



# SWE-AV NEWS

Society of Women Engineers  
Antelope Valley Section

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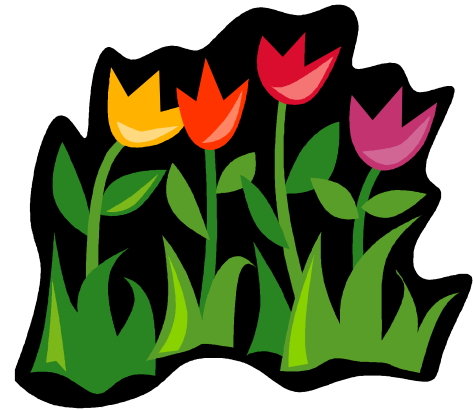
## Message from the President

*It's official...* SWE-AV's petition to charter a new section has been approved by SWE Headquarters! We are no longer a "proposed" section. A big thank you is due to the Board members who dedicated their time to completing the Petition to Charter package. Solveig Irvine, Elizabeth Maas, Sara Fournier, Sarah Winnaker, Katy Kuey, Alea Gale, and Amie Bonner all worked very hard to ensure we completed all required tasks and turned our packet in on time. I would also like to thank all of you who have participated in our events. Without your support and attendance at our events, we would not be able to achieve this important milestone in our section's history.

As we begin our journey in 2005, I encourage everyone to participate in our upcoming events. We are currently planning a Section Formation Banquet to celebrate our charter. We also continue to offer a range of career development opportunities, personal development activities, and social and community service events. I also encourage everyone to become a paid member of SWE. You may join online at [www.swe.org/join](http://www.swe.org/join). I'm looking forward to seeing many of you at our events, meeting new faces and enjoying the exciting experiences ahead.

*Tracy*

Tracy Hawkins



## Sonora Region B Conference *by Solveig Irvine*

SWE-AV members Elizabeth Maas, Sara Winnacker, and Solveig Irvine attended the regional conference in San Diego, CA on March 4-6. The conference itself was a lot of fun and the SWE-AV Section members were able to meet and interact with both professional SWE members as well as many of the student sections from all over the region. The workshops presented were informative and the AV members brought much of the information back to the group on issues such as professional development, section vitality, and future planning. The conference ended with a general meeting of the Sonora member council.

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## SWE-AV Celebrates National Engineers Week *by Amie Bonner*

This March, in conjunction with National Engineering Week, volunteers from SWE-AV and Lockheed Martin teamed with local Girl Scout troops to help them earn their "Build a Better Future" badge. On March 8, the volunteers taught the Girl Scouts about different types of engineering and the jobs that engineers can hold in various companies. Afterwards, the girls tried their hand at designing a commercial airplane, using a computer simulation program and keeping in mind the needs of the airlines and the consumers. To end the day, the girls launched rockets that they had made out of 2-liter soda bottles, cardboard, and duct tape. They will repeat the bottle rocket activity with younger girl scouts to help teach them about engineering.



The second phase of the Badge Day took place on March 16 at Lockheed Martin facilities in Palmdale. The day started with a presentation on aircraft safety and human factors engineering. The scouts learned about advances in aircraft safety and how human factors considerations can help make airplanes safer to fly. Afterwards, Lockheed Martin Facilities Engineers gave the girls a tour of a manufacturing building. The girls were shown blueprints of the building and how the drawings were related to the actual building. In addition, they were able to see specific equipment used in the manufacturing process and how it was integrated into the construction of the building. Finally, the girls were given a tour of a flight simulator where they learned how engineers use simulation to help train pilots to fly the airplanes. Through participation in the badge workshop, the Girl Scouts learned about various types of engineering, became engineers themselves, and saw first hand how engineering works in the real world. In addition, they earned a very important badge, as well as help spread an interest and understanding of engineering.



## “There is No I in Team and Other Management Myths” *by Katy Kuey*

Young engineers and experienced professionals alike attended the SWE-AV section meeting to hear Regina Ray, Program Manager at Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company, speak on March 9<sup>th</sup> in Palmdale’s Hometown Buffet. Regina loves her job as Program Manager. She firmly believes that influence, focus, organization, and communication are keys to effective program management. She advised, “If you want to develop your ability to influence – keep every commitment to every person, everyday and say thank you every chance you get.” Regina touched on two focus areas: self and team. Professional personal appearance and personal familiarity with project knowledge work hand-in-hand in showing focus on the job. She illustrated how meeting minutes and action items are used as a focusing tool for her team to make project delivery. Regina organizes her to-dos at each day’s end based on priorities and interdependencies and she follows-up on commitments made to her project. Regina shared how a program manager fills the project’s communicator-in-chief role. She makes sure controversial and bad news are briefed to concerned parties prior to any meeting so there are no surprises. Regina deemed that there are lots of I’s within each team not to mention a team itself is an “I”, a separate entity. She explained, if you focus on the “I’s”: communicate, organize and maintain commitments, then you can accomplish anything.

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### Election Results

SWE-AV Executive Board elections were held at our section meeting in January. Congratulations to our new officers:

**President:** Tracy Hawkins  
**Vice-President:** Amie Bonner  
**Secretary:** Solveig Irvine  
**Treasurer:** Elizabeth Maas  
**Section Representative:** Sarah Winnacker

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### SWE-AV Online!

Be sure to bookmark our new website: [www.swe.org/RegionB/B012](http://www.swe.org/RegionB/B012).

Anyone interested in holding the Webmaster position on the Executive Board, please contact Tracy (tracy.a.hawkins@lmco.com).

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### More about SWE

If you would like to learn more about SWE or would like a membership application, please visit the SWE National website at [www.swe.org](http://www.swe.org).

#### SWE Mission:

- Stimulate women to achieve full potential in careers as engineers and leaders
- Expand the image of the engineering profession as a positive force in improving the quality of life
- Demonstrate the value of diversity

Learn also about events in the Los Angeles Area with the SWE-LA chapter. [www.swela.org](http://www.swela.org)

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## Antelope Valley Section Executive Board

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The SWE-AV Section is a part of SWE  
Region B.

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Fran Stuart

### National President

Vi Brown

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just the following text:

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subscribe swe_antelopevalley {subscribername}  
(replacing subscriber name with your name)
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