

Society of Women Engineers Quad City/Muscatine Proposed Section

Volume I Issue II

February 2002

Letter from the Editor

Hello all of you hard-working women! Welcome to the second edition of our SWE newsletter. The input gathered at the January meeting was that the first newsletter was well received. One suggestion was to put the newsletter in .pdf format. If there are any other suggestions or ideas, please contact me by email (wilcox_isu@netzero.net) Also, if you enjoy writing we could use some volunteers to write articles. It's a great way to get involved!

February...the month of love. We are all thinking about how to make those special people in our lives feel truly special. February is also National Dental Health Month, National Pet Grooming Month, and I am sure there are more. What we may not realize is that *National Engineer's Week* also falls in the third week in February. There are some special events you can learn about later in this newsletter. SWE as a National Society has made a pledge that 1000 of our members will participate in E-week activities. What a wonderful way to show our love for people. You can read more about SWE's plans for Engineers Week in the article called "SWE Needs You for E-week 2002". If anyone would like to coordinate an event there is still time let me know if you are interested. If you do visit with some students about engineering during that week report it to Alison Ratliff or me, so we can include our work in the tally.

Enjoy the article and pictures of our January meeting. We had a record 27 participants and a fun, educational time. We need to keep trying to increase our meeting attendance. The more women, the more fun we will have!

Thank you for reading the newsletter! Have a great Valentine's Day, and see you at our February meeting. -Tami

February Meeting

Topic: Balancing Family and Work

When: Tuesday, February 26, 2002
6:30 p.m.

Where: Diamond Dave's
Muscatine, IA

Bring your experience and ideas as we learn how to balance our priorities in a fun roundtable format. Please RSVP to Tami Wilcox.

Karmen Heim, Katherine Larson, and Coralie Inman are planning this meeting.

Cabinet Position Nominations

Make an impact! Get on the Section Cabinet! We will be taking nominations for our first cabinet at the February & March meetings. Nominations will also be taken by email to Tami Wilcox (wilcox_isu@netzero.net). We will vote on cabinet members at the March meeting. Nominate yourself or a friend!

It was decided at the last meeting that the terms for these positions would run through August of next year. All following terms will run from August to August. Share your talents with SWE!



January Meeting

Angi Schertz and Kimberly Newton planned a great January meeting on January 28th. Our speakers were Douglas Weir and Douglas Grenier of LPL Financial Services. They provided an entertaining and informational commentary on women and investing. We learned about mutual funds, diversified investing, good debt vs. bad debt, and the benefits of a financial planner among many other things. Boozies provided a delicious dinner and prompt service. We also had time to socialize and make new friends. Thanks Angi and Kim for such a good meeting. If anyone is interested in helping plan a meeting, please contact Tami Wilcox.

SWE Needs You for E-week 2002

This is an article from the SWE Member-at-Large (MAL) Newsletter submitted by Patti Garland, E-week Liaison

On February 21, SWE will participate in the second Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day program for National Engineers Week (February 17-23). SWE helped launch the first Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day last year and the response was outstanding. SWE rounded up over 1000 adult volunteers and reached over 33,000 students with a wide range of activities.

SWE has pledged that 1000 of our members will support E-week activities in 2002 and is coordinating our pledge roster through the Directors. E-week headquarters maintains a National Pledge Roster for organizations pledging participation in Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day. The 2001 Roster is available at www.eweek.org and provides useful program ideas. The new 2002 roster is getting started there.

To help reach out to young students, including girls, E-week has supported a new activity kit for 2002 tied to the popular PBS children's show ZOOM. Research shows that watching the program increases confidence among girls in their science ability. A recent survey demonstrated that the ZOOM web site is successful in engaging girls; 81% of the kids who responded to the show via the site are girls.

Three tool kits are available to you in support of SWE's pledge for 2002. Visit www.eweek.org to order the kits. They are free to SWE members!

- National Engineers Week Planning Kit
- Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day Kit
- Zoom Into Engineering Kit

Remember that we want to include you in SWE's outreach tally for E-week 2002, so be sure to report you activities to MAL President Alison Ratliff.



Mark Your Calendar

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| February 18 – 22 | National Engineer's Week |
| Friday, February 22
5:30 p.m. | Quad City National Engineer's
Week Banquet
(For further information see: www.qcesc.org) |
| Tuesday, Feb. 26
6:30 p.m. | February Meeting
Balancing Family & Work
Cabinet Nominations |
| Sunday, March 10 | Section Vitality Training
-Chicago, IL |
| Tuesday, March 26
6:30 p.m. | March Meeting
Tour of Microbrewery |
| October 9-12 | National Conference
Detroit, MI |

For further information on any of these events contact Tami Wilcox.

Join SWE

Have you joined SWE yet? It is a very simple process. Go to www.swe.org – Click on *Join SWE* – Print off the .pdf form – Fill it out and fax or mail to headquarters.

Remember to ask your employer to sponsor your membership. Many employers are happy to sponsor memberships in professional societies.