for scholarships and grants through STLE.

Closing out my year, a delegation of STLE leaders attended the World Tribology Congress III in Kyoto, Japan, and worked to expand ties between STLE and the Japanese Society of Tribologists, our counterpart organization in that nation. This relationship continues to grow today for the benefit of members in both organizations.



Robert W. Bruce

GE Aircraft Engines
(retired)

2009 – 2010

David K. Scheetz, STLE President

The new Constitution and Bylaws streamlined the previous documents by restructuring the board into four categories (Section Affairs, Governance, Finance and Audit Committees).



David K. Scheetz

ExxonMobil Lubricants
& Specialties (retired)

The road to my presidency started at the 2007 Winter Board Meeting when STLE President Dan McCoy assigned the task of rewriting the Constitution and Bylaws to me. Little did I realize the 63-year-old documents would take me, the Constitution team, the STLE Board of Directors, the STLE legal counsel and the membership on a two-year ride! There were plenty of ups and downs and gnashing of teeth over the two years, with the “cherry on the Sundae” being it was finally released to the membership in the spring of 2009.

What I did not realize was that, once approved by the membership, it would be job No. 1 of my presidency. The new Constitution and Bylaws streamlined the previous documents by restructuring the board into four categories (Section Affairs, Governance, Finance

and Audit Committees), which allow the society to function more easily under modern law.

I would be remiss to skip that I also had the privilege of representing STLE at the World Tribology Congress, WTC III/2009 in Kyoto, Japan, where we re-established our tribology ties with the Japanese Society of Tribologists. Additionally, we rekindled our relationship with the Tribology Society of India, Chinese Tribology Institute and OilDoc GmbH in Germany.

Also, we addressed the issue of retiring volunteers of our two publications. We named Evan Zabawski the new Editor of *TLT*, succeeding the retiring Dr. Maureen Hunter, as well as Dr. Farshid Sadeghi as the new Editor of *Tribology Transactions* succeeding the retiring Dr. Andy Jackson.



Presidents Dave Scheetz and Robert Bruce (r) represented STLE at the WTC III meeting in Kyoto, Japan. Leaders of the Japanese Society of Tribologists presented them with a commemorative gift now on permanent display at STLE headquarters.

2010 – 2011

Peter Drechsler, STLE President

Realizing the importance of new and cutting-edge technologies to our members, I established the Emerging Technologies Committee as a communication strategy to enhance membership benefits.

During my term as STLE President, we set our International Initiative into motion. In the years preceding my presidency, I had chaired the International Initiative Committee investigating opportunities for expanding STLE's presence internationally. The outcome indicated two potentially viable markets, Asia and Europe.

In January 2011, we participated in the first OilDoc Conference in Rosenheim, Germany, where we presented an overview of STLE and our certification programs. We also set up a booth to promote STLE. This first meeting was attended by Ed Salek, Bob Gresham and myself representing STLE.



Peter Drechsler

The Timken Co. *(retired)*



These activities eventually led to the establishment of an STLE European office to represent our European membership and STLE European members serving on the STLE Board of Directors.

Realizing the importance of new and cutting-edge technologies to our members, I established the Emerging Technologies Committee as a communication strategy to enhance membership benefits. We met our goal of reporting new and exciting technologies to our membership.

2011 – 2012

Michael Dugger, STLE President

We thrive because of the diversity of our membership, including basic research, product development, technical support and marketing professionals.



Michael Dugger

Sandia National
Laboratories

STLE leadership began a dialog with government agencies pursuant to our mission to be a trusted source of technical information and expertise in tribology and lubrication engineering. A Department of Energy program manager presented on his fuels and lubricants program at the STLE Annual Meeting, and we provided subject matter experts on biocides in metalworking fluids for an information session at the Environmental Protection Agency headquarters. We expanded the corporate membership program to include a new level with added benefits and experienced an increase in corporate membership of about 20%.

We began a dialog with ASM International about STEM activities, including their ASM Materials Camps. STLE adapted this model to develop tribology experiments conducted by local



high school students in a STEM Camp during many of our annual meetings since then.

STLE leadership recognized that future projects must ultimately be tied to a strategic plan, and I was pleased during the last months of my presidency that we took the first steps toward defining a strategic plan for the organization. In the years since my time at the helm, it has been very satisfying to see the organization grow and evolve with a focus on a well-deliberated strategy.

Being the president was one of the highlights of my professional career. I saw what makes STLE special during weekly discussions with the Executive Committee, meetings with the STLE Board of Directors and visits to corporate members and local sections. We thrive because of the diversity of our membership, including basic research, product development, technical support and marketing professionals.

2012 – 2013

Jerry P. Byers, STLE President

... the focus was on three major areas: increasing STLE's international presence, creating educational opportunities and forming a Strategic Plan for STLE's future.

During my term as STLE President, the focus was on three major areas: increasing STLE's international presence, creating educational opportunities and forming a Strategic Plan for STLE's future.

International Presence: It is extremely important that STLE demonstrates to our international members that we are aware of their particular needs and government regulations, which can vary greatly from one country to another. Therefore, I made every effort to attend as many international events as possible, including symposia in China (Metalworking Fluid Technical Forum in Shanghai), Portugal (UEIL Congress), Germany (OilDoc Conference) and India (8th International Conference on Industrial Tribology). In addition, I was extremely happy that the board approved two new STLE sections; one in Bolivia, South America, and the second in Ghana, West Africa. Finally, a European Advisory Council was formed to advise STLE on new initiatives and program development in Europe to help maximize our potential there.

Education: The 68th STLE Annual Meeting in Detroit marked STLE's first tribology STEM Camp! Forty juniors and seniors from Cass Technical High School in Detroit participated in tribology experiments. Many thanks to Dr. Maureen Hunter and her team for putting on a very successful educational experience

for these future tribologists! Also, the Board of Directors approved two new college level STLE student sections: one at Auburn University and the second at the University of Ontario Institute of Technology (UIOT) in Canada.

Strategic Plan: One major project that kept our Board of Directors busy during the 12 months of my presidency was formation of a Strategic Plan for STLE.

The plan had five broad goals:

- Grow the STLE community
- Increase conference attendance
- Improve the expertise of technical professionals
- Become a stronger global advocate for tribology and lubrication
- Strengthen the STLE resource base

I am indebted to my STLE Vice President, Rob Heverly, and the members of the Strategic Planning Committee, for their hard work preparing this roadmap for STLE's future.



President Byers accepts a gift from the Chinese Tribology Institution (CTI) following a joint STLE-CTI technical meeting.



Jerry P. Byers
Cimcool (*retired*)

2013 – 2014

Robert D. Heverly, STLE President

We were implementing our Strategic Plan, growing our international presence and deciding how to handle our second meeting of the year.



Robert D. Heverly

R.T. Vanderbilt Co.
(retired)

During my term as STLE President, three main projects emerged: We were implementing our Strategic Plan, growing our international presence and deciding how to handle our second meeting of the year, the International Joint Tribology Conference (IJTC).

We implemented our Strategic Plan in 2013. Dr. Maureen Hunter, STLE Vice President that year, led the group. It was a much more holistic way to run our organization. With the plan in place, it was clearly visible why we were doing something and the benefits we expected from those activities. As a board, we agreed on the plan and executed the plan.

Throughout the year, we continued to promote tribology internationally. I represented STLE at the World Tribology Congress in Turin, Italy, the China International Symposium on Tribology in Xuzhou, China, and the 50th UEIL Annual Congress in Brussels, Belgium.

We agreed upon a path forward for the IJTC. It was our fall meeting and held jointly with ASME. There were lots of good things about the meeting, but in the end, we decided to hold our own meeting, and that became the genesis for the STLE Tribology Frontiers Conference.

I'm proud of the part I played for my year as STLE President. It was a lot of work, but I got more out of it than I put into it.

2014 – 2015

Maureen Hunter, STLE President

I witnessed students and young professionals around the world who were eager to take classes in tribology and lubrication engineering and who were searching for opportunities to work in our industry.

It has been my good fortune to be a member of STLE since 1986 and a privilege to serve as the 2014-2015 President. One of the far-reaching and challenging projects I was involved with over my year as president was with strategic planning. We collected and analyzed research and membership data with the goal of positioning ourselves to take STLE toward a collective vision of what our future should be.

But one of the reoccurring industry-wide concerns we kept coming across was a lack of young people entering our industry. While traveling as the president to several countries, including Bolivia, Canada, China, Germany, Trinidad and Tobago and many locations in the U.S., I witnessed students and young professionals around the world who were eager to take classes in tribology and lubrication engineering and who were searching for opportunities to work in our industry.

With visions of our industry's impact on the future world, I, along with many dedicated STLE staff, directors and member volunteers, became convinced that one of our primary endeavors had to be expanding STLE's outreach programs to encourage students to become future tribologists and lubrication scientists and to retain young professionals.



NASA astronaut, Capt. Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper, speaks at the 3rd Annual Tribology STEM Camp.

So, we rolled up our sleeves and got to work. In October 2014, we held the inaugural STLE Tribology Frontiers Conference, where a popular career mapping and mentoring panel discussion was held for students and young professionals. For the 2015 STLE Annual Meeting, we secured a NASA astronaut to give the keynote address, Capt. Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper. She attended meet-and-greet events with the high school students at our 3rd Annual Tribology STEM Camp and with the college students and young professionals at an evening Student/Early Careerist Networking event. Everybody was thrilled and inspired with one-on-one conversations detailing her five spacewalks, including repairing and greasing the failed solar array bearing on the International Space Station.

We also worked hard to expand the scope of other student and young professional outreach efforts, including Young Tribologists housing awards for the annual meeting, student chapters at universities, grants, fellowships, scholarship programs, new Early Careerists Awards and Young Tribologists Facebook and LinkedIn pages.



Maureen Hunter

King Industries, Inc.

When my presidential year ended, I became the STLE STEM Ambassador, which was a great honor. I always say to students and young professionals, "Take an active role in STLE. It will put you on the fast track. You'll gain experience that will differentiate you from your peers. You'll learn to be successful in strategic planning, creative thinking, public speaking, writing and leading your colleagues into future ventures. It's a no-risk proposition that promises high returns." It was my good fortune and privilege to serve as STLE President. As we celebrate our 75th anniversary, I eagerly look forward to the incredible inventions and innovations from our young tribologists and lubrication scientists as they shape our future world.

2015 – 2016

Martin Webster, STLE President

Serving as STLE President further boosted my huge respect for the passion and hard work of all the volunteers that have shaped STLE into what it is today.



Martin Webster

ExxonMobil Research
& Engineering

As the incoming STLE President, I inherited the strategic plan that was generated during Jerry Byers' 2012-2013 presidential term. The Executive Committee and Board of Directors continued a focused effort to advance projects in the areas of global advocacy, improving expertise of technical professionals and advancing innovation, all of which had been identified as the major themes in the strategic plan. We also continued work on updating the plan to cover the period 2016-2020. The goal was to provide the STLE leadership a tool to maintain a consistent direction spanning several presidential terms while retaining sufficient year-on-year flexibility to adjust to changing membership needs and to ensure that the plan was "evergreen." The updated plan was endorsed by the board at the 2016 Annual Meeting.

The first edition of *STLE's Report on Emerging Issues and Trends in Tribology and Lubrication Engineering* was released in 2014. I presented a summary of its key findings during my visits to STLE local sections and keynote addresses at a number of international conferences. It also proved valuable as a presentation

topic when visiting our corporate members. A major theme from the report that resonated with the corporate members was the difficulty in finding and developing future talent in the field of lubrication and tribology. This further strengthened our view that STLE has a significant role in acting as an advocate for the profession and providing the educational tools to enable newcomers to gain the expertise that our industry needs to meet future business and technology challenges. Furthermore, these meetings highlighted the significant member benefit that the 2014 trends study represented and cemented the need for updates. I am pleased that the refresh of the trends study was released in 2020 in time for the 75th anniversary celebrations.

2014 marked the introduction of the STLE Tribology Frontiers Conference (TFC), which replaced the International Joint Tribology Conference. A special ad hoc committee was tasked to develop recommendations to enhance the TFC. We restored more formal collaboration with the ASME Tribology Division for the 2015 TFC, which was held in Denver.

On a personal note, I was very fortunate that my presidential term coincided with the 50th anniversary of the Jost Report. This is the landmark UK study led by H. Peter Jost, CBE, that highlighted the significant national industrial economic benefit of applying good lubrication practices to reduce maintenance and operation costs. This report resulted in the formation of the word tribology and crucially identified the need for a truly interdisciplinary approach to solve friction and wear problems. It is generally considered to be the document that gave birth to the modern study of tribology and lubrication sciences.

The anniversary was marked by two events held in London, at which I, along with STLE Vice President

Dr. Ali Erdemir, had the honor of representing STLE. The first was held at the headquarters of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers in London. Seminars were presented covering the achievements that had been made since the Jost Report, along with perspectives from two of the original report authors, professor Duncan Dowson and H. Peter Jost. I presented an abbreviated history of STLE in the U.S., including our struggles to introduce the word tribology into our society's name. The second event was an evening reception held at Buckingham Palace, hosted by HRH Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh. Attendees were an international who's who of tribology and lubrication researchers and practitioners. I had a chance

to speak briefly with HRH Prince Philip, and it was one of the most memorable days of my life. I often reflect that it is somewhat ironic that being originally a UK citizen, I ended up proudly representing the U.S. tribology community to UK royalty.

Serving as STLE President was one of the most rewarding activities of my career in tribology. It further boosted my huge respect for the passion and hard work of all the volunteers that have shaped STLE into what it is today. I am confident that STLE will remain a vibrant leader of the global tribology and lubrication community for the next 75 years.



Ali Erdemir (*left*) and Martin Webster just moments before entering Buckingham Palace on March 2, 2016, for a party commemorating the 1966 release of the Jost Report.



After thanking His Royal Highness Prince Philip, Dr. Peter Jost (*center*) celebrated the 50th anniversary of the report named after him with Martin Webster (*left*) and Ali Erdemir.

2017 – 2018

Michael Anderson, STLE President

I don't know what the future will bring, but you can be sure that tribology will a part it, because, "Tribology is everywhere!"

Global advocacy best summarizes my term as STLE President. As president, I visited and made presentations in 12 foreign countries and several locations in the U.S. in the promotion of STLE and tribology-related activities. STLE continued to advance a presence in China and Europe by working closely with the tribology societies and professionals in both these locations. The second edition of *STLE's Report on Emerging Issues and Trends in Tribology and Lubrication Engineering* came out during this time period, and with the help of STLE Executive Director Ed Salek, we developed a presentation titled, "Can Tribology Save the World?"

This presentation was given at the InterLubric China Conference, the 21st meeting of the International Colloquium Tribology at Technische Akademie Esslingen in Germany and at the ELGI Annual Meeting in London.

It was a presentation that concluded that tribology cannot create energy, but it can reduce its need through improvements in friction reduction, development of longer-lasting wear resistant materials and new energy-conserving designs.

Spreading tribology and promoting STLE was a major part of my being president. During the year, I met with a group of engineers in Bangkok, Thailand, interested in forming an STLE local section. At the same meeting, attendees from Singapore also were interested in forming a local presence in Singapore.

The highlight, though, of the Asia trip was attending the 6th World Tribology Congress in Beijing, China. More than 2,000 tribologists and young engineers attended, presented papers and participated in an Olympic style event, complete with opening and closing ceremonies done on a grand scale. During

the same time, STLE participated in two other major tribological events in China, Interlubric Exhibition and the Chinese Lubricant and Technology Forum. Cutting the opening ceremony ribbon at Interlubric Exhibition was quite the experience. STLE's participation confirmed its desire to be a part of the growing Asian movement in tribology.

In January 2018, STLE participated as one of the plenary speakers at the 21st meeting of the prestigious International Colloquium Tribology at Technische Akademie Esslingen in Germany. This event is held every two years and features tribology-related papers, networking opportunities and activities, including a plant tour of a local car manufacturing assembly plant.



STLE staff and executive board members attend the 6th World Tribology Conference in Beijing, China. From left: Greg Croce, Mike Anderson, Ed Salek and Robert Gresham.

Closer to home, STLE has become quite active in Latin America. Through a series of educational seminars in Central America run by a local STLE member, I participated by giving a lecture on STLE and one on tribology in Spanish. Because of this participation, STLE entered into a memorandum of understanding to assist in the promotion of tribology in Latin America. Local industrial professionals and university students attend these seminars with upward of 350 attendees.

Additionally, I traveled to Mexico to meet with one of STLE's more active student sections at the University of Monterrey in Monterrey and with professionals in the lubricants industry in Monterrey and Mexico City to lay the platform for an STLE Mexico Section where I made presentations in my second language, Spanish. Following my visit, the Mexico Section



The Jeanie S. McCoy Scholarship Award.

was formed. Along with my ability to speak Spanish, STLE began improving the translations of the certification exams in Spanish as the Latin American market is quite large and is becoming an ever-growing segment of STLE.

During this time, additional new ways to network and promote STLE were developed and included the STLE 365 app, Learning Pathways for enhanced education, introduction of a scholarship-funding program, the updated STLE Emerging Trends Report, the new Foundations in Lubrication Engineering transportable education course and the LimeLight project to work with other organizations in exposing tribology that exists in their industries.

Finally, I promoted the idea of a new scholarship award to recognize and promote females aspiring to enter the field of tribology. The award was named after Jeanie S. McCoy, who was an active member of STLE for more than 65 years. The first recipient was awarded in 2019.

At the end of my term as president, and with which I continue to include in all my presentations, I don't know what the future will bring, but you can be sure that tribology will be a part of it, because, "Tribology is everywhere!"



Michael Anderson

Falex Corporation

2018 – 2019

Gregory Croce, STLE President

We continued our focus on the big three areas:
Communications and Advocacy, Increasing Technical
Expertise and Advancing Innovation.



Gregory Croce
Chevron Products
Company

Leading up to my term, before I was nominated to be part of the Executive Committee (EC), I spent a good amount of time working with the STLE Board of Directors and EC on developing the STLE Strategic Plan. We felt that if we had a sustainable plan, the EC and board could simply monitor and improve on that year by year. Therefore, during my term as STLE President, my focus could be on helping make decisions aligned with the plan and representing STLE at major tribology events.

We continued our focus on the big three areas: Communications and Advocacy, Increasing Technical Expertise and Advancing Innovation.



The 2019 STLE Annual Meeting in Nashville, Tenn. From left: Ken Hope, Ed Salek, Michael Duncan, Michael Anderson, Gregory Croce, Paul Hetherington and Ryan Evans.

At the time, globalization was the key buzzword for our industry. For years, we continued to work with countries outside of North America to grow our brand. We had been executing key initiatives in China, Thailand and Singapore, to name a few. During my presidency, we took hard looks at these initiatives and restructured them to be more fit for purpose, which has been widely accepted. We also started up the STLE Mexico City Section.

I also spent a good amount of time representing STLE at key industry events and conferences: Lubmat in San Sebastian, Spain; Gordon Research Seminar in Maine; NLGI in Idaho; Lubricant Technology Forum in China; ILMA in Palm Desert, California; UEIL in Budapest, Hungary; Inter Lubric in China; TriboBR in Brazil; and OilDoc in Germany. That's not to mention attendance at more than 10 STLE local section meetings throughout the year. It was quite stimulating!

Overall, it was a great year, with ups and downs. I'm very grateful to my company, Chevron Products Co., and STLE colleagues for making it a wonderful year.

2019 – 2020

Michael P. Duncan, STLE President

My last note is to the STLE Past Presidents. I can now appreciate all the work that you have done (and many continue to be very active volunteers today).

During my time as STLE President, the COVID-19 outbreak turned most of our lives upside down. Who could have predicted that schools, businesses, restaurants, churches, hotels, airports, concerts and sporting events would be shut down globally?

My thoughts and prayers go out to those affected by this pandemic, and many thanks to those working on the front lines in hospitals and clinics worldwide. I also want to acknowledge many of our STLE member companies who have donated medical supplies and hand sanitizers to these medical facilities. In addition, thanks to our end-user companies who are assisting in the production of respirators and ventilators.

In early March of 2020, when the pandemic worsened, I was making a presentation to the STLE Lower Ohio River Valley section in Indianapolis.

We had three different types of hand sanitizers on the table and were practicing “no handshake greetings.” Within days, counties in California went into lockdown, states went into “shelter-in-place,” country borders were closed, countries went into lockdown.

I never imagined as STLE President that I would have to even consider postponing or canceling our annual meeting. As the COVID-19 outbreak

continued to escalate around the world, it soon became painfully obvious that we needed to cancel the annual meeting to ensure the safety of our members and attendees.

STLE Executive Director Ed Salek reminded me that the first annual meeting was canceled 75 years ago because of World War II. Ironic that it also was being held in Chicago.

My reflections on being STLE President should have been about how much I enjoyed the ride, visiting with eight local sections, making presentations in Japan, Germany and ending in Chicago. How things changed, as I was only able to make it to five local section meetings before the global pandemic went into full force.

I would like to thank Ed Salek and our headquarters staff for the support during my presidency, keeping faith and carrying on without hesitancy. In addition, the guidance and support



Presidents Ali Erdemir (l), Mike Duncan and Mike Anderson represented STLE at the International Tribology Conference (ITC) in Sendai, Japan, during September 2019.



Michael P. Duncan

Daubert Chemical Company

I received from the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors during this time was incredible. Also, behind the scenes are all the committees and hundreds of volunteers (including our 75th Anniversary team) who continue to surprise and inspire me. Thank you for your efforts to keep the society going.

My last note is to the STLE Past Presidents. I can now appreciate all the work that you have done (and many continue to be very active volunteers today). Thank you for your previous and continued service to make STLE the premier technical society it is today!

1944 – 2021

ASLE /STLE Presidents

1944 – 1946	C. E. Pritchard <i>Republic Steel</i>	1960 – 1961	L. O. Wizenburg <i>The Farval Co.</i>
1946 – 1947	E. M. Kipp <i>Alcoa</i>	1961 – 1962	D. M. Cleaveland <i>Bendix Aviation</i>
1947 – 1948	Oscar L. Maag <i>Timken Co.</i>	1962 – 1963	L. B. Sargent, Jr. <i>Alcoa</i>
1948 – 1949	G. L. Sumner <i>Gulf Oil Research & Development</i>	1963 – 1964	Edmond Bisson <i>NASA Lewis Research</i>
1949 – 1950	C. L. Pope <i>Eastman Kodak</i>	1964 – 1965	Sydney R. Calish <i>California Research Corp.</i>
1950 – 1951	D. Hollingsworth <i>DuPont</i>	1965 – 1966	Albert A. Raimondi <i>Westinghouse Research Laboratories</i>
1951 – 1952	C. E. Schmitz <i>Crane Packing Co.</i>	1966 – 1967	Robert J. Torrens <i>Eastman Kodak</i>
1952 – 1953	M. Eugene Merchant <i>Cincinnati Milling Machine</i>	1967 – 1968	M. M. Gurgo <i>Humble Oil & Refining</i>
1953 – 1954	William E. Campbell <i>NL Grease LLC</i>	1968 – 1969	Robert L. Johnson <i>NASA Lewis Research</i>
1954 – 1955	John D. Boyd <i>Westinghouse Research</i>	1969 – 1970	P. M. Ku <i>Southwest Research Institute</i>
1955 – 1956	J. Hopkinson <i>Penn Petroleum</i>	1970 – 1971	Allan A. Manteuffel <i>Chicago Rawhide</i>
1956 – 1957	W. Deutsch <i>Brooks Equipment Co.</i>	1971 – 1972	Edward J. Gesdorf <i>Eaton – Farval Div.</i>
1956 – 1957	E. Richard Booser <i>GE Research</i>	1972 – 1973	Charles H. West <i>Timken Co.</i>
1957 – 1958	John O. McLean <i>Reynolds Metals</i>	1973 – 1974	M. L. Robinette <i>Tennessee Eastman Co.</i>
1958 – 1959	J. D. Lykins <i>Wheeling Steel</i>	1974 – 1975	W. H. Mann <i>D.A. Stuart - Canada</i>
1959 – 1960	A. B. Wilder <i>DuPont</i>	1975 – 1976	Harry Tankus <i>Crane Packing Co.</i>
		1976 – 1977	Donald G. Flom <i>GE Research.</i>
		1977 – 1978	William Ken Stair <i>University of Tennessee</i>
		1978 – 1979	Victor E. Joll <i>Union 76</i>
		1979 – 1980	Bernard H. Shelley <i>Auto Research Labs Inc.</i>



1980 – 1981 **Ken A. Wilcox**
Imperial Oil & Grease

1981 – 1982 **James R. Dickey**
Exxon Research

1982 – 1983 **Robert J. Benzing**
U.S. Air Force Research

1983 – 1984 **James E. Steenberg**
Union Carbide

1984 – 1985 **Wayne M. Coursey**
John Deere

1985 – 1986 **Carleton N. Rowe**
Mobil Research & Development

1986 – 1987 **George H. Kitchen**
ILFC Inc.

ASLE becomes STLE

1987 – 1988 **Lowell C. Horwedel**
E/M Lubricants

1988 – 1989 **Bennie L. Denton**
Citgo Petroleum Corp.

1989 – 1990 **Karl R. Mecklenburg**
U.S. Air Force Research

1990 – 1991 **Curtis L. Gordon**
Lubrizol

1991 – 1992 **Mariam S. Juves**
Exxon Chemical

1992 – 1993 **Richard N. Luberda**
R. T. Vanderbilt

1993 – 1994 **Robert L. Fusaro**
NASA

1994 – 1995 **Wayne E. Ward**
U.S. Air Force

1995 – 1996 **Andrew Jackson**
ExxonMobil Research

1996 – 1997 **John F. Hermann**
ExxonMobil Lubricants & Specialties

1997 – 1998 **Richard F. Smith**
Metalworking Lubricants Company

1998 – 1999 **William D. Marscher**
Mechanical Solutions Inc.

1999 – 2000 **Leslie R. Heerd**
Falex Corporation

2000 – 2001 **Michel Murphy**
Michel Murphy Enterprises

2001 – 2002 **Philip R. Miller**
The Lubrizol Corporation

2002 – 2003 **Josiah Knight**
Duke University

2003 – 2004 **Selda Gungel**
Shell Global Solutions (US) Inc.

2004 – 2005 **Robert Baker**
King Industries, Inc.

2005 – 2006 **William E. Wambach**
R. T. Vanderbilt

2006 – 2007 **Daniel D. McCoy**
Metalworking Lubricants

2007 – 2008 **Edward P. Becker**
General Motors

2008 – 2009 **Robert W. Bruce**
GE Aircraft Engines

2009 – 2010 **David K. Scheetz**
ExxonMobil Lubricants & Specialties

2010 – 2011 **Peter Drechsler**
The Timken Co.

2011 – 2012 **Michael Dugger**
Sandia National Laboratories

2012 – 2013 **Jerry P. Byers**
Cimcool

2013 – 2014 **Robert D. Heverly**
R. T. Vanderbilt Co.

2014 – 2015 **Maureen Hunter**
King Industries, Inc.

2015 – 2016 **Martin Webster**
ExxonMobil Research & Engineering

2016 – 2017 **Ali Erdemir**
Argonne National Laboratory

2017 – 2018 **Michael Anderson**
Falex Corporation

2018 – 2019 **Gregory Croce**
Chevron Products Company

2019 – 2020 **Michael P. Duncan**
Daubert Chemical Company Inc.

2020 – 2021 **Paul Hetherington**
Petro-Canada Lubricants

1999 – 2019

Robert M. Gresham, STLE Director of Professional Development

I have experienced STLE from many different perspectives, especially during my time as either a member or guest of the Executive Committee.

My “trip” with STLE turned out to be an interesting career journey. I’m sure many of you have read Ken Pelczarski’s Career Coach *TLT* articles on how to manage your career. In my case, it was more like, study hard and learn as much as you can, not only about your area of expertise but also sales, accounting, manufacturing design, etc. Try to find key people to be role models and mentors. Finally, be in the right place at the right time. I felt like I directed my career more like throwing a ping pong ball into a windstorm to see where it took me.

When I joined E/M Lubricants in 1981, my boss directed that I also join STLE. My first day on the job was to attend the STLE Annual Meeting in Pittsburgh. My goal was learning all I could about the lubricants industry, topics covered in the Solid Film Lubricants Technical Committee and Aerospace Industry Council and the people who were part of those groups. Soon I began teaching in the Basic Lubrication Course, eventually following one of my role models through the chairs of those two committees.

I chaired a separate conference through STLE on solid film lubricants in 1984. By 1986, a couple of my mentors got me on the STLE Board of Directors. This was all pretty normal. Then things began to change—the wind slowly grew to gale force on my ping pong ball.

I had been on the Board for about 10 years, with the full support of my company, when I was asked to join the Executive Committee (EC). About this same time, the parent company of E/M Lubricants decided to sell us. Just a month before the annual meeting, when I would have become STLE Vice President, I was told by my new boss to “lose STLE.” At the Sunday Board of Directors meeting at the STLE Annual Meeting, I had to resign at what was to have been my last STLE meeting.

Now, the wind is at full gale strength on my ping pong ball. At that same board meeting, the board established the new staff position of Director of Education. Hoping to be in the right place at the right time, I asked Ed Salek if I could clandestinely interview for this new position. I did in July and turned 55 in August. I retired from E/M Lubricants with full retirement benefits (likely before I got fired), joined STLE’s staff and continued to

attend most board and Executive Committee meetings as a guest. All in all, a pretty seamless transition for my ping pong ball.

At the time, Ed Salek and I thought this might be about a five-year period. Instead, it lasted more than 20 years. Ed and I have become good friends in the process. So, with this little story as background, I have experienced STLE from many different perspectives, especially during my time as either a member or guest of the EC.

The EC, collectively or as individual members, has certain functions that are often driven to coincide with the next board meeting. These include working with other specific committees to prepare budgets, board meeting agendas, nominations, strategic planning, audits and short-term financial performance.

The administrative committees such as Strategic Planning, Governance, Finance and Audit all have at least one EC member. The EC is essentially the ultimate ad hoc committee of the society and board to “keep a finger on the pulse” of the society’s activities between the four regular board meetings.

The EC holds a weekly teleconference and several face-to-face meetings during the year. It also has authority to implement actions and spend money, as necessary, but always ultimately subject to board approval. If the headquarters roof leaks, we don't wait until the next board meeting to fix it. This is all pretty dry stuff and spelled out in the Constitution and Bylaws.

What most members don't see is what I call the "fun stuff." When a new issue arises, the EC is the first line of defense to deal with it. This starts with research to seek existing policies and procedures to resolve it. Or it can involve best practices by looking to experts with knowledge or simply grappling with the issue within the EC using staff for support.

It is these issues, for which there are no or few precedents or policies, the EC is especially tasked with trying to resolve or formulate a reasoned recommendation for the board to consider.

The EC has had to deal with members who complain they did not receive an award or nomination to the status

of Fellow. There are standards and specific committees charged with recommending to the board who receives our awards. The EC might review the process, or, in some rare cases, the EC has recommended the criteria might need to be updated or clarified to reduce confusion.

The point is, the EC is at the leading edge of resolving diverse problems and making reports or recommendations for approval to the board.

For more than 40 years, I was privileged to be part of all that. I've gotten to really know the people who served on the EC during this time. Many of these, now past presidents, I first met as graduate students: Selda Gunsel, Maureen Hunter, Mike Dugger, Ali Erdemir and many others. We shared some pretty tense and intense discussions and, yet, we had some great times together.

That's part of how STLE worked for my ping pong ball. "Lose STLE" didn't happen for me.

And, for 75 years, STLE ain't done too bad, either.



Robert M. Gresham
STLE Director of
Professional Development
(retired)



Bottom row, second from left: Bob Gresham in this mid-1990s STLE Board of Directors photo.

A Final Word from the Executive Director Edward P. Salek, CAE

The real stars of the past 25 years are the STLE members with different backgrounds and in diverse geographic locations that benefit from what the organization offers.



Edward P. Salek, CAE

I became STLE's Executive Director in May 1997. Since that time, some of my most memorable professional experiences occurred while working in tandem with the 26 contributors to this project. All the best stories from the past 25 years are skillfully captured in the writing that precedes this last page in this book. And that's the way it should be.

Except for one final word. An uninformed observer might think that each of these STLE Presidents sought out a starring role during their one year heading the organization, and that this is a celebration of their individual accomplishments. But I know that observation would be incorrect, because I watched each of these individuals, and many others, in leadership positions work extremely hard for a very different purpose—

to create member value and to advance the profession of tribology and lubrication engineering.

The real stars of the past 25 years are the STLE members with different backgrounds and in diverse geographic locations that benefit from what the organization offers. We are celebrating the careers that flourish because of an STLE training course produced by an STLE Local Section. The scientific and technical breakthroughs that were made possible because researchers met and began to collaborate at one of our technical conferences. It's the story of the mentors and the friends who found that STLE provides not just good information but the opportunity for business and personal relationships that extend over a lifetime.

This ongoing success depends on many factors, including the leadership of an Executive Director. We provide continuity from year to year and act a bit like the conductor at a symphony as we blend the work of many contributors into one beautiful sound. I like to think I've done my part since 1997, but I also want to recognize my six predecessors who made it possible for the organization to thrive.

ASLE/STLE Executive Directors

1944–1947	Burgess H. Jennings <i>(volunteer)</i>
1947–1952	W.F. (Bill) Leonard
1952–1957	W.F. Youngclaus
1957–1961	C.L. (Cal) Willey
1961–1970	Donald B. Sandberg
1970–1997	Maxine E. Hensley
1997–present	Edward P. Salek, CAE

These individuals also depended on hundreds of professional staff members that have worked for STLE throughout its more than 75 years. Obviously too many names to list, but we can salute the 2020 staff knowing that these skilled performers are just the latest to represent STLE.

Gina Cairo
Certification & Local Sections Manager

Stefan Carrera
Education Manager

Rachel Fowler
TLT Publisher/ Editor-in-Chief

Jean Furlan
*Senior Manager, Membership
Development & Engagement*

Merle Hedland
Conference Manager

Gen Hedland-Hill
Conference Manager

Bruce Murgueitio
Digital Marketing Manager

Emmett Murphy
Controller

Karl Phipps, CAE
*Director of Communications
and Marketing*

Nadine Sanchez-Colon
Member Services Specialist

Myrna Scott-Perez
Director of Operations & Technology

Tracy Nicholas VanEe
National Sales Manager

There is every reason to expect more good things in STLE's future. I am confident that 25 years from now, the 100th anniversary celebration book will recognize a new generation of stars in leadership and on staff who are carrying on the tradition of excellence that began in 1944.

STLE 75th Anniversary Committee



David K. Scheetz (chair)
ExxonMobil (*retired*)

Robert Gresham
STLE (*retired*)

Ashlie Martini
University of California-Merced

Robert Baker
King Industries, Inc. (*retired*)

Rob Heverly
R.T. Vanderbilt (*retired*)

Jack McKenna
Sea-Land Chemical Co.

Patti Bianchi
LimeLight Resources

Maureen Hunter
King Industries, Inc.

Ken Pelczarski
Pelichem Associates

Lynn Billings
Petro-Canada Lubricants, Inc.

Patrick Kilbane
ALS Tribology

Tracy Nicholas VanEe
STLE

Robert Bruce
GE Aircraft Engines (*retired*)

Piet Lugt
SKF Research & Technology
Development

Wayne E. Ward
U.S. Air Force (*retired*)

Pat Brutto
Faith-Full MWF Consulting



stle

Society of Tribologists and Lubrication Engineers

Many things have changed since the foundation of our society with the exception of one fact: success depends on the inspired volunteer leadership of our members.



Society of Tribologists
and Lubrication Engineers

840 Busse Highway
Park Ridge, IL 60068
p: 847.825.5536
f: 847.825.1456

www.stle.org



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