

M.E.C.C.A. 2001

- ♣ History
- ♣ Tradition
- ♣ Events
- ♣ The Hunt
- ♣ Meet people; have fun!

History

- ♣ Established in 1910
- ♣ Originally, St. Patrick's Day Celebration
- ♣ Later changed to Meccasacius
- ♣ Disciplines: Mechanical, Electrical; Civil; Chemical; Architectural

Tradition

- ♣ Parade
- ♣ Talent show
- ♣ Blarney stone hunt
- ♣ Smoker & awards
- ♣ M.E.C.C.A. Queen & Ball
- ♣ Beard contests
- ♣ Straw boat hats w/green band & buttons
- ♣ Variety of pranks (engineers played pranks on lawyers & vice versa, since the lawyers also claimed St. Patrick as their patron saint)

Events

- ♣ M.E.C.C.A. kick-off; begin stone hunt (Sunday; 7:00pm)
- ♣ Pool tournament (Monday; 5-7:00pm)
- ♣ Design contests (Monday to Wednesday)
- ♣ M.E.C.C.A. Rally (faculty & student skits; awards, including the Purple Shaft; king & queen; social/snacks) (Wednesday; 5:00pm)
- ♣ Tau Beta Pi Symposium (Thursday; 3:30-6:00pm)

The Hunt

- ♣ The M.E.C.C.A. Stone
- ♣ Check the rules
- ♣ Prizes for solved clues
- ♣ Form teams, work together, have fun
- ♣ Check M.E.C.C.A. website for clues & solutions

Sample clue

We can float among the stars,
Together you and I.
Look for a western division.
The cost is \$779 - \$781.

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Summary of Activities

Stone Hunt:



The Stone Hunt Committee comprised Jim Hogsett (BSIE '98), Tim Brown (BSIE '96), and Gary Fischer (BSME '64). A total of 9 clues were written, but only 6 were used; the Committee felt that one of the clues, a rewrite of one of the clues from the Hunt of '71 (provided by George Ashton), was a bit too challenging. Victories were claimed by the alumni for Clue #1 and Clue #5; Clue #3 was withdrawn to move the Hunt along. The final resting place for the Stone was under the desk of a VP at Iowa State Bank.

The students went to the website to see the new clues and solutions to solved clues. Clue #6 brought them to the Dean's Office for further instructions. The winner picked up the "Claim Check," which she took to the bank, then she brought the Stone back to the Dean's Office to get Clue #6 Solution envelope that allowed her to claim her prize at the M.E.C.C.A. Rally.

While we didn't get a large number of students participating, those who did participate had fun and set the stage for a more exciting Hunt next year.

Pool Tournament:



About 40 students attended the Pool Tournament, with 20 actual entries. Originally, the tournament was conceived as an event that would put the engineering students against the law students, but it ended up being an engineering only event.

Design Contest:

An ad hoc design contest gave students the opportunity to design, build and fly paper airplanes. They managed to pretty well cover the floor of the lower level classroom area.

M.E.C.C.A. Rally:



Social time !!!



The Four D's ... The Red Red Robin



Crowning the M.E.C.C.A. Queen



Crowning the M.E.C.C.A. King



The King and Queen celebrate

Approx. 100 students and faculty attended the M.E.C.C.A. Rally. The program began with a talent show. We only had two entries this year (... hoping to have more next year). Prof. Wilf Nixon gave a tongue-in-cheek account of why students have trouble accessing faculty and what they can do to be more successful. The 4 D's (Dean Barry Butler, Assoc. Dean Jacob Odgaard, Assoc. Dean Gary Fischer, and Dir. of External Relations, Fred Streicher) did a lip-synch version, with choreography, of a barber quartet

number, "When the Red, Red Robin Comes Bob, Bob Bobin' Along," (The Ritz '91).
The following awards were then presented:

- Pool tournament
- Stone Hunt Clues & Stone
- Best Faculty
- Best T.A.
- Purple Shaft
- M.E.C.C.A. Queen
- M.E.C.C.A. King

The students also put on quite a "feed" for all after the program.

Tau Beta Pi Symposium:

Each year our national engineering honor society, Tau Beta Pi, sponsors the Paul D. Scholz Symposium on Technology and Its Role in Society. This year's program, which is open to the public, focused on "Future Energy Sources: Avoiding a Crisis." Presenters included Floyd Barwig, Director, Iowa Energy Center; Eliot Protsch, President, IES Utilities for Alliant Energy; and Jill Tietjen, Principal, Technically Speaking, LLC. A panel discussion followed with the speakers and Prof. Jerry Schnoor as panelists. Approximately 500 administrators, faculty, staff, students and guests attended the symposium.