The NCSL International South Texas Section summer meeting was held on July 24, 2008 at the Holiday Inn in San Antonio, Texas. The meeting was hosted by Larry Mock of Mensor Corporation and Wayne Cummings of Fluke Corporation. The meeting was conducted by Keith Scoggins, the South Texas Section coordinator and metrology laboratory supervisor at the South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company.

Opening comments were made by Keith Scoggins to welcome everyone to the meeting and to also request feedback on the types of presentations attendees would like to see in future section meetings.

The first speaker of the morning was Larry Mock from the Mensor Corporation. Larry’s presentation was on how to predict the weather utilizing a barometer. Larry discussed how weather influences barometric pressure and by understanding wind conditions we can predict weather changes.

The next presentation was given by Paul Hanssen from Work-Place Training. Paul gave a very informative presentation on Texas grants and education funding. Paul will be working with the Texas sections to determine if these funds would be available to provide training to NCSLI members in Texas, more to come on this subject.

Next up was Wayne Cummings from the Fluke Corporation. Wayne’s presentation was about the Economic Stimulus Act of 2008. Wayne discussed how companies could purchase new equipment and take a large tax deduction to offset the expenditure.

A superb lunch was provided by our host, Mensor Corporation. After lunch, Keith Scoggins from the South Texas Project Nuclear Operating Company gave a presentation on the Nuclear Power Renaissance. Keith discussed the need for more nuclear power in the US and what issues must be addressed as we go forward with new construction. Keith also explained how metrology industry would benefit from the nuclear renaissance.

The next speaker of the day was Doug Lynde from On-Time Support. Doug’s presentation was on implementing web applications in asset management systems. Doug discussed a web based application server software package designed to execute on a server hosting the metrology database, and accepts connections from a variety of (configurable) sources and provides data from the metrology database to those sources.

The last speaker of the day was Jack Herring from Michell Instruments. Jack’s presentation was on a bench-top accredited humidity cal system. Jack described problems associated with making reliable humidity measurements with a bench-top humidity instrument.

In addition to the above speakers, there was an exhibit area where several vendors were allowed to show their products and services. During the breaks and lunch the vendors were available to discuss and demonstrate their products with the attendees.

A special thanks to Larry Mock and all the folks of Mensor Corporation for their support in providing for the meeting location and lunch. Also, appreciation is extended to Wayne Cummings of Fluke for his support and providing breakfast and refreshments during the breaks.

The next South Texas Section meeting will be at Hewlett-Packard service center in Houston, Texas on January 22, 2009.

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