



Society of Women Engineers

Quad City/Muscatine Section

Volume 5, Issue 5

February 2006

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2005-2006

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Letter from the President:

Hi Everyone:

I hope everyone is having a good year so far! I can't believe it is February! As I write this letter, I am juggling home improvement projects, Valentine's Day preparations, helping with my brother's wedding reception, Eweek, SWE, and work. February and March look to be exciting months for our organization.

We are holding our first ever Connecting Day during Eweek (February 19 – 25) on Wednesday, February 22nd. We already have several schools and volunteers lined up to "connect." For more information on Connecting Day, please see the text box on page 6. Please consider volunteering to help out and make a difference to a junior high school student!

Other opportunities to consider during Eweek include: Junior Achievement Job Shadowing on February 23rd and 28th and March 2nd; the Quad Cities Engineering and Science Council Banquet and the Order of the Engineer ring ceremony on Friday, February 24th, and the Invention Convention on Saturday, February 25th.

Our February SWE section meeting will be held at the John Deere Tech Center on Tuesday, February 28th. It will be an exciting and interesting meeting where we will learn about how John Deere uses it's virtual reality technology.

The Region H Conference will be held on March 3 – 5 in Ames, Iowa. The theme is "Strengthen your Roots and Reach for the Sky." There will be many opportunities to attend professional development meetings and for networking and fun!

I look forward to seeing you all at the various events we have going on in February and March, especially our section meeting on February 28th.

Sincerely,
Heather Bishop
President
Quad City/Muscatine Section
Society of Women Engineers

Deere's Virtual Reality Center

Please join us at the John Deere Tech Center to experience Deere's virtual reality technology.

Dr. John Reid will discuss Deere's use of virtual reality technology to do 3D modeling product design and to simulate operating conditions.

When: Tuesday, February 28, 2006

Time: 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Where: John Deere Technology Center,
Moline, IL.

Dinner Menu: Lasagna

Green Bean Casserole

Watergate Salad

Roll & Butter

Water, Pepsi or Diet Pepsi

Cost: \$10:00

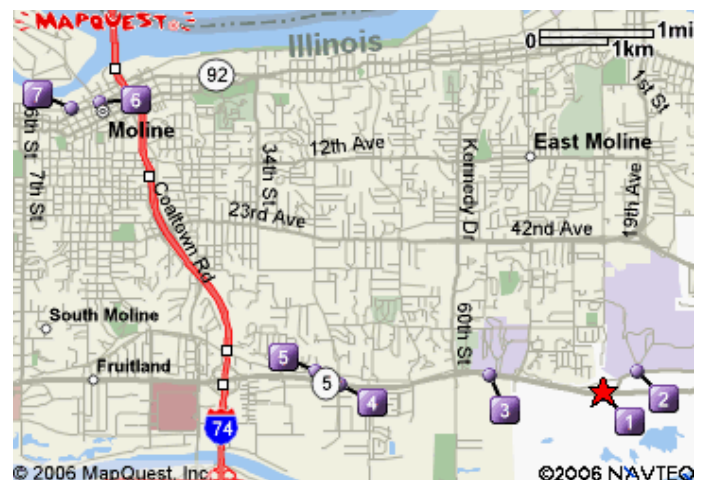
Reservations: Call Paula Raney at 309-756-1471 or email RaneyPaulaJ@JohnDeere.com by noon Friday, February 24, 2006.

Carpooling to February meeting:

If interested in carpooling from Muscatine to the February meeting in Moline on Tuesday, February 28, 2005, please contact Nancy Shell at shellnancy@stanleygroup.com

Directions to Technology Center coming from I74 East:

- 1) From I74 East take exit 4B, IL5 /John Deere Road
- 2) Merge onto John Deere Road and travel about 3.5 miles
- 3) Turn left off John Deere Road at stop light onto John Deere Place about 0.1 mile
- 4) Turn left off John Deere Place into the Deere Administration complex (one way road by Deere sign)
- 5) Drive up the hill to the main parking lot
- 6) Turn right into the main parking lot
- 7) Driving through the parking lot to a back road (sign will point you to Tech Center)
- 8) Tech Center is on your left
- 9) Park in the side parking lot
- 10) Walk to the front lobby entrance to sign-in



5 Essential Qualities of Women in Leadership

January's meeting was held on Thursday, January 26, 2006, at the John Deere Davenport Works. Twenty-three women attended the meeting.

Gail Leese, John Deere Davenport Works General Manager, spoke with us on the "5 Essential Qualities of Women in Leadership". Some of the major points from Gail's talk with us follow:

According to Gail, leaders:

- Influence and Lead Change
- Influence People for Great Purposes
- Achieve Great over Good



Gail selected her five favorite qualities from Maxwell's 21 Indispensable Qualities of a Leader. Her five were:

- Communication
- Courage
- Focus
- Relationships
- Responsibility

Communication:: Without It You Travel Alone

Courage: One Person With Courage Is A Majority

- Develop vision and strengths
- Be prepared to take risks

Focus: The Sharper It Is, the Sharper You Are

- Be a conceptualist, emphasize continuous improvement
- Sense of continuity and significance

Relationships: If You Get Along, They'll Go Along

- Establish shared values
- Develop self and others
- Empower the workforce

Responsibility: If Your Won't Carry the Ball, You Can't Lead the Team

- A great leader determines the goals, articulates it clearly, equips the team to get there, and then takes the first step.



Our thanks to Katie Ehrke for all her hard work coordinating with Gail to speak with us and planning the meeting.

Invent Iowa! Regional Invention Convention:

When: Saturday, February 25, 2006
 Where: Family Museum of Arts & Science
 Bettendorf, IA

The regional invention convention is sponsored by the Mississippi Bend Area Education Agency, located in Bettendorf, Iowa. The convention showcases over 140 student inventors in grades 1st-8th. Through a judging process, 28 of those inventors are invited to display at the State Invention Convention.

Judges will be needed for either a 9:00-11:30am shift or a 12:30-3:00pm shift. They start focusing on recruiting judges in December, but if anyone wants to sign up early they can.

Contact Katie Ehrke at:
EhrkeKathrynE@JohnDeere.com
 if interested or for more information.

Regional News:

The Region H Conference will be held by the Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa on March 3 – 5, 2006. Check in starts at 4pm on Friday, March 3 and the conference ends with a breakfast and check out on Sunday morning, March 5.

The theme for the conference is “Strengthen your Roots and Reach for the Sky.” It will be an exciting weekend filled with activities such as our diverse career fair, student and professional meetings, networking luncheons, developmental seminars with topics such as Self Defense, Business Etiquette, and Technology and the Environment), on and off campus tours and entertaining social events.

For more information, please visit the following web sites at:

<http://www.swe.org/regionh> or
<http://www.ucs.iastate.edu/mnet/swe/home.html>

SWE Professional Development Web Seminars

The spring programming is underway and with a fantastic line up of web seminars. The following is a list of dates and topics. These web seminars are generally free to paid members and a nominal fee for non-members. See <http://www.swe.org/> for more information and to register for the seminars.

February 16, 2006 2:00 pm CST	Make Things Happen! – How to Build Buy-In, Even with Difficult People Part 1 of a 3-part Communications Web Seminar Series
March 6, 2006 2:00 p.m. CST	Speak with Confidence, Clarity and Credibility – How to Get Heard and Get Results Part 2 of a 3-part Communications Web Seminar Series
March 14, 2006 Time: TBA	Work Life Balance - Top Ten Guide for Working Mothers Web Seminar
March 31, 2006 Time: TBA	Project Management Best Practices One Day Seminar
April 12, 2006 Time: TBA	Leadership Styles Web Seminar
April 25, 2006 2:00 p.m. CST	The New Communication Mine Fields – How to Be a Top Performer in a Global Environment Part 3 of a 3-part Communications Web Seminar Series
May 10, 2006 Time: TBA	Six Sigma: What is It and How can It Advance My Career Web Seminar
May 17, 2006 Time: TBA	Three Women Engineers Who've Made It & What They've Learned Web Seminar
June 7, 2006 Time: TBA	Time Management: How to Get It All Done and Stay Sane When You Don't Web Seminar
June 22, 2006 Time: TBA	Team Building and Conflict Resolution One Day Seminar

SWE 2005-2006 Meeting Schedule*

Date	Topic	Planner	Location
Thursday, Sept. 29, 2005	Ice Breaker/Tour of Lavender Crest Winery	Cabinet/Donna Jones	QC
Wednesday, Oct. 26, 2005	Speaker - Donna Gimm Tips on Organizing your Home/Office	Paula Raney	QC
Tuesday, Nov. 22, 2005	Holiday Craft Workshop Making Fleece Blankets	Brenda Murphy	Muscatine
Thursday, Jan. 26, 2006	Speaker - Gail Leese "5 Essential Qualities of Women in Leadership"	Katie Ehrke	QC
Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2006	Speaker - Dr. John Reid Deere's Virtual Reality Center	Paula Raney	QC
Thursday, Mar. 23, 2006	Joint Meeting with IIE Figge Art Museum	Katie Ehrke	QC
Tuesday, Apr. 25, 2006	Speaker - Gail Mote Topic - TBA	Nancy Shell	Muscatine
Tuesday, May 23, 2006	Tour of Arsenal or Lock & Dam 15	Donna Jones	QC

*Depending on facility availability meeting topics may change.

44th Annual National Engineers Week Banquet

Click here to register: [On-Line Registration For the National Engineers Week Banquet](#) (Sign-up deadline is 5:00 PM on Tuesday, February 21, 2006) If you need further help registering or would prefer to register via telephone, please contact Nancy Ekblad at 309-737-5895.

Note: No payment is necessary to register on-line. See registration form for payment mailing address.

Date: Friday, February 24, 2006

Time: 5:30-6:30 p.m. Social

6:30-7:30 p.m. Dinner

7:30-8:30 p.m. Program and Awards

Place: The Lodge Hotel & Conference Center

I-74 at Spruce Hills Drive

Bettendorf, Iowa

Featured Speaker: Mrs. Elaine Flowers Duncan -

Project Manager, NASA Marshall Space Flight Center, Huntsville, Alabama

Speaking On: "NASA Space Exploration Vision"

Menu: Buffet with: Mixed Salad with dressings • Red Skin Potato Salad • Coleslaw • Fresh Fruit Display • Grilled Butterfly Pork Chops • Jack Daniels Marinated breast of Chicken • Garlic & Cheddar Mashed Potato • Corn on the Cob • Molasses Baked Beans • Baked Corn Muffins • Coffee, Tea and Decaf

Cost: \$25 per person

\$15 per person for full-time students

Awards: The following awards will be presented at the banquet:

1. Scholarships to students enrolled in Engineering or Science
2. Society of the Year
3. Junior and Senior Engineer and Scientist of the Year Awards

Engineer's Week: Connecting Educators to Engineering:

When: Connecting Day,
February 22, 2006

Where: Local Junior High Schools:
Wilson Middle School, Moline IL
Washington Jr. High, Rock Island IL
Central Middle School, Muscatine IA
North Scott Jr. High, Eldridge IA

Share your pride in engineering with local junior high school students and teachers! "Connecting Educators to Engineering" is a "new, groundbreaking outreach effort." The goal of the program is to develop connections between engineers and local middle school teachers, guidance counselors, and administrators. Through this program, it is anticipated that we can educate millions of students about the engineering profession.

Please volunteer an hour of your time and visit a local middle school classroom. Discussion topics and an activity will be provided.

For more information or to volunteer, please contact Heather Bishop, president of the Quad Cities/Muscatine section of SWE at heather.t.bishop@usace.army.mil or 309) 794-5289.

Membership info:

You can join SWE on the web. Go to <http://www.swe.org/membership>. Follow the easy instructions from there to join or renew your membership. Forms can either be printed or you can join online. The Online Application for new members will take you approximately 20 minutes to fill out. Keep in mind that many companies will pay dues for professional organizations, so be sure to ask!

Once you are a SWE member, you will then be able to log into the member directory to update your registration and search for other SWE member contact information. You will be helping not only yourself, the regional organization and the national organization, but you will also be helping our section. Twenty percent of the funds comes back to our section.

Join the JA Learning Lab Volunteer Corps!

Roll up your sleeves and really help kids see what life is all about. At the JA Learning Lab, located in downtown Davenport, IA, students are experiencing the "real world" first hand. Adult volunteers are vital to the two main programs offered at the JA Learning Lab – JA Exchange City and JA Finance Park. Members of the volunteer corps are trained to serve as advisors to the parent volunteers, teachers, and students.

The JA Exchange City program allows adult volunteers to assist upper-elementary students in the operation of a mock city. JA Exchange City is in action throughout the fall and spring school semesters. Each day, a new group of students runs the City, learning first hand the value of business knowledge to succeeding on the job and in the community.

The JA Finance Park program utilizes adult volunteers to assist middle-grades students as they consider options available in planning a successful personal budget. During their visit, the students will have the opportunity to commit to a budget after determining their net monthly income and expenses based on a hypothetical life circumstance they are given. JA Finance Park is in operation throughout the fall and spring semesters, as well, and a new group of students experiences this program each day.

Junior Achievement relies on volunteers to help make each day a success. Volunteer corps members are put into a pool and called upon as they are needed. To learn more about becoming a part of the JA Learning Lab Volunteer Corps:

Email Dave Lewis, Vice President - JA Learning Lab, at: dlewis@jaheartland.org, OR

Contact Katie Ehrke, Career Guidance Chair, at: EhrkeKathrynE@JohnDeere.com.

Regional News:

If you would like to receive emails from SWE Region H regarding upcoming activities and other Region H information, please email:

swe_regionh_secretary@yahoo.com

Ask to be included on the Region H "All Email List."

JA Job Shadow Day Host:

Do you remember what you wanted to do when you were in eighth grade? Help an eighth-grader learn about careers and the relevance of education in the workplace by participating in JA Job Shadow Day. This national program gives students a "first look" at the workplace and provides them with an opportunity to see how basic skills are used on the job. The dates for JSD 2006 are as follows:

Thursday, Feb. 23, 2006

Muscatine and Louisa Counties
Central Middle School
West Middle School
L&M Junior High

Tuesday, Feb. 28, 2006

Scott County Schools
John Deere Middle School, Moline

Thursday, March 2, 2006

Rock Island County Schools

Thursday, March 2, 2006

West Liberty
Wapello Junior High
Wilton Junior High

If you are interested in hosting a job shadow, please contact Katie Ehrke, Career Guidance Chair, at: EhrkeKathrynE@JohnDeere.com.

Member's Only Event

Join us for our first ever "Member's Only Event". It will be a Spa Experience in March or April at John Taylor's Salon and Day Spa located at 4102 Blackhawk Road.

More information will be sent later to our SWE section members as plans are formalized.

If you would like more information on joining SWE and the "Member's Only Event", please contact Jackie Norman Gray at:

NormanGrayJacquelineM@JohnDeere.com

Learn Leadership Skills with a SWE Cabinet Position:

It is that time of year again! We are now taking nominations for our 2006-2007 cabinet.

A section cabinet is needed to make important decisions about how our section will be run. You would be volunteering for a one-year commitment starting June 1st (although we do not schedule meetings in June, July or August).

For a description of each position on the cabinet, please see page 8 of this newsletter.

This is a great chance to increase your leadership skills, meet other women, and make a difference in your community. If you would like to nominate yourself or someone else, please email Heather Bishop at:

heather.t.bishop@usace.army.mil.

Order of the Engineer Ring Ceremony:

An Order of the Engineer Ring Ceremony will be held on Friday, February 24, 2006 at 5:30pm in the Sheraton Ballroom in downtown Iowa City. For more information, please contact Heather Bishop at: heather.t.bishop@usace.army.mil.

Important Dates:

Feb. 22 Connecting Day
Feb. 23 JA Job Shadowing
Feb. 24 Order of the Engineer Ring
Feb. 24 Engineers Week Banquet
Feb. 25 Invention Convention
Feb. 28 SWE Meeting
Feb. 28 JA Job Shadowing

Mar. 2 JA Job Shadowing
Mar. 3-5 Region H Conference
Mar. 23 SWE Meeting

Apr. 25 SWE Meeting

May 23 SWE Meeting

SWE Cabinet Positions:

President's Duties

1. Leadership of the section
 2. Prepare agendas for monthly section meetings
 3. Prepare agendas for monthly cabinet conference calls
 4. Attend and facilitate section meetings
 5. Assume all other executive duties not otherwise delegated
 6. Coordinate all activities and execute the business and policies of the section between meetings
- Estimated time commitment ~ 12 hrs/month

Vice President's Duties

1. Organize the planning of monthly meetings (Note: This does not mean you have to plan every meeting. We will continue to use volunteers to plan each meeting.)
 2. Perform all duties of the President in her absence
 3. Attend monthly section meetings and cabinet conference calls
 4. Take on the Presidential Role the following year
- Estimated time commitment ~ 4 hrs/month

Secretary's Duties

1. Record and distribute meeting minutes to section cabinet
 2. Publish and distribute the monthly newsletter
 3. Attend monthly section meetings and cabinet conference calls
- Estimated time commitment ~ 6 hrs/month

Treasurer's Duties

1. Prepare, maintain, and report on the financial position of the section
 2. Maintain the membership spreadsheet for the section
 3. Attend monthly section meetings and monthly cabinet conference calls
- Estimated time commitment ~ 4 hrs/month

Section Representative's Duties

1. Report to the section on the business matters received through correspondence from national and the region
 2. Represent our section at the Council of Representatives (2 meetings per year, 1 at the Region Conference and 1 at the National Convention)
 3. Attend monthly section meetings and monthly cabinet conference calls
 4. Participate in regional conference calls (approx. once a quarter)
 5. File quarterly section reports with the Region Director to send to the Board of Directors
- Estimated time commitment ~ 5 hrs/month

Quad Cities Engineering and Science Council Representative

2. Represent SWE at Quad Cities Engineering and Science Council monthly meetings
 3. Attend monthly section meetings and monthly cabinet conference calls
- Estimated time commitment ~ 4 hrs/month

Career Guidance Committee Chair

1. Lead career guidance committee
 2. Coordinate outreach events
 3. Attend monthly section meetings and monthly cabinet conference calls
- Estimated time commitment ~ 3 hrs/month

Webmaster

1. Update and maintain the section's web page
 2. Attend monthly section meetings and monthly cabinet conference calls
- Estimated time commitment ~ 3 hrs/month