



Proposed Quad City/Muscatine Section News

Volume 1, Issue 4

April 2002

Congratulations to the new SWE cabinet members!

At the March meeting, cabinet members were elected for our SWE group. Since we are a newly formed group and we are still getting to know one another, the cabinet members decided to share a little information about themselves.

President: Tami Wilcox

Residence (City, state): Davenport, IA

Undergrad school & degree: Iowa State University -
Civil Engineering

Employer: Shive-Hattery, Inc.

Time with employer: 1.25 years

Job title/description: Civil Engineer - I perform site development work, roadway, storm water, potable water, sanitary sewer design etc. I like my job because every project is different.

Previous employers: The Weitz Company in Des Moines - Project Engineer; Pitt-Des Moines, Inc. - Co-op

Spouse/significant other: Scott Wilcox – Agricultural Engineer for John Deere

Children: None!

Hobbies: Aerobics classes, running (in nice weather only), reading, and traveling

I am very excited about the great group of enthusiastic, fun women we have getting involved with SWE. I hope to make our section enjoyable and educational, so we can have great attendance and participation. Please let me know if you have ideas for our group or questions about SWE.

Vice President: Karmen Heim

Residence (City, state): Muscatine, IA

Undergrad school & degree: University of Iowa, B.S. in
Civil Engineering with Environmental Emphasis

Employer: Stanley Consultants, Muscatine

Time with employer: almost 3 years

Job title/description: Civil Engineer in the
Environmental Department.

Previous employers: None

Spouse/significant other: Paul Heim

Children: None, unless you count my two cats!

Hobbies: Watching movies, going for walks, and
decorating our new house.

Through SWE I hope to meet new people and network with other women engineers.

Secretary: Heather Bishop

Residence (City, state): Rock Island, IL

Undergrad school & degree: University of Texas at
Austin, B.S. in Civil Engineering

Grad school and degree: University of Colorado at
Boulder, M.S. in Civil Engineering – Water
Resources

Employer: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – Rock Island
District

Time with employer: almost 1 year

Job title/description: Hydraulic Engineer – I perform
floodplain analyses and develop floodplain maps

Previous employers: Drexel, Barrell, Inc., Boulder,
Colorado – Civil Engineer; EDAW, Inc., Fort
Collins, Colorado – Civil Engineer; ERM-South-
west, Inc., Houston, Texas – Co-op Student

Spouse/significant other: Charles Bishop

Children: same as Karmen – none, unless you count my
two cats.

Hobbies: Restoring our house, arts and crafts, aerobics,
volunteering for Junior Achievement, and
Toastmasters.

I am excited to be a part of this SWE group. I think we
will have a great time learning from one another.

Treasurer: Martha Ward

Residence (City, state): Davenport, IA
Undergrad school & degree: Iowa State University –
B.S. in Mechanical Engineering
Employer: John Deere Davenport Works
Time with employer: 6 years (including co-op
experience)
Job title/description: Value Improvement Specialist –
Providing project management, facilitation, and
coordination to projects that add value or reduce
cost of purchased material used on construction and
forestry equipment. I work mainly with 4 wheel
drive loaders and our supplier of transmissions and
axles.
Previous employers: None
Spouse/significant other: 1 boyfriend – no future plans
yet.
Children: None
Hobbies: Tennis, golf, softball, going to antique
shows/auctions.

I am looking forward to a new active year with the Quad
Cities/Muscatine SWE chapter!

Section Representative: Gretchen Landini

Residence (City, state): Davenport, IA
Undergrad school & degree: Michigan Technological
University – B.S. in Civil Engineering
Employer: Shive-Hattery, Inc.
Time with employer: 2.5 years
Job title/description: Civil Engineer – Work on design
of Illinois DOT highway reconstruction projects.
Also work on some commercial site development
projects when needed.

Previous employers: Sunde Engineering, Inc.,
Bloomington, MN
Spouse/significant other: married to James for 3 years.
Children: First one is due this fall in October
Hobbies: Reading, hiking, kayaking, and spending time
with family.

I'm looking forward to being an active member of SWE
and getting to know other Engineers in this community.
As our Section Representative, I hope to share the great
ideas of other sections with you.

Career Guidance Committee Chair: Jill Hunt

Residence (City, state): Davenport, IA
Undergrad school & degree: University of Iowa – B.S.
in Industrial Engineering
Employer: John Deere Davenport Works
Time with employer: 10 months
Job title/description: Supply Management Specialist,
Cab Division
Previous employers: None
Spouse/significant other: None
Children: None
Hobbies: Camping, exercising, baking (do those last
two conflict?)

I'm really looking forward to serving as the Career
Guidance Committee Chair. It will be a great way to get
involved with area youth and make an impact on the
futures of the young women we interact with. I welcome
any input or suggestions you may have for activities
related to Career Guidance.

Letter from the President

Hello everyone! I am Tami, your newly elected SWE
President. I have been asked to write about my goals for
SWE this upcoming year. Let me start out by saying
that one of my major goals was met last month when we
elected our first cabinet. That is a huge
accomplishment, and I congratulate all of our new
officers. I will keep my goals very general here because
I would like the cabinet to refine them and set some
measurable goals. This is what I have in mind:

1. Continue to add to our list of contacts.
2. Increase attendance at our meetings.
3. Increase our number of paid SWE members
4. Start an outreach program to teach young girls about
engineering

5. Have monthly meetings that are interesting, fun, and
help us to grow as engineers

6. Become a Chartered SWE section

I am sure that Cabinet will have many ideas to add to
this list. I am excited to see what we can do next year if
we put our minds to it. Please contact me if you have
any ideas or comments (twilcox@shive-hattery.com). I
love getting new ideas!

Tami Wilcox
Civil Engineer
Shive-Hattery, Inc.
309-764-7650
twilcox@shive-hattery.com

March Meeting

Our March meeting was held at Front Street Brewery in Davenport, Iowa. We had a great time seeing the equipment used to make beer and learning about the brewing process. Everyone in attendance received a 5 oz. sample of beer produced by Front Street Brewery. In addition to our fascinating tour of the brewery, we covered a lot of SWE business, including electing our first cabinet. A big “Thank You” is due to Martha Ward of John Deere Davenportworks and Jennifer Kost of John Deere Harvesterworks for arranging this great meeting.

April Meeting

Who: Anyone Interested
What: Tour of Monsanto
When: Tuesday April 23, 2002
Where: Monsanto – Muscatine Plant
2500 Wiggins Road
Muscatine, Iowa 52761

The April Meeting will be held at the Monsanto – Muscatine Plant. The Muscatine plant employs 480 full-time Monsanto personnel. It started as an ammonia terminal in 1961. Monsanto owns 550 acres at the Muscatine plant: 146 acres are developed, 90 acres are part of a nature preserve, and 100 acres are sand prairie. Acetanilide and glyphosate based herbicides are produced at the Muscatine plant.

Monsanto has graciously offered to provide us with pizza and sodas for dinner. Dress requirements are closed-toe shoes, shirt with sleeves (no tank tops), pants or slacks (no shorts or skirts). Monsanto will provide safety glasses, hardhats, and gloves (if necessary). Katharine Larsen, Christy McGuire, and Rose Ayres at Monsanto are planning the April meeting. Thanks Katharine, Christy, and Rose!

Please RSVP by April 19th to katharine.m.larsen@monsanto.com if you plan on attending.

Directions to the Monsanto Muscatine Plant:

Take US 61S toward Muscatine.

The motels and restaurants are at the northeast end of Muscatine near the intersection of US 61, business 61 and IA 38. From that intersection stay on 61 south which takes you around Muscatine.

At the south end of town where 61 and 92 turn right, **Don't turn right**. Stay in the center lane and continue straight ahead on the Industrial Connector, which serves the plants in that area.

At the next intersection turn right on Stewart Road.

After 3 miles, at the flashing amber light, angle left on Ogilvie. After a ¼ mile, turn left again on Wiggins Road. This brings you to Monsanto. Go past the trailer drop lot, the Ag-E parking lot, and use the second entrance to the employee parking lot. There is a Visitors parking lot near the receptionist's office.

Upcoming Events

Quad Cities Engineering and Science Council
Wednesday April 17, 2002 at 5:00 pm
Butterworth Center - Moline, IL

The Quad City Engineering and Science Council (QCESC) is an umbrella organization representing 35 technical societies in the Quad City area with approximately 6,000 associated members. The QCESC is non-profit and is actively seeking new society members as well as additional corporate sponsors. The QCESC was originally formed to focus the public's attention on the importance of the contributions that the engineering and science community make to society. Kim Normoyle with John Deere Davenportworks is our representative to the QCESC.

Negotiate, Innovate, & Create
Professional Development Seminar
Society of Women Engineers – East Central Iowa
Section
Saturday April 27, 2002 from 8:30 am to 1:30 pm
Seaman Engineering Center Room 3505, University
of Iowa in Iowa City
Cost: \$10 Students, \$12 SWE Members, \$15 Non-
Members (includes breakfast and lunch)

Ms. Ginny Wilson-Peters, owner of Integrity Integrated will be speaking on three topics: Influence Tactics, Permission to Dream, and Real Conversations. Ms. Wilson-Peters is a professional motivational speaker and specializes in leadership development and person growth. More information is included in the attachment to this newsletter.

Proposed Quad Cities/Muscatine SWE Section May Meeting
Tuesday May 28, 2002 at 6:30 pm
Iowa Machine Shed Restaurant – Davenport, IA

Mr. Dick Kleine will be speaking on “Communications for Effective Leadership” Mr. Kleine retired from John Deere in 1998 after a long career. While at Deere & Co., he worked as the Vice President of Quality where he helped the company achieve business excellence through customer satisfaction, process improvement and

people. More information about this entertaining, informative meeting will be provided in the next newsletter.

The Davenport Conference for Women
June 11 and 12, 2002
Radisson Plaza – Davenport, IA

This conference is a special program of learning, career-enhancement and renewal for working women from all walks of life. This two-day event is organized by the National Businesswomen's Leadership Association. For more information or to enroll online go to www.natsem.com.

2002 SWE National Conference
October 9-12, 2002
Cobo Conference/Exposition Center – Detroit,
Michigan

The theme of the conference is the Art of Engineering, which speaks to the fact that engineering is not a technological study alone, but rather a combination of art and science. The 2002 SWE National Conference will be a cultural experience as well as a technical one.



Letter from the Editor

Hi All:

I hope you enjoyed this issue of the Proposed Quad Cities/Muscatine Section newsletter. If you have any suggestions for future newsletters or information on any upcoming events, please email me at heather.t.bishop@usace.army.mil.

Thank you,
Heather Bishop