



Society of Women Engineers

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**Society of Women Engineers –
Eastern Washington Section**
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Region J001
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Upcoming Events

June 7, 2008 End-of-Year Picnic
"Around the World" themed potluck
Keewaydin Park, Kennewick
Time: 4 pm

New officers will be meeting soon and planning activities for the next year.

Opening Note

Hello SWE Members and Friends!

This newsletter is closing out the old and bringing in the new. I would like to say thanks to all the old officers who made 2007-2008 a great year and best wishes to all the 2008-2009 officers, many of whom stayed on from last year. This years officers will have a planning retreat soon where they will decide the activities and goals for the coming year. Please come to the End of Year picnic to talk with the officers and share your ideas for what could make our section the best ever. *By the Way - this is the best time of year to join SWE since your membership dues would be good for the whole year.*

Thanks,
Teresa Torres
SWE-EWS Newsletter Editor

Election Results

The results of our election for 2008-2009 are as follows:

Section Rep - Alicia Boyd
President - Alice Orrell
Vice President - Serena Austen
Secretary - Gladys Reeder
Treasurer - Ann Langevin

There were 12 votes out of 25 voting members. The electronic voting was closed May 8th for those who could not attend the April 23rd meeting.



Time to Join!

If you have been waiting for the right time to join SWE the time is now. If you join now you are paid up for one full year where as if you wait and join in the winter you would pay the full price and only enjoy the benefits for half a year.

Reasons to join:

When you join SWE you're joining more than an organization—you're joining a movement toward equality and opportunity for women in engineering. Our mission is focused but our impact is vast. We provide the resources you need whether you are beginning, resuming, or building your career. We also encourage creative and intelligent girls at an early age to explore the field of engineering. Through such career development and awareness, we are making significant strides—together.

How to join:

Go to <http://societyofwomenengineers.swe.org/> and find the "join SWE" button across the header of the page and then go to the "professional" button on the sub header of the next page.

http://societyofwomenengineers.swe.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=27&Itemid=35

Membership Benefits

Community of Support

SWE is an inclusive organization focused on issues of interest to women specializing in engineering and technical careers.

- A strong network of women engineers from academia, government and industry, corporate representatives, government officials, and other individuals supporting and advocating for the mission of SWE.
- Awards and recognition programs honoring outstanding accomplishments of women in the engineering profession as well as those who have contributed significantly to the advancement of women in engineering and technology professions.

Resources and Information

As a worldwide leader in engineering knowledge and support, SWE is a partner you can turn to for advanced, relevant information about women in technical careers.

- *SWE Magazine*—the Society's award winning magazine, covering issues of interest to women engineers including the achievements of women engineers, career development, career guidance, activities within the Society, and technical topics.
- Monthly SWE News.
- SWE Online Communities.
- Webinars and podcasts.
- Online career center where you can manage your resume and search hundreds of jobs posted monthly by SWE's sponsors.

Education and Development

Outreach programs that encourage girls to pursue careers in engineering through SWE's alliances with Girls Inc., Girl Scouts, and US *FIRST* (Foundation for the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology). SWE's education and outreach activities are designed to enhance the quality of life for women of all backgrounds who pursue the profession of engineering.

- Scholarship opportunities for all educational and professional levels, including undergraduate and graduate students, and women re-entering the workforce as engineers (at national and section levels).
- Reduced fees for admittance to national and regional education conferences that offer networking, professional development, seminars, workshops, and leadership training.

Leadership Skills

Members are encouraged and supported in the development of skills necessary to be effective leaders in a global marketplace.

- Develop leadership experience in a non-threatening environment through leadership roles at the sectional, regional, and national levels.
- Publish articles in the *SWE Magazine*.
- Present technical papers at national and regional conferences.
- Lead seminars and workshops at national and regional conferences.

Region J 2008 Conference Report

By Alice Orrell and Joan Young

On April 5, the Columbia River Section hosted the Region J 2008 Conference in Vancouver, WA. The conference was held at the Hilton Vancouver Washington, the first LEED® certified lodging property in the Northwest and the very first LEED® certified Hilton Hotel in the world. The conference's theme was "Sustainable and Responsible Engineering." There was record attendance with over 150 registered, 36 sponsors, 3 program tracks, 3 Keynote Speakers and 29 Career Fair Exhibitors.

From the Eastern Washington Section, Alicia Boyd, Joan Young, Chrysoula Nigl, and Alice Orrell attended. We had the chance to meet up with members of the newly revitalized Inland Northwest Section (based in Spokane) and the Southwest Idaho Section (based in Boise) with whom several members enjoyed dinner Friday night in downtown Vancouver at Tommy O's Hawaiian Bistro.

There were many great presentations and workshops at the conference. Some of the highlights of the *sustainability* talks include:

The Oregon Solar Highway

Allison Hamilton, of the Oregon Department of Transportation, presented ODOT's vision to build the first solar highway in Oregon and the nation by putting 120 miles of solar arrays on the Department's rights-of-ways to supply the electricity needs of the Department.



Agricycle: A Beneficial Partnership

A Grant Agreement between USFW and Ducks Unlimited was signed Feb. 1999 to restore the wetland parcel near South Vancouver Lake in Jan. 2000. Many meetings, permit applications, and re-designs occurred 1999 through 2004 so that food-processing waste from an Industrial Pretreatment Lagoon are now applied to a wetland preserve. The Wetlands Restoration Project Site Agreement was signed between Ducks Unlimited and Clark/Vancouver Parks and Recreation on July 2004. A former weed patch now provides native marsh vegetation for nesting cover and waterfowl forage. The wildlife viewing opportunities provide an outdoor classroom for natural resource awareness, education, and research.

3 Ps of Energy Efficiency

What is the 2030 Challenge? Buildings on an annual basis will use no more energy than is provided by on-site renewable energy sources. Office equipment, cooling, and lighting consume over 75% of commercial building energy. The 3 Ps to meet the 2030 Challenge are

- Power management to optimize HVAC and lighting use
- Power off office equipment after hours
- Purchase ENERGY STAR equipment and LED lighting

An Inconvenient Truth

Bill Bradbury, Oregon Secretary of State, was the banquet's keynote speaker. He was trained by Al Gore and a team of scientists to present "An Inconvenient Truth." If you've seen the movie, this presentation was identical with a focus on the effects of climate change in the Pacific Northwest.

A similar presentation on global warming was provided by SAIC Integrated Energy Services that presented impacts to the Pacific Northwest. Dramatic melting of ice sheets will lead to greater sea level rise than models are currently predicting.

The region's signature fish already have difficulty surviving in warmer waters. The number of sweltering hot days in the Pacific Northwest will increase each year. Warming injects more moisture into the air, which increases in the amount of rain and snowfall.

Members of The Climate Registry formed May 8, 2007 have voluntary CHG reduction goals. Members include 39 U.S. states and D.C, 2 Mexican States , 7 Canadian Provinces, and 3 Tribal Nations. New legislation proposes to implement tariff barriers for goods from countries without emission limits and mandate US reductions in CHG by 2050 (about 63% below 1990 levels). Carbon price could add approximately 40 cents to a gallon of gasoline and 4 cents per kwh. Expect US participation in the Post-Kyoto international agreement to be negotiated in Copenhagen, December 2009.

Career and Communication workshops included:

DeBono's Six Hat Method of Problem Solving

Six different thinking approaches are symbolized by the act of putting on a colored hat, either actually or imaginatively. By doing so, the problem can be more easily deconstructed by a group and therefore an answer more easily sought. The difference between mediocre and highly effective teams lies not so much in their collective mental equipment, but in how well they use their abilities to think and how well they work together.

Influence Without Authority

High-integrity practices are always the most sustainable. Key skills for influence are clarity about one's own wants, awareness of the interests of others, and balancing advocacy and inquiry. Seek to understand what value others are trying to create for the organization and for themselves. If possible,

get behind others to move their ideas as you put your ideas out to others and let others get behind you.

Resume Writing Workshop

Marcia Shaw, of Intentional Management, facilitated an extremely informative workshop on resumes.

1. If your name does not obviously signal that you are a female, find ways to incorporate this into your resume. This could be done by adding "Ms." to your name line at the top of your resume or using "she" in your resume's introduction paragraph/summary about yourself. Of course, we also discussed the pros and cons of advertising yourself as a woman versus letting it stay ambiguous (if that is a possibility).
2. If you are re-entering the workforce after a long absence, consider a functional resume over a chronological one. One woman had not held a full-time engineering job in 14 years because she was raising two children and working on her family's commercial farm. Her challenge was putting her transferable farming skills on her resume.

Region J Business Meeting

On April 6, the Region J Business Meeting was held at Hewlett-Packard, Vancouver, WA. The updated SWE pipeline was discussed at the meeting. The pipeline is a multi-year approach for implementing stable SWE governance. Talent identification and management are new pipeline components. To recruit target groups for leadership positions, SWE sections must reach out to diverse communities, diverse organizations (SHPE, NSBE, international STEM organizations, etc.) and manage leadership talent.



Nominating Committees will identify and manage talent for better succession planning at the Region and National level! Every SWE Section Leader should identify at least 1 or 2 potential successors with 0-3 year readiness as part of the annual tactical plan. A standard leadership profile template is available on the SWE website to help section leaders identify candidates. Each region officer and section president should fill out the successor information on a standard succession-planning template and give a copy to her/his Region Governor and the regional nominating committee as a reference.

In case members have not been to the SWE website recently - it has changed! So when members have some spare time, please browse the website to see the new layout. The new SWE platform includes SWE communities. The Region J community is called "Region J Connections" for posting region-specific news and files for SWE sections.

Next year's conference will be in Seattle from April 3-5, 2009. Host Sections are J003 Pacific NW and J059 University of Washington.

Awards



The SWE Section and Collegiate Awards have been posted. The deadlines for the awards are July 1. If you see any award that the Eastern Washington Section is qualified for please contact Renee Slocumb rcslocum@bechtel.com. For more information about any award contact Renee or view the award on the SWE

National website.

http://societyofwomenengineers.swe.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=14&Itemid=44

Professional Section Newsletter Awards - These awards recognize collegiate, professional and MAL sections that have developed the best communication in a newsletter, print newsletters and web newsletters.

Web Site - These awards recognize professional sections, collegiate sections, and committee/region/MAL sections that have developed the best communication in a Web Site.

Public Relations Program Award - These awards recognize professional section or MAL regions who best complete a public relations (PR) program. The main goal for the Society is "To be the recognized authority on , and advocate for , engineering and women in engineering." PR programs should support this goal to the general public through various types of media.

Collegiate Transition Award- This award is given to the collegiate and professional sections who have the best collegiate transition program and sponsored the largest number of paid collegiate transitions by June 30th of the current fiscal year.

Region Membership Award - This award is given to Regions with the best Region Membership Growth and Retention program AND strives toward the retention and growth percentage goals for the year.

Membership Retention Program Awards - The purpose of this award is to recognize successful membership retention programs in Professional sections MAL regions, and collegiate sections.

Membership Recruitment Program Awards - The purpose of this award is to recognize successful membership recruitment programs in professional sections MAL regions, and collegiate sections.

Motorola Foundation Multi-Cultural Program Award - Recipients of this award are member sections and MAL Regions that have developed and implemented the best multi-cultural program to increase and retain a diverse membership. This includes diversity in culture , sexual orientation, age, and differenetly-abled.

Boeing Foundation Multi-Cultural Program Award - Recipients of this award are student sections that have developed and implemented the best multi-cultural program to increase and retain a diverse membership. This includes diversity in culture, sexual orientation, age, and differenetly-abled.

Event/Series Award - Professional and collegiate sections that have an outstanding event/series program. Sections are encouraged to submit programs that can be used by other section. Event/Series Awards are given for an outstanding Professional Development event or series for small, medium and large sections or MAL Regions.

Girl Scout Award - This award recognizes professional and collegiate sections that have an outstanding Girl Scout program. The Girl Scout Program Award is not limited to a one-time only activity. It may be a series of programs with the same theme. Sections are encouraged to submit programs that can be used by other sections (“Best Practices”).

Connecting Educators to Engineering Award - This award recognizes professional and collegiate sections that have an outstanding Connecting Educators to Engineering program.

Sections are encouraged to submit programs that can be used by other sections (“Best Practices”).

Corning Incentive Grant - This grant is awarded to professional sections, collegiate sections, and MALs that have contributed to the Society in the best new tool or program for career guidance in one of the following areas: 1) Elementary School 2) Junior High/Middle School 3) High School 4) College or Re-entry.

Program Award - This award recognizes professional section and MAL Regions that have developed the best professional development program. A program can be a one-day seminar with a variety of workshops. The program must support the professional development goals of the Society.

Event Award - This award recognizes professional sections and MAL Regions that have developed the best professional development event. The event can be a single professional development meeting or workshop. The meeting or workshop must support the professional development goals of the Society.

Series Award - This award recognizes professional sections and MAL Regions that have developed the best professional development series. A series is comprised of at least two events that have a common theme and occur in a series on different days. The series must support the professional development goals of the society.

Media Award - This award recognizes a professional section or Mal Region that has developed the most successful media that furthers the development of practicing professional members. Media includes brochures, web pages, CDs., videotapes, podcasts, and computer learning programs.



2008 SWE National Conference
 Baltimore Convention Center, Baltimore, MD
 Thursday, November 06, 2008 -
 Saturday, November 08, 2008

Together, *We* make a difference.

Baltimore is no stranger to revolutionary ideals—be it the American or Industrial Revolution. This makes Baltimore perfect for the largest, most comprehensive gathering of women leading the Technical Revolution: WE08. For women engineers, The Society of Women Engineers' National Conference is the event for career advancement and professional development.

Join us in leading the revolution. Join us for WE08.

heck it out online at

<http://www.we08.org/>

Contacts

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Thanks to everyone who submitted information for this newsletter. The newsletter is going back to a bi-monthly issuance. Please submit information for the next newsletter by **July 15, 2008** to Teresa Torres.

About SWE

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE), founded in 1950, is a non-profit educational and service organization. SWE is the driving force that establishes engineering as a highly desirable career aspiration for women. SWE empowers women to succeed and advance in those aspirations and receive the recognition and credit for their life-changing contributions and achievements as engineers and leaders. For more information about the Society please visit www.swe.org or call (312) 596-5223.

If you know someone who be interested in joining please forward this Newsletter via email or via land mail. Just print, fold, staple, stamp and mail.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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SWE Member or friend