



## *FAME e-News – Summer 2013*

- **From the Chair, Mike Mandina** (FAME Chair; President of Optimax Systems, Inc.)  
FAME Members,  
It is easy to assume that summer is a slow season for making progress on the *skilled worker shortage* front, but that assumption is incorrect! Let me update you on a number of activities and connections that FAME has been actively engaged in:
  - Recent graduation of eleven high school boys and girls from the Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience (SAME). This was a Monroe County funded 6 week program training youth in blueprint reading and machining, among other skills often used in the manufacturing environment. Here is the link if you want to learn more: <http://www.monroecounty.gov/?q=node/7803>  
Thanks to our FAME Executive Committee members: Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES Career and Technical Education Executive Principal Jill Slavny and Eileen Rucinski (FAME Pipeline Chair), as well as the Monroe County Executive, for their roles in making this program a reality. Thanks also to the industry partners who opened their doors for the tours that were part of the program. At the graduation ceremony, I made a commitment to the graduating class that if they asked, FAME would assure them “at least one interview for a summer job the summer of 2014.” So, you may be getting a call from me or Michele to consider one these fine graduates for a summer job!
  - As Chair of FAME, I have been asked to participate on a new collaborative Workforce Development Team for Middle Skills. The collaborative is Co-Chaired by MCC President Anne Kress, Paul Speranza from Wegmans and Augie Melendez, President of Hillside’s Work-Scholarship Connection. The team will work on developing middle skilled talent for five occupational areas including advanced manufacturing. There will be more on this in the next FAME e-News issue.
  - On July 15<sup>th</sup>, I participated in a panel at WXXI hosted by Bruce Peters during the 12noon to 2:00pm time slot. The topic was the skilled worker shortage and the guests were MCC President Anne Kress and VP Workforce Todd Oldham, myself, and James VanKouwenberg from Optimax. FAME’s visibility continues to help get the word out about the gap to help embolden countermeasures by our community.
  - FAME has been asked to support the application for a charter school in the city of Rochester that is targeted towards young men of the inner city. The program graduates students with career and technical education degrees. This is in the early stages and there will be more on this in future emails.
  - On the federal front, FAME continues work with Business Leaders United (BLU) and the National Skills Coalition to help get the Workforce Investment

Act Funds committed and to drive passing of the SECTORS act which promotes formation of public-private partnerships. Most recently, FAME's partnership information has been forwarded to the White House, along with a number of other similar partnerships throughout the country to educate and encourage policy that will help close the skilled worker gap.

So, as you can see, even though it is vacation time for most - progress is still being made! As always, thank you for all of your support and continued commitment to improving the workforce quality of our region.

*Mike Mandina*

- **New Brookings Institute Report issues key findings on Advanced Manufacturing and STEM:**

### **The Hidden STEM Economy, 6/10/13**

*“Workers in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) fields play a direct role in driving economic growth. Yet, because of how the STEM economy has been defined, policymakers have mainly focused on supporting workers with at least a bachelor’s (BA) degree, overlooking a strong potential workforce of those with less education but substantial STEM skills...”* To read more, visit:

<http://www.brookings.edu/research/reports/2013/06/10-stem-economy-rothwell>

**Stats for our region - [Rochester, NY’s Metropolitan Area Profile](#):**

**98,190:** Number of STEM jobs.

**20.9 percent:** Portion of all jobs that are STEM-related.

**50.8 percent:** Share of STEM jobs requiring a bachelor’s degree.

**49.2 percent:** Share of STEM jobs requiring an associate’s degree or less.

**\$65,720:** Average annual wage for all STEM jobs.

**\$37,701:** Average annual wage for all non-STEM jobs.

**Source:** Brookings Institution, data for 2011

- **Summer 2013 SAME (Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience) graduates 11 students!**

This year’s Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience (SAME) at the Monroe 2 BOCES WEMOCO facility graduated eleven students after a rigorous 3 weeks of training and touring advanced manufacturing facilities. In partnership with Monroe County and Monroe Community College, this summer program for high school students is designed to expose them to the many facets of advanced manufacturing, including design, blueprint reading, project planning, and milling. Students created candle stick holders, a brass three part whistle, and an aluminum two piece marble maze. Program photos are included below, with more on FAME’s website at:

[http://www.nyfame.org/educators\\_innovators.asp](http://www.nyfame.org/educators_innovators.asp)

Many thanks to the members of FAME’s Pipeline Committee, MCC, WEMOCO and

COMIDA for making this program a success again in 2013!



- **FLCC and GW Lisk Advanced Manufacturing Machinist Program for Fall 2013**

FLCC and GW Lisk Co. will again offer a six-month training program in advanced manufacturing skills. Members of the first two classes all had full-time jobs or job offers by graduation. The next class runs September 9 to March 14, 2013. Enrollment requires attendance at an orientation and interview session; for more information, or to reserve a spot at the next orientation session, call (585) 785-1660 or email to [fairmacc@flcc.edu](mailto:fairmacc@flcc.edu).

**View the flyer:** <http://www.nyfame.org/documents/2013-2014AMM2ndclassannouncement.pdf>

- **Students from MCC's Career Exploration Night Tour Optimax Systems**



Students and parents toured Optimax Systems in Ontario, NY on June 26<sup>th</sup> to see a sample of optics manufacturing in action. Tour participants had signed up at the recent Monroe Community College High Tech Career Exploration Night.

- **News from FAME's Pipeline Committee**

The most recent meeting of FAME's Pipeline Committee was held on July 19, 2013.

Meeting minutes are available at the following weblink:

<http://www.nyfame.org/documents/FAMEPIPELINEMEETINGMINUTESJuly192013.pdf>

Pipeline is currently brainstorming efforts for the Fall 2013/Spring 2014 academic year.

The next meeting of the Pipeline Committee will take place on August 23<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30AM at Monroe Community College's Advanced Technology Center, please contact Eileen Rucinski to attend, email: [rucinem@kellyservices.com](mailto:rucinem@kellyservices.com)

- ***Finger Lakes Works ... With Their Hands!* event scheduled for October 3<sup>rd</sup>**

This year's *Finger Lakes Works ... With Their Hands!* event will take place on October 3<sup>rd</sup> at Rodman Lott & Son Farms in Seneca Falls. We are pleased to announce that we have a record-breaking 757 high school students and 31 school groups already registered for this year's event!

Once again FAME will have its own Advanced Manufacturers Exhibit Building and there is room for a few more exhibitors to sign up! FLCC professor Len Ortenzi will be back for his very popular *Physics is Phun!* science show with added value; Len will be presenting in collaboration with FAME members GW Lisk and Optimax to show youth how math is used every day in manufacturing. Register your hands-on display now at <http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/flw-wth-register-your-exhibit/> Exhibit registrations are

due by 8/31/13.

General information on the event is available at:

<http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/youth/finger-lakes-works-with-their-hands/>

Sponsorship opportunities are available at:

<http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/flw-wth-sponsorship-opportunities/>

**Questions?** Contact FLWWTH Event Coordinator: Pat Gopen, email:

[pgopen@fingerlakesworks.com](mailto:pgopen@fingerlakesworks.com)

- **“Why I Love the Finger Lakes” Career Expo draws wide variety of attendees**  
On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, the first ever “Why I Love the Finger Lakes” Career Expo was held at the FLCC Student Center in Canandaigua. The expo promoted living and working in the Finger Lakes Region, and the specific industries that the area thrives on. Thank you to the FAME members who signed up to participate!



- **SECTORS Act Update**

As a part of his work with Business Leaders United for Workforce Partnerships (BLU), Mike Mandina (FAME Chair) is involved with a group of industry leaders hoping to impress upon leaders in Washington DC the critical issue of employer-led sector partnerships. These partnerships bring together multiple employers and other regional industry stakeholders to address both immediate skill shortages and long-term workforce pipelines to ensure the future of that industry – basically this is FAME’s work at a national level with heavy-hitters swinging for the stands to get their message heard. The SECTORS Act would create new capacity to support sector partnerships and would

create specific performance measures to recognize and reward states that are effectively engaging employers. States, regions, or local areas receiving SECTORS grants would be required to carefully analyze which industries will drive growth in their local and regional economies, understand the skill levels of the existing workforce and identify skills gaps, and develop industry-based strategies to create a skilled worker pipeline for employers. The BLU Steering Committee is urging senate committee members to include two critical pieces of workforce development legislation in the Senate WIA reauthorization bill: *The Strengthening Employment Clusters to Organize Regional Success (SECTORS) Act of 2013* and the *Community College to Career Fund Act*. As this legislation moves forward, we will keep you posted on developments and outcomes for our region.

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

FAME's Hiring & Training Committee has tentatively scheduled its next meeting for September 13, 2013. Location is TBD. Please visit the "Meeting Details" page on FAME's website for more information as it becomes available, weblink: [http://www.nyfame.org/about\\_meetings.asp](http://www.nyfame.org/about_meetings.asp) or contact Michele at FAME, email: [fame@nyfame.org](mailto:fame@nyfame.org)

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

As of July 1st, there are currently 140 participants registered in the Advanced Manufacturing Career Pathways (H1B) Grant enrolled in programs at Finger Lakes Community College, Genesee Community College, and Monroe Community College. This will be the last opportunity for students who need the full two years to complete the AS or AAS program, to enter the program and complete their degree by the completion of the grant in the Spring of 2015. After this semester, only applicants with prior college credits, or who can complete the program in less than two years, will be able to enroll in the grant. The focus of the grant activities after this fall will be helping to match newly graduated job seekers with employers. Through the Steering Committee, which will convene this fall, we will develop a plan to inform FAME companies as to how many graduates in the various degree programs will be graduating and establishing recruiting events for employers and job seekers.

If you know someone who is interested in the grant opportunity or qualifying programs, or you would like more information, contact Bill via email at:

[amcn@fingerlakesworks.com](mailto:amcn@fingerlakesworks.com) or at the Finger Lakes Workforce Investment Board (315)789-3131 ext. 105.

- **Congratulations to the FLWIB "Businesses of the Month" for Summer 2013!**

Featured in the Summer of 2013 were the following FAME member businesses:

May 2013 – **Optimax Systems**, profile weblink:

<http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/2013/05/>

June 2013 – **ITT-Goulds Pumps Inc.**, profile weblink:

<http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/2013/06/>

July 2013 – **GW Lisk Co.**, profile weblink: <http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/2013/07/>

August 2013 – **Absolute Precision, LLC**, profile weblink:

<http://www.fingerlakesworks.com/2013/08/>

- **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](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=2889557&trk=hb_side_g)

- **News you can use:**

*Eleven students graduate from MCC's Summer Advanced Manufacturing Experience—includes a great video!*

<http://brighton-pittsford.whec.com/news/schools/185681-eleven-students-graduate-mccs-summer-advanced-manufacturing-experience>

*Get Skills to Work Program – employers link*

<http://www.getskillstowork.org/employers.html>

*Many STEM jobs don't require four-year degree*

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013307050010>

*Rebuilding New York's Economy: There are jobs available*

<http://www.democratandchronicle.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=2013307070004>

- **Upcoming meetings and events:**

- *FAME Pipeline Committee Meeting*

August 23, 8:30-10:30AM; Location: MCC Advanced Technology Center, Henrietta

contact: Eileen Rucinski, e-mail: [rucinem@kellyservices.com](mailto:rucinem@kellyservices.com)

- *FAME Hiring & Training Committee Meeting*

September 13, 2013 (tent.); Location: TBD

contact: Michele Stolberg, e-mail: [fame@nyfame.org](mailto:fame@nyfame.org)

- *8<sup>th</sup> Annual Finger Lakes Works With Their Hands!*

October 3, 2013; Rodman Lott & Son Farms, Seneca Falls

contact: Pat Gopen, FLWIB Youth Systems Coordinator, e-mail:

[pgopen@fingerlakesworks.com](mailto:pgopen@fingerlakesworks.com)

- **Welcome new FAME members!**

- Genesee County Economic Development Ctr., [www.gcedc.com](http://www.gcedc.com)

Thank you for your support of FAME!

Michele Stolberg

FAME Facilitator

Email: [fame@nyfame.org](mailto:fame@nyfame.org)

Check out our website! [www.nyfame.org](http://www.nyfame.org)

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