



SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS HARTFORD SECTION NEWSLETTER

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REGION F CONFERENCE
SATURDAY, APRIL 4
Smith College, Northampton, MA.

<http://www.swe.org/RegionF/regconf09/home.htm>

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT
THURSDAY, APRIL 30
1877 Club Restaurant
University of Hartford

Directions to the University of Hartford and the 1877 Club Restaurant can be found at <http://www.hartford.edu>

SAVE THE DATE!

May TBD

Join Event with AIChE

June 12

Tri-Section tour of Mohegan Sun Casino with CT and NESS sections

If you are interested in helping coordinate an event, please contact Liz (elizabeth.garypie@swe.org) or Michelle (michelle.montepara@swe.org).

Remember to check the website for more information!

<http://www.swe.org/RegionF/sections/hartford/>

The Hartford Section is a member of the SWE New England Region, Region F. <http://www.swe.org/regionf/>

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FROM THE DESK OF PRESIDENT

Greetings SWE Hartford!

It is hard to believe that April is here already. The year seems to have flown by fast, but I am looking forward to warmer weather and brighter skies as spring approaches. April also ushers in what is typically one of the busiest months for SWE Hartford, and I hope to see all of you at some of our upcoming events.

First on the agenda is the SWE Region F Conference on Saturday, April 4, at Smith College in Northampton, MA. This year's theme, "New Frontiers", is offering over 25 session choices in 6 different tracks: Professional Development, Collegiate, SWE, Work/Life Balance, Global and Technical. We already expect to see a number of our members there, including many that are panelists or speakers. If you do plan to attend, please send me an email letting us know. Our region business meeting is the following day, Sunday, April 5. If you have not previously attended, I encourage you to do so. It is a great way to learn how the Region and SWE works.



Next in the line-up is our 25th Annual Certificate of Merit reception. This is by far the longest standing event for SWE Hartford and continues to grow and get more exciting each year. This year we will be honoring over 60 students from local area high schools for their outstanding achievements in math and science. The event introduces the students and their families to the many opportunities that engineering can offer. Our Certificate of Merit Chair, Claudette Hickey, and a number of other executive board members and volunteers are already hard at work to make our 25th a success. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Claudette (cpetroze@us.ibm.com).

Third we have the 2009 Connecticut Invention Convention at UCONN on Saturday, May 2. More than 5,000 people will be there including 650 of Connecticut's best young inventors, from 80-120 schools across the state. A number of SWE Hartford members have attended and volunteered in past years, and have thoroughly enjoyed their experience. If you are interested in attending or volunteering as a judge, visit the CIC website at www.ctinventionconvention.org for more information.

We have other great events coming your way in May and June, so stay tuned for details:

- A joint event in late May with The American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) Hartford section
- A Mohegan Sun tour, tri-section event with SWE CT and SWE NESS on Friday, June 12th.

On behalf of SWE Hartford, and the entire Executive Board, I look forward to seeing all of you at our spring events!

Liz Garypie
SWE Hartford President, FY09

UPCOMING SWE HARTFORD EVENTS

25TH ANNUAL CERTIFICATE OF MERIT

Thursday, April 30th
7:00 to 9:00 PM
1877 Club Restaurant
University of Hartford
West Hartford, Connecticut

Join us for SWE Hartford's 25th annual Certificate of Merit event. The Certificate of Merit Award is given to juniors in high school who have excelled in Math and Science, and are active in their school and/or community. This year's event is held at the 1877 Club Restaurant at the University of Hartford. For those of you who volunteered or attended last year, this was a wonderful location that promoted networking between engineers, students and parents. Light refreshments will be served. Directions can be found at <http://www.hartford.edu>. If you are interested in attending or volunteering, please contact Claudette Hickey, cpetroze@us.ibm.com.

NEW ENGLAND REGION F CONFERENCE 2009

April 4th & 5th
Smith College, Northampton, MA
<http://www.swe.org/RegionF/regconf09/home.htm>



We look forward to seeing everyone at the Regional Conference, April 4th, at Smith College. Also, for anyone interested, the event is continued on Sunday with the annual business meeting. If you are interested in attending the business meeting to learn more about SWE or if you want to get involved on a Regional level, please email Liz, elizabeth.garypie@swe.org.

Some of the Hartford Section members are also participating in this year's conference as speakers, panelists, and volunteers. Thank you to everyone who has volunteered this year and we hope to see many members from SWE Hartford at the conference!

- **Liz Garypie**, Panelist—Managing Managers, Presenter—Advice Your Mother Gave You
- **Jonna Gerken**, Presenter—Advice Your Mother Gave You
- **Ashley Phillips**, Panelist—Life After Undergrad
- **Sarah Koenig**, Moderator—Kiss, Bow, or Shake Hands: Working in a Global Company, Moderator—Making the Most of Your Internships
- **Christine Lagree**, Panelist—Making the Most of Your Internships
- **Michelle Montepara**, Presenter—50 Tricks You Need to Know about MS Office

If you attended any sessions that were great and you would like to share your lessons learned and takeaways with the rest of SWE Hartford, please send some information (or pictures!) to Ashley for next month's newsletter, Ashley.Phillips@swe.org.

SAVE THE DATE: CASINO TOUR

Friday, June 12th
Tri-Section tour of Mohegan Sun with SWE Hartford, CT, and NESS

LOCAL EVENTS

61ST CONNECTICUT SCIENCE FAIR QUINNIPIAC UNIVERSITY

It's Springtime and that means it's Connecticut Science Fair time. On March 11th, I again had the honor to represent the Hartford Section as part of the Special Awards program. The Connecticut Science Fair, held this year on March 10-14, is supported by academic and industrial organizations throughout the state. An important objective of the program is to attract young people to careers in science while developing skills essential to critical thinking. Through science fair participation, students are encouraged to pursue independent work using proper research methods. It is open to students in grades 7 through 12 and it was again held at Quinnipiac University.

This was the Science Fair's 61st year and the projects presented always impress me. For those that have never seen this display of engineering curiosity and scientific investigation, I have to say it is well worth the time to walk through the exhibits. Participation is always very strong, and this year was no exception. This year's Fair had nearly 600 students, representing 124 schools on display. The projects are divided into two major categories; Life Sciences and Physical Sciences. So from my view point as a Special Awards judge from SWE, I need only concentrate on about half of the exhibits in the Physical Science area. In keeping with the central news themes of the day, the project topics were predominately based on green energy, conservation and generation.

As previously mentioned, SWE-Hartford Section is a part of the Special Awards Program that is made up of over 75 local corporations and no-profit organizations that present over 200 Awards each year. The purpose of this Program is to provide valuable recognition and encouragement to a larger number of students that may not be recognized for their efforts.

Our Section gives five scientific calculators to the recipients of our Special Award. Not one to break with tradition, I wrapped the gift awards in old prints: a foundation, site development plan or one-line diagrams. The criteria I use for the awards are as follows:

- The project represents a discipline of engineering; civil, mechanical, electrical, environmental, chemical, materials, computer, etc...
- The project is presented in such a way as to demonstrate the contestant's grasp of the theories and practices of the engineering based subject.

All of the recipients this year were in the 7th grade:

- Tatjana Tschirpke; "Which Crane Can Support More Weight?"
- Megan Leubner; "Listen Up!" (acoustics engineering concepts)
- Hannah Guilani; "What are the Effects of Light Intensity, Temperature, Wavelength and Angle of Light Upon a Solar Cell?"
- Kyle Gillick, Zachary Poirier; "The Power Of Wind" (a team project)

In addition to adding another unique t-shirt to my collection, our participation in the Connecticut Science Fair year after year has enabled SWE to continue our outreach to many, many students who hopefully, will become our future colleagues and leaders in industry, research and academia.

Respectfully Submitted,
Carol A. Coppa, PMP

SHPE CT: MARCH OF DIMES, MARCH FOR BABIES

Sunday, April 26, 2009

Vinal Regional Tech School, 60 Daniels St, Middletown, CT 06457

Registration at 8:00 AM, Start time 9:00 AM,

Walk Distance: 4 miles

E-Mail Angel, Angel.Santiago@pw.utc.com, with any questions or to join the team!

VOLUNTEER!

CONNECTICUT INVENTION CONVENTION 2009 CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

**Gampel Pavilion, University of Connecticut - Storrs, CT
Saturday, May 2, 2009**

The 26th Annual Connecticut Invention Convention (CIC) is looking for judges. As you may know, the CIC is an award winning statewide program that allows students from grades K - 8 to enhance their critical thinking and problem-solving skills through a unique hands-on inventing curriculum. Of the estimated 7,000 to 11,000 students from 90 CT schools that participate annually in the program, approximately 650 of Connecticut's best young inventors will bring their ingenious inventions to this year's convention. Since its inception in 1983, the CIC has produced more than 220,000 student inventors, many now in Industry, College, or pursuing college entry High School program.



Visit the website, www.ctinventionconvention.org/Judge_Info.htm to volunteer and learn more about the event.

Students are separated into 70 age/grade appropriate groupings (Judging Circles), each consisting of approximately 10-13 students. Their peers and two or three judges from business & academia review these students and their inventions, while praising and encouraging their creative spirit. Over 140 judges, including engineers, scientists, educators, attorneys, entrepreneurs, marketing and other professionals are needed to review their creations.

Judge training begins at 8:30 a.m., and judging takes place later in the morning for approximately one hour. Judges are then free to leave. Or stay to enjoy our complimentary luncheon, view the inventions, and join us for the award ceremony.

Other volunteers are also needed during the actual event, as well as other functions such as Accounting, Fundraising, Volunteer Operations Management. If you are interested, please email the CIC President at charlie.baumgartner@ctinventionconvention.org.

Thank you for your consideration and time. We hope to see you at the CIC on May 2, 2009!

Sincerely,

Charlie Baumgartner, Judging Chairperson

CIC-Hotline: (860) 793-5299

SCIENCE FAIR

The Squadron Line Elementary School has not had a science fair in over 15 years. This year on March 31st the fair will happen again. There's about 20% of the students participating in the event, over 90 projects and 140 students. Not bad for basically a first time event.

It is open to students from kindergarten to 6th grade. So far, the most popular grades to enter are 3rd and 4th, although students from all grade levels have signed up to participate. Students can participate as individuals or in teams up to 3 people.

Since most students had never seen a science fair project, Sherisse organized a team of practicing engineers and scientists to have a kickoff at the school on January 20. This was a huge success.

We had displays with hands on demonstrations on topics such as:

- Acid/base reactions in solid, liquid, and gas forms
- The effects of soda and plaque on teeth
- What do LED and laser beams look like and do?
- How to make clay float?
- How do different materials roll down a ramp?
- How salt in water can make an egg float by changing the water density?

Science kits provided by Agilent Technologies through the Society of Women Engineers will be used as prizes. Students who have not entered to science fair will act as roving reporters and interview the entrants with a video camera.

Squadron Line is located in Simsbury CT is one of the largest elementary schools in Connecticut with about 800 students. We've already got our sights set on next year when the fair will be held in February to allow students to participate in the state science fair.

NEW SWE MEMBER SERVICES CENTER

On April 15, the new Center will feature expanded capabilities and an easy-to-use interface that makes it easy to update your profile, renew your membership, search for other SWE members and much more! To ensure a smooth transition, here are a few things you need to know:

- The Member Services Center will be offline until April 15.
- If you need to access information during the offline period or require assistance, please email the Member Services Help Desk or call 312.224.2575.
- You can also consult our list of Frequently Asked Questions.

Training will be available for the new Member Services Center. Prior to launch, we will host an online "open house" training webinar to give members a tour and overview of the new Center. The webinar for members will be held April 13 at 7:30 pm CST. There will also be a training webinar for leaders on April 14 at 7:30 pm CST. The leadership training will focus specifically on the features that support SWE leaders, such as downloading section rosters. Both webinars will be recorded and available for replay at your convenience. Our goal is to make this transition as simple and easy as possible. Please make sure to add the above training dates to your calendar and stay tuned for registration information

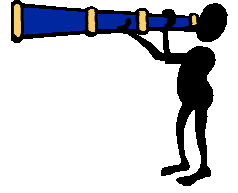
Congratulations to those who have become new SWE members or those who renewed their membership in the last month:

Deborah Crenshaw
Jean Forsyth

Elizabeth Gounaris
Kelli-Ann Wright

NATIONAL CONFERENCE EXPLORATORY COMMITTEE

On Wednesday, November 5, members of SWE Hartford had the opportunity to meet with Michael Van Parys, Vice President of the Greater Hartford Convention & Visitors Bureau. As many of you may already know, there has been interest from both SWE Hartford and the Greater Hartford Convention & Visitors Bureau to host a future SWE National Conference. Our dinner with Michael was an excellent opportunity for him to meet the section and to learn more about SWE and the conference, and also for us to learn more about what Hartford can offer as a future SWE conference location. Additionally, SWE Hartford executive council members, along with representatives from Region F, had the opportunity to speak with SWE national leadership to learn about what is required to host a national conference, and to "plug" Hartford as a potential location for the 2012 conference.



SWE Hartford is now forming a "National Conference Exploratory Committee," whose charter is to help poise Hartford as a future SWE National Conference location. We are actively looking for a committee chair or co-chairs, as well as volunteers to serve on the committee and help with research and "marketing". If you would like to help us bring the SWE Conference to Hartford, please contact Liz Garypie (elizabeth.garypie@swe.org).



Do you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share with other SWE members? Are you looking for a particular recipe or advice that SWE members can help with? Please submit recipes or suggestions to Ashley at Ashley.Phillips@swe.org.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Are you new to the Hartford section? Do you know someone who you would like to share with us? Have an exciting story or event occur and you would like to be profiled? Let us know if you, or someone you know, would be interested in our new Member Spotlight section. We'd love to get to know everyone and grow our SWE Hartford family. Email Ashley (Ashley.Phillips@swe.org).

CALLING ALL ARTICLES AND PICTURES!

The SWE Hartford Newsletter is always looking for new and interesting material for its pages. Email Ashley with information or questions: Ashley.Phillips@swe.org.

March Newsletter Deadline: **April 24th!**

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE) is a not-for-profit educational and service organization that empowers women to succeed and advance in the field of engineering, and to be recognized for their life-changing contributions as engineers and leaders. Founded in 1950, SWE is the driving force that establishes engineering as a highly desirable career for women through an exciting array of training and development programs, networking opportunities, scholarships, outreach and advocacy activities, and much more.