

Kansas City SolidWorks User Group Newsletter

October 2009 Kansas City SolidWorks User Group Meeting

Officers:

Wayne Tiffany, President
Carl Gauger, Vice President
Jasen Sappenfield, Secretary
Rod Wickwar, Secretary
Charles Durio, Food Chairman

KCSWUG Meeting
October 27, 2009

(This is from Rod.)

General

There were 24 attendees, including first-time attendees Daniel Jones, Gus Brown, Joseph Walker, Dave Howard, and Leonard Thompson.

A number of prizes were available for the door prize drawing.

There is work going on in the Wichita area as far as starting a SolidWorks User Group. If you know any Wichita SolidWorks users, let them know.

A-J Manufacturing Co. has volunteered to sponsor the website fees for the next year. KCSWUG.com is the Kansas City site. If you would like to sponsor it next year, let Wayne know.

Guest Speaker

The speaker for this meeting was Julie Napolitan who is a Product Definition Specialist for Dassault Systemes SolidWorks Corporation. She's responsible for surfacing and core modeling. Her background includes stints at PTC, Apple, and Rockwell Collins Optronics. Julie works out of the Concord, Massachusetts SolidWorks office. There are also SolidWorks offices in the UK, India, and Munich.

Future versions of SolidWorks are generally the product of input from users and marketing decisions that, to a degree, are driven by the CAD marketplace. Julie does 12 customer visits and 2 consulting visits each year, as does the entire group of 15 SolidWorks specialists, and this provides insight into the customers' needs. In addition, SolidWorks World, which will be held in Anaheim this coming January, also provides major input and feedback for the latest and future products.

Julie's main task at SolidWorks is to define future capability for SolidWorks, write specifications for the future capability, work with developers to transfer the specifications into SolidWorks, and sign off on the completed project. She encourages us users, as do her supervisors, to log into the Customer Portal and submit enhancement requests.

SolidWorks is always interested in visiting your facility, making 1 to 3 hour customer visits, and also consulting visits that last 3 to 5 days where they will do your work for free or just help out with SolidWorks issues. If this would be of interest to your company, you can contact Julie Napolitan at Julie.Napolitan@3ds.com.

Julie also discussed the 2010 eDrawings viewer, which is a basic free drawing viewer that will open and view many CAD formats including SolidWorks, AutoCAD, Inventor, and ProE. eDrawings is also a good method of exchanging or providing drawings for view over the Internet, as the eDrawing file is much smaller than the standard SolidWorks file. In addition, eDrawings Professional can display animations, rotate through standard views, create cross-sections, provide for measuring, provide SolidWorks simulations, and can include a BOM. In summary eDrawings are fairly simple and a good way to communicate.

Wrap-Up

Door prizes were awarded to all attendees and the meeting was adjourned. The next users group meeting will be right after SolidWorks World.

(Cool SW heavy-duty ice scrapers and laser pens that project pictures!)

(And now from me.)

If you missed the meeting, you missed out on a great time. Julie's presentation was a fun and informative look at the "back" side of SW that users generally don't get to see. Go to <http://www.kcswug.com/images/> and open the file KCSWUG pics 102709.zip to see some interesting shots of our Halloween décor. Yes, that one pic is of ice cream sandwiches, complete with bubbling-over dry ice. How about that – chili and ice cream! Also take a good look at the last pic that shows all the books - they are all free for the taking. They are a bit dated, but someone may want something there. Let me know which ones you will provide a home for. ☺

Employment

We have several group members looking for work. I also have a person that might be in the market for a machinist. If you are looking for help, let me know and I will pass the info along.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will hopefully be in February after SWW2010. Exciting stories to tell!

New group

Don't forget to tell people about the relatively new group in southwest MO, Joplin region. The first meeting went well, but more people need to hear about the group. Go to <http://www.swugn.org/pages/find/directory.html>, choose Southern US and look for **MOK Area SolidWorks User Group**.

Thanks everyone – it wouldn't be much of a meeting without all of you.

WT