



FAME e-News – Summer 2012

- **From the Chair, Mike Mandina** (FAME Chair; President of Optimax Systems, Inc.)

I hope you have been enjoying this hot dry summer. This is the time when many of us have hired youth into summer jobs. Many of those temporary employees will be permanently influenced in their career choice based on the opportunity you have presented to them. Keep the good ones on file; they could be part of your future!

In my role as the FAME Chair, I have been working with the National Skills Coalition. It is a non-profit group in DC that supports industry leadership in the Workforce Investment Board system. On July 10 I was on a conference call focusing on the activities of the employer-led group *Business Leaders United for Workforce Partnerships* (BLU). The group is concentrating on bringing the significant problem of a lack of skills in America's labor market to the attention of DC policymakers. The skills gap is affecting employers in multiple industries nationwide, and BLU employers have come together to address the issue under the sponsorship of four separate national organizations (*National Skills Coalition, National Fund for Workforce Solutions, Aspen Institute Skills for America's Future* and *Corporate Voices for Working Families*).

To address this national problem, BLU invites you to join with employers from across the country in **Washington, DC on October 1-2** to meet with Congressional legislators and staff, executive branch officials from the White House and the US Department of Labor, and representatives from presidential campaigns. **BLU has the resources to fund travel expenses for the first fifty (50) employers who register.** Please [click here](#) to learn more about this event and to register.

I will be one of the 50, and invite other FAME employers to join me. I have made several of these trips to Albany and DC and I do believe it makes a difference. I have provided a link to the BLU's platform here: <http://www.nyfame.org/documents/2012-07WhyCometoWashington.pdf>

We thank you for considering to make your voice heard by policymakers on this important national issue. Please feel free to call me if you have any questions at 585-265-1020 x207. I hope you enjoy the balance of your summer!

Mike Mandina

- **FAME's Pipeline Committee coordinates 43 students through four AM facilities in Spring 2012!**

The focus of FAME's Pipeline Committee is to expose and excite youth about future careers in advanced manufacturing and STEM fields. Targeting youth in middle and high school, Pipeline continued an initiative this year to connect with counselors and teachers in the Finger Lakes region and offer tours at advanced manufacturing facilities for interested groups of students. By providing funds for bussing, the group was able to offset the expense for area schools and enable students to participate. Students from

Palmyra-Macedon, Penn Yan, Sodus and Wayne Central Schools toured four FAME member facilities – **Coach & Equipment, Harbec Plastics, IEC Electronics and Optimax Systems**. Many thanks to these companies for opening their doors to students! If you would like to offer tours of your facility, please contact Eileen Rucinski (Pipeline Chair) at email: rucinem@kellyservices.com Thank you!

- **Help youth explore the magic of science and technology!**



Awareness is up for advanced manufacturing among youth! FAME members have sponsored the US FIRST LEGO League competitions for the last several years. Five teams have applied for FAME sponsorship for the Fall 2012 season. Four teams have received funding, but the team below is still awaiting support!

Palmyra Macedon Middle School - returning team

Industry donations fund program robotics equipment and registration fees for competing teams. Your company name and logo will be displayed on team posters, t-shirts, and presentations, and your organization will receive a heartfelt thank you from teams they've sponsored! Contact Michele today for more information! Email:

fame@nyfame.org

- **Two more sponsorship opportunities – Honeoye and Williamson HS Robotics Teams**

A first time competitor in this high school level event, Honeoye's 2012 Robotics Team went all the way to the finals in St Louis, MO! Check out their website to see the team in action (www.frc.HoneoyeRobotics.org). The kids shocked everyone in March at RIT by becoming the regional champions, then traveled to St. Louis for the World Championship 4 weeks later. A terrific accomplishment, and totally unexpected, for a rookie team without any major sponsors (which they could desperately use). On their site is a video of the final match at RIT, it's only about 2 minutes long once you get past the intros - Honeoye's team is the black robot. Interested in helping them try to repeat this performance in 2013? Contact: Michael Pellittiere, email:

michael@dakotaassociates.com

Williamson High School is also entering into its second year participating in First Tech Challenge. Williamson is hopeful this year to obtain a few corporate sponsorships to help with the costs of maintaining the club. These costs are associated with the annual registration fees, software licenses, repair and maintenance to general parts, specific parts required for certain tasks, practice field, competition fees, and transportation costs. They are looking for \$500 sponsorships from any company or companies wishing to promote and support a tremendous engineering program that goes far beyond the classroom. Additionally, if any companies have individuals looking to volunteer their time to act as mentors for an evening, or on an ongoing basis, they would be grateful to have the assistance! Please contact David Cocquyt, Williamson High School Technology Teacher and First Tech Challenge Mentor, at email:

dcocquyt@williamsoncentral.org

- **Update from FAME's Hiring & Training Committee**

The May 31st Hiring & Training Committee meeting featured guest speaker Maria Salomone of ITT Goulds, Plant Performance Services. Maria earned awards in 2011 from the Syracuse Chapter of the Society for Training and Development as Trainer of

the Year and for Best Company Programming. Her presentation focused on how to improve learning and retention among participants in training classes. Her materials included Tactics from Bob Pike's Participant Centered Methodologies. Meeting attendees reported on various other activities, including the NYS Board of Regents STEM track panel, WIA training grants, and Dr Sam Samanta's Fall 2012 Instrumentation and Control Technologies curriculum. The weblink for the full meeting minutes document is: <http://www.nyfame.org/documents/FAMEHandTminutes53112.pdf>

- **Support Science Educators' Day (EDAY) 2012!**

The annual Educators' Day (EDAY) event will take place in Rochester, New York on Wednesday, October 17, 2012. EDAY is a unique workshop that focuses on providing local middle and high school educators with innovative approaches to science education that feature hands-on, interactive classroom lessons and an exhibit area to raise awareness about careers in optics and advanced manufacturing. FAME will participate in this exhibit, and Mike Mandina will be manning the booth for FAME and the Rochester Photonics Cluster to connect with educators and promote career choices in these fields. Participants receive complimentary educational resources including materials, posters, and lesson plans to help them replicate demonstrations in the classroom. EDAY is free of charge for teacher participants and relies on donations to make the event a success. About 100 local educators are expected this year and they are raising funds to cover the costs for hosting the event and for the demonstration materials each participant receives to take back to their classrooms. Gifts will be matched 100% by the Optical Society of America (OSA) through its support of the OSA Foundation General Fund, so contributions will literally enable twice as much support for science students! For additional information on the program, visit: <http://www.osa-foundation.org/programs/resources/eday>

- **Update from FLWIB Advanced Manufacturing Career Navigator, Bill Rotenberg**

The Advanced Manufacturing Career Pathways (H1-B) Grant has been moving forward in an effort to enroll students into our first class in September 2012. During the last few months of spring, activities centered on outreach and spreading the news about this unique educational and training opportunity. Activities included:

- Visits to all of the One Stop and Workforce Development Offices throughout the Nine County region
- Attending regional job fairs and conducting information sessions
- Meeting with high school students, counselors, and parents to promote Advanced Manufacturing Education and Careers
- Assisting *Rochester Works!* with the development of an Advanced Manufacturing Careers Panel Discussion for job seekers
- Manufacturing site visits to learn more about careers and opportunities in the field

This summer, all efforts will be focused on enrolling students into their respective colleges and into the grant. Contacts have been made with each county One Stop Office and prospective students are being assessed and entered into the grant program. To contact Bill, email him at: amcn@fingerlakesworks.com

- **Join FAME's LinkedIn group for timely updates!**

Stay up-to-date on the most current advanced manufacturing workforce news! Join

FAME's LinkedIn group today at the following link:
http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2889557&trk=hb_side_g

- **News you can use:**

Scholarship Program Helps Unemployed And Manufacturers
http://rochesterhomepage.net/fulltext?nxd_id=321642

Advanced Manufacturing Jobs and Innovation Accelerator Challenge to Help Strengthen Advanced Manufacturing and Clusters Across the Nation
<http://www.innovationamerica.us/index.php/innovation-daily/21875-advanced-manufacturing-jobs-and-innovation-accelerator-challenge-to-help-strengthen-advanced-manufacturing-and-clusters-across-the-nation>

Advanced Manufacturing Could Spark Next Industrial Revolution
<http://www.cnbc.com/id/46222415>

- **Upcoming meetings and events:**

- *FAME Pipeline Committee Meeting*
August 24, 8:30-10:30AM; Location: Optimax Systems Inc., Ontario
contact: Eileen Rucinski, e-mail: rucinem@kellyservices.com
- *FAME Hiring & Training Committee Meeting*
September 20, 8:00-10:00AM; Location: BOCES 2, Rochester Tech Park
contact: Michele Stolberg, e-mail: fame@nyfame.org
- *Finger Lakes Works ... With Their Hands!*
October 4, Location: Rodman Lott and Son Farms, Seneca Falls
contact: Pat Gopen, email: pgopen@fingerlakesworks.com
AM Exhibitors and Sponsors needed!! Visit:
http://fingerlakesworks.com/youth_events.php

- **Welcome new FAME members!**

- Ultrafab, Inc., www.ultrafab.com
- Penn Yan Academy, www.pycsd.org/pya/
- CAR Engineering & Manufacturing, www.car-eng.com
- Koike Aronson, Inc., www.koike.com
- Southco, Inc., www.southco.com

Thank you for your support of FAME!
Michele Stolberg

FAME Facilitator
Email: fame@nyfame.org
Check out our website! www.nyfame.org
Phone# 315-521-7826