



In this Issue:

- May Meeting at CSU
- President's Message
- CSEF Award Wrap-up
- March Meeting Minutes
- Call for Membership Renewal

President's Message

by Beth Meyer
President



One effort of both the national HFES organization and our local chapter is to raise the visibility of our profession in the community. Towards that end, I recently had the privilege of speaking about human factors and ergonomics as a career to a nearby high school career class.

This was a surprisingly easy and fun project. First of all, the National Ergonomics Month web site provides not only materials for general presentations about the science of human factors, but about career options in the profession as well. Also, most any area of human performance provides case studies that can make an interesting introduction. I chose to start the discussion with one of my favorite examples of why human factors is not simply common sense - the issue of whether it is OK to drive and talk on a

Please see *President's Message*, p. 4

May Meeting: Ergonomics at Colorado State

The next RMS-HFES meeting will be held on Thursday May 4th. Please come to Colorado State University and learn about our Ergonomics Program. The meeting will be hosted by Dave Gilkey, D.C., Ph.D., CPE and John Rosecrance, PT, Ph.D., CPE.

Meeting schedule:

- 5:30 pm – Gathering, greet and eat!
Pizza, munchies, soft drinks will be available. Any business will be conducted while we eat.
- 6:30 pm – Greetings by John Rosecrance, Director of CSU Ergonomics Program and Laboratory, and Dave Gilkey
Presentations by two Ph.D students:
Dave Douphrate: “Workers’ Compensation Experience of Colorado Agriculture Workers, 2000-2004”
Angie Dartt: “Reliability of Observational Posture Assessment from Video”

- 7:30 pm – Tour the Ergonomics Lab
8:00 pm – Meeting adjourned

Where: Colorado State University, The Environmental Health Building at 350 W. Lake Street, Room 120. We are one block north of Prospect and just West of College. Parking is free after 4 pm and will be available.



Maps are available on the chapter web site at www.rmhfes.org.

Dave’s project is an investigation involving the analysis of workers’ compensation claims data for non-fatal injuries among agriculture workers in the State of Colorado. Specific agriculture occupations included cattle dealers, dairy farmers, cattle/livestock raisers, bean sorters/handlers, hay grain feed dealers, grain millers, and grain elevator operators. Injury incidence rates, injury characteristic frequencies and injury costs were calculated. This study provided a unique opportunity to investigate the workers’ compensation claims experience of agriculture workers in Colorado.

Angie’s investigation is a validation study in the use of MTVA developed at the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Measurement

Please see *May Meeting*, p. 4

HFES RMC Gives First Ever Special Award For HF/E Research at Colorado Science Fair

by Beth Meyer

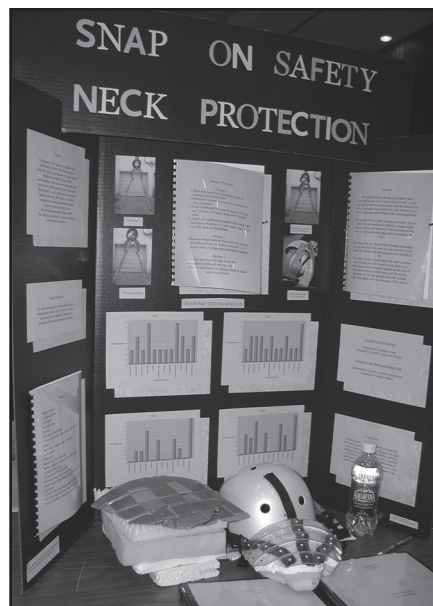
On Thursday, April 6, Andy Keller and I attended the Colorado Science and Engineering Fair at Colorado State University to judge the projects and offer a special award to the project making the best contribution in the area of human factors or ergonomics. This award, which carries with it a \$100 prize from the chapter, is part of our ongoing work in spreading the word about HF/E to students and the

Clearly, even if the students did not know the name of our

to review the projects without the students, and then to interview the students who did the most promising research. Dur-



Our winning project, Jennifer Manfredo's "Dazzling Time with Visual Acuity."



Madeline Camp-Drees' "Snap-on Safety Neck Protection", designed to protect skateboarders from neck and head injuries.



Chris Messick demonstrates his "Point and Click, Literally" input glove, which he tested with users with mobility impairments.

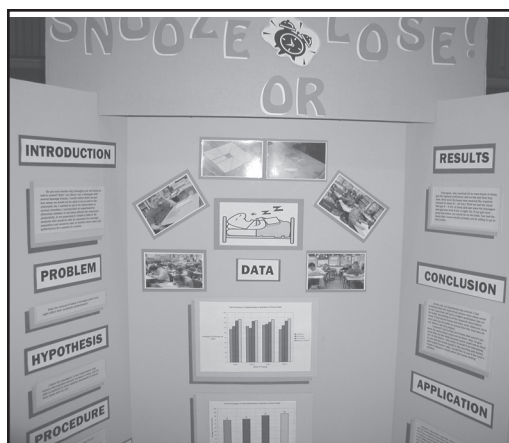
field, issues of safe human performance were definitely of interest! Projects came from disciplines such as behavioral science, engineering, computer science, and medicine.

We had the opportunity first

ing this process, we also took the opportunity to explain a bit about HF/E to the students we interviewed, and often offered ideas for followup work.

community. The students in this case are middle school and high school students who have done research good enough to be represented in the state-level competition.

It was gratifying to see the number of relevant projects.



Christopher Roth's "Snooze or Lose" project tracked teenagers' sleep patterns and performance on simple tests, finding improved performance with more sleep the night before.

The decision process was rather difficult, but the winner of the 2006 RMC Special Award was Jennifer Manfredo, an 8th-grader from Cañon City, with her project "A Dazzling Time with Visual Acuity." Concerned about effects of bright oncoming headlights on nighttime

Please see CSEF, p. 4

Minutes of March Chapter Business Meeting

by Beth Meyer

Program planning:

This was the most critical agenda item. The current and previous chapter executive committees have been unable to find someone willing to serve as Program Chair (or even on a program committee), which means that I have been arranging all programs as well as serving as president, creating the newsletters and (now) maintaining the web site. This is a bit much for one person!

In the absence of volunteer program chairs, David Gilkey put forward a suggestion that has worked in other professional society chapters. This idea is for different members to sign up to help arrange one meeting per year or so. That way, the burden on any one person is not too great - plus, members can pick topics that are particularly appealing to them and times of year and places that are most convenient. The idea was approved by the members present at the meeting.

David Gilkey volunteered to arrange the May meeting, which you have seen announced on the e-mail list. We have a great list of topics and contacts, generated at the March meeting and from other sources. (FYI, the award-winning program suggestion at the March meeting was for locally-based Raytheon to share about the human factors and safety issues of their work in Antarctica!) We now need others to sign up to help plan one of these future meetings:

July
September
November
January (2007)

I am definitely available to help facilitate planning, such as making contact with venues we've used before or bringing food. Really, for any one meeting, it is mostly a matter of picking a topic that sounds interesting and then making a few phone calls or sending a few e-mails.

So if there are any of these meeting months for which you could help, please contact me at president@rmhfes.org and I will then send you the list of topic ideas and contacts! (Or, if there is something you would love to learn more about, propose your own idea.)

Meeting times/places:

For the members present at this meeting, first or third Thursday evenings in a meeting month are working well.

There were no offline requests to change the usual meeting days. The only conflict is with the Human Factors class offered by Metro State College, which

currently is also on Thursday evenings. We decided that, since this class would be over soon and might be scheduled differently in the future, we could stay with the usual meeting days and times for now. We also plan to continue varying the meeting place, though the natures of the programs have caused us to have several in a row on the north side of town (so future meetings should be more centrally located).

Workshop ideas:

Paul Paradis, who is based out of Colorado Springs, presented a Saturday workshop on the human factors of handgun safety at the 2003 HFES Annual Meeting here in Denver. We could approach him about a similar workshop for chapter members, if there is interest. Please contact me or another Executive Committee member if this sounds like a program

Please see March Meeting, p. 4

HFES RMC Financial Report: Jan- April, 2006

Beginning of year balance:	\$2,634.35
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Deposits:

first set of member dues (03/11/06)	\$140.00
second set of member dues (4/06)	\$60.00
subtotal:	\$2,834.35

Expenses:

Pizza hut, Jan. meeting (1/26/06)	\$34.00
Nissi's room rental (2/24/06)	\$50.00
Final web site work (3/19/06)	\$254.16
Annual ISP service (3/23/06)	\$110.00
CSEF Special Award (4/6/06)	\$100.00

Current balance:	\$2,386.19
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CSEF Special Award Wrap-up

Continued from page 2

driving performance, she devised a basic experiment examining the acuity of dark-adapted participants, across a broad range of ages, after photostress.

However, there were many other worthy contenders, as shown in the photos we took from the event. Congratulations

go to Jennifer and all of the other excellent young researchers we met this year!

May Meeting Program

Continued from page 1

and evaluation of risk factors for UE ergonomic stressors is of paramount concern to ergonomists, safety and health professionals. Angie is working with the University of Iowa in the evaluation of manufacturing workers and characterization of their work exposures and risks for developing CTDs. Angie will present her methods, rationale and findings.

See you there!

March Meeting Minutes

Continued from page 3

you would want to attend.

Continuing Education:

Donna Caccamise from the CU Institute for Cognitive Science described ideas for continuing education options for human factors and ergonomics practitioners, and received additional input from the attendees. We hope to hear more in the coming months!

President's Message

Continued from page 1

hands-free mobile phone.

Here are some of the comments I received back from the class in followup notes:

“That is very cool that you make things for people to use comfortably.”

“Thank you for visiting our class and talking to us about human factors. I never even knew what that was, but now I do!”

“I didn't know much about this career. The things that you deal with are very interesting facts we don't think of that are around us every day.”

“I think that human factors engineers play an important role in everyday life for everyone.”

As you might imagine, this was a really fun and rewarding thing to do. If you would be interested in doing something similar, let me know and I can point you to excellent resources and ideas!

Beth Meyer



RMC News

Volume 5, No. 2
April, 2006

To share your ideas, publish your articles or announcements and comment on material in previous editions, please contact Beth Meyer at bethmeyer@mindspring.com.

Beth Meyer, President

Michael Rodriguez, Treasurer

Bonnie Hautamaki, Secretary

David Gilkey, Director-at-Large

Andy Keller, Director-at-Large

Beth Meyer, *RMC News* Editor

Conne Bazley, Membership
Chair

Membership/Annual Call for Dues

by Conne Bazley

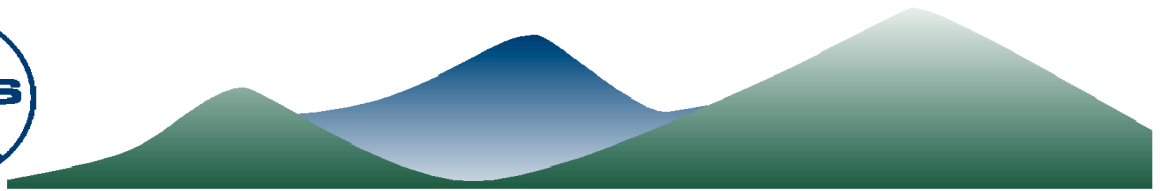
Membership Chair

The Rocky Mountain Chapter is looking forward to an eventful 2006. We will be offering some exciting benefits and programs that you won't want to miss. Our new website, with the secure members-only section and free links to member sites, is up and running!

If you are interested in becoming a member or you are a current member and would like to renew your membership for 2006, now is a great time to do so. Please complete the attached form, at the end of this newsletter, and mail it along with your check to the Membership Chair at the address located at

the bottom of the form. If you are applying for new membership be sure to include a short biography or resume with your form and check.

Would you like more membership information? Please visit our website at www.rmhfes.org and click on membership.



Human Factors and Ergonomics Society • Rocky Mountain Chapter

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

NEW MEMBER

(Please complete this application and include a brief biography or resume).

MEMBER RENEWAL

(Please fill in areas, indicate any changes where appropriate).

Please fill in the form below for your chapter directory listing as you would like it to appear in the membership directory (hard copy and online).

Name _____ Nickname _____

Home Address _____

Work Phone _____ Home Phone _____ Home E-mail _____

Business E-mail _____ Fax _____

Your Title _____ Business Address _____

Specialties and interests: _____

Other professional organization affiliations: _____

Please check the boxes to indicate your preferred E-mail, phone, and address for correspondence.

Are you a member of the **National HFES**? (Membership not required to join the chapter) ___ **Yes** ___ **No**

Willing to Volunteer? Please indicate your choices.

Database Development

Program Development

Web Page Administration

Fundraising

Public Relations

OTHER _____

Newsletter

Training Development

What activities and presentation topics are you interested in seeing the chapter host?

In what location(s) would you like to have meetings held (city or town)?

- | | | |
|--------------------------|--|-------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | Annual Chapter Dues for Members and Associate Members | \$20 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | "Special" Chapter Dues (Includes students) | \$10 |

All membership applications are screened and approved by the Rocky Mountain Chapter of HFES Executive Council. Membership dues are for the calendar year (January through December). Renewals should be received by March 1st of the calendar year. Dues received after October 1st will be applied to the next calendar year and Membership will begin Jan 1st of the next calendar year.

Please enclose a check made payable to the **Rocky Mountain Chapter of HFES** and mail it with your completed membership/renewal application and a brief biography or resume to:

Membership Chair/Rocky Mountain Chapter of HFES
5966 County Road 109
Carbondale, CO 81623

Please add any additional comments on the reverse side of this application. For more information about the Rocky Mountain Chapter of HFES please visit our web site at www.rmhfes.org.