

1500 - That's a lot of Volunteers



Jon Kriegel - RES Director, Volunteer Coordinator & Past President c: 585 281-5216 jkriegel@rochester.rr.com

The RES has access to over three-thousand engineers in Upstate NY. Some of them are retirees, and many more will join those ranks, as the Baby-boomers retire.

In the '90s, Eastman Kodak put 1500 technical volunteers into Rochester City School classrooms for 2-hour visits, twice per week, for a period of several years. The goal was to provide the classroom-teacher with a way to stay current with our ever-changing technology. Between these visits and a five-week, summer, hands-on teacher-training session, this goal was achieved. Can we, as a technical Society, with a larger work-force, (perhaps even some of the same people), do less?

The 2015 dream at the RES is to tap our technical membership for what is now called STEM volunteer work.

Maybe that means classroom visits, or individual mentoring, (see photos above), or interface and delivery options you can help us define; but as a minimum, we are anxious to create a mailing list that connects members of all the RES affiliates, including the RES itself, with STEM solution-ideas from all possible sources.

One path I like is to have you visit the school of your choice, (instead of one where you have no personal connection), to give a talk on a topic of **your** choice, (perhaps some significant success from your career).

The RES currently has an Engineering-based Explorer Troop, and is involved with the Dr. Walter Cooper Academy, where volunteers do literacy tutoring. Integrating new school-based support with teacher-goals, (as dictated by Common Core), will not be easy. The STEM guidelines for Common Core are just now being written, and we could perhaps influence how that effort evolves. Most importantly, we need to connect with school systems, the RMSC, Finger Lakes STEM, STEM Smart and the un-ending string of sister organizations interested in STEM activities, and deliver the Tech-savvy volunteer people-power to make all of these efforts succeed. I know of no more likely organization than the RES, to fill those shoes.



Please visit www.roceng.org/volunteer to sign up as a Volunteer STEM Coach

jkriegel@rochester.rr.com
cell: 585 281-5216