



Society of Women Engineers

Quad City/Muscatine Section

Volume 1, Issue 9

November 2002

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2002-2003

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Letter from the President

Hello Ladies!

We made it! We are an official Society of Women Engineers Section! The Board of Directors unanimously voted to approve our charter last month at the National Conference. This is a great achievement for all of us. Now we can start planning the celebration, our Charter Banquet. It is scheduled for March, and we have some fun ideas to make it very special. We will be starting a committee to plan the banquet after the first of the year.

Another very exciting thing happening for our section is the formation of our Career Guidance Committee. This committee will be working with the Girl Scouts to plan an engineering badge workshop. Even if you cannot be on the committee, we will need lots of volunteers for the event.

The National Conference was very fun. It is inspiring to see so many women engineers in the same spot. There are so many different ages, experience levels, and careers. Every woman is inspiring in her own way. The Detroit conference had over 3000 attendees. Wow!

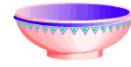
While I am on the subject of inspiration. October's meeting was very inspiring. We had three women talk from very diverse backgrounds. It was great to see how each one has become very successful in their own way. The people who attended got some great insight into different career paths, and as one woman put it, "what they want to be when they grow up".

Have a great month! I hope to see you as we relieve some holiday stress with pottery! It should be very fun!

Sincerely,
Tami Wilcox

November Meeting

Pottery Painting



- Who: Women Engineers and Women who work in Engineering Related Fields and their children/grandchildren
- When: Tuesday November 26, 2002
6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Where: Fireworks Coffeehouse and Pottery Painted by You
2139 16th Street
Moline, Iowa
- Menu: Sandwiches and a Variety of Coffee Drinks
- Cost: variable

The November meeting will be a social meeting and take place at Fireworks Coffeehouse and Potter Painted by You. It looks to be a GREAT time! Please feel free to attend even if you do not want to paint.

To paint, you pay for the piece(s) you want (such as a vase, pot, bowl, etc.) plus a studio fee. The price for individual pottery pieces varies. Here are some examples:

\$4.50 – Christmas Ornament

\$9.00 – Bud Vase

\$20.00 – Large Flower Pot

The studio fee is \$9 for adults and \$6 for children for the two-hour time period that we have reserved the room.

Fireworks serves food and drinks. They have gourmet sandwiches on French bread, which cost \$4.50 (including chips). They also serve a variety of cookies, brownies,

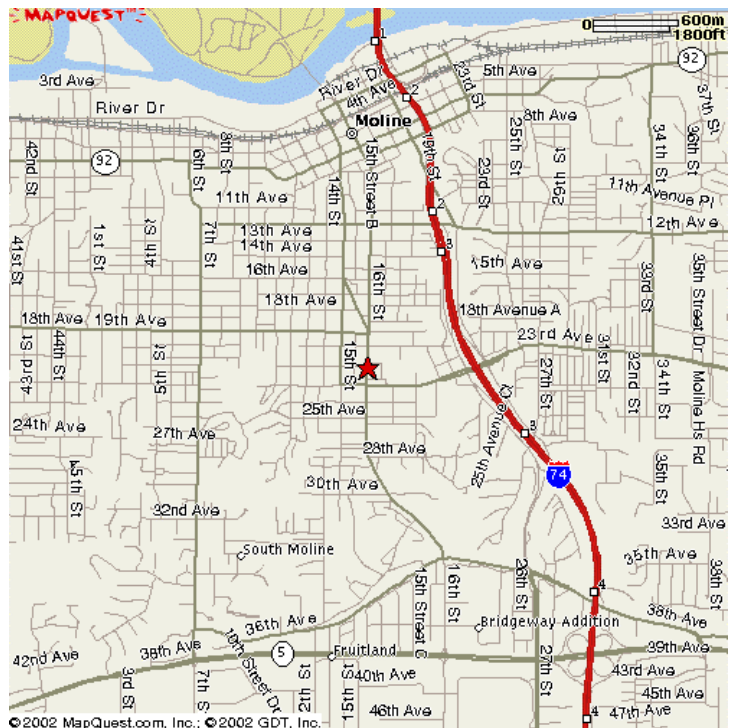


and pastries. I have personally sampled several items and they are yummy! They also serve a many different kinds of drinks from mochas, lattes, cappuccino, to soft drinks and bottled water.



Please RSVP by November 20th to Sara Votroubek at votroubekss@kjww.com, if you plan on attending. If you plan on purchasing a sandwich at Fireworks, please inform Sara when you RSVP so the staff at Fireworks has enough sandwiches available. Thanks!

Sara Votroubek and Georgia Klinefelter are planning this fun meeting. Thanks Sara and Georgia!



Summary of 2002 National Conference

- The conference opening ceremony featured Sally Ride as the keynote speaker. She said that before sixth grade a similar percent of boys (68%) and girls (66%) say they are interested in science. After sixth grade, that number drops off for girls. She presented some information on an organization that she is involved with that is working on getting girls to stay excited about math, science, and engineering.
- Our charter was granted by the SWE Board of Directors. Everyone was very excited!
- Betty Shanahan was introduced as the new Executive Director for SWE. She is the first woman engineer to hold this position. In the past we have had specialists in managing non-profit organizations. Betty is extremely energetic, and SWE is very excited to have her running our organization.
- Ideas were exchanged on how to improve our section, which will hopefully be implemented this year.
- The Council of Representatives voted on SWE business. The major issue up for discussion was a dues increase. The last time dues increased was in 1992. A task force was created to evaluate the SWE dues and compare them against how much the society spends per member and what other organizations charge for dues. The task force recommended dues be increased to \$100 for professional members (from \$75). If you have questions about this please see Gretchen or Tami.
- There were many professional development meetings, keynote speakers, and networking opportunities. If you would like to hear about these, or are interested in attending the 2003 conference in Birmingham, AL, please contact Tami.

DRIVE FOR 135

One of the Cabinet's major goals for this year is to add new names of women engineers to our list of contacts. **We need your help locating these women!** Right now we have **122** women on our contact list. The goal is to reach **135 women**. That's why we call it the *Drive for 135!* If you know a woman engineer, tell her to contact us, or better yet, forward us her information. We will add her to our distribution list and put your name in the drawing for a ***\$20 gift certificate for the Heart of America Restaurant and Hotels.*** Heart of America restaurants include: Iowa Machine Shed, Planted Earth, Captain's Table, and Thunder Bay Grille. You can also send us the name of a company that hires engineers. Entries can be submitted until the November 26th. Currently we have 8 entries. Keep submitting names so we can increase our number of contacts - We can't make it to 135 without your help!!

Here are the rules:

1. All current SWE contacts can submit one of the following:
 - New contact - email address
 - New company - address
2. Each person/company entered will count as an individual entry.
3. Drawing to be held at the November meeting. You do not need to be present to win.

Please send entries to

WardMartha@johndeere.com

Good Luck!

October Meeting

The October meeting was held at Happy Joe's in Muscatine, Iowa. We started the meeting by introducing ourselves and sharing our individual career goals. Once the introductions were over, Tami told us about her experiences at the 2002 National SWE conference in Detroit (please see the Summary of 2002 National Conference section on page 3).



Rose Ayres, Christy McGuire, Deb Mathias, Jackie Norman, Coralie Inman, and Donna Jones listen as Jodi Goodale introduces herself.



Coralie Inman, Shirley Johnson, Janice Hotz, Martha Ward, Jackie Norman, Deb Mathias, and Christie McGuire listen to more introductions.

The next order of business was an update on the Drive for 135, which is still ongoing. Keep those names coming in as we try to build up our database of contacts for Women Engineers in the Quad City/Muscatine area. For more details, please see the Drive for 135 section on page 3.

Tami provided updates on our proposed Career Guidance Activity and upcoming Chartering Banquet. Our SWE section will work with the Girl Scouts of the Mississippi Valley to provide an exciting activity for local Girl Scouts to earn a badge. A Chartering Banquet is being planned for March to celebrate our new section.

We will keep you updated as details become available.



Karmen Heim listens to updates on the activities of our SWE chapter.

The main focus of the October meeting was a panel discussion on Career Paths. Three very knowledgeable and experienced ladies; Janice Hotz, Shirley Johnson, and Krisan Steiger, shared their personal career paths.

Janice Hotz began the discussion. Janice's first engineering job was as a nuclear engineering intern. After she graduated with a Chemical Engineering degree, Janice started work at Monsanto. At Monsanto, Janice has followed a very interesting career path. After she worked as a process engineer for several years, she became a maintenance and mechanical engineer. Currently she is in a management position. Janice has traveled all over the world while she has worked at Monsanto including Australia, Asia, Europe, and South America. Over her career, she has been offered (and she has accepted) many challenges.



Shirley Johnson and Janice Hotz share how their careers have unfolded.

Shirley Johnson started her career after she took a drafting class in High School where she was the only female student. Her drafting teacher encouraged her to get a summer job the Corps of Engineers as a draftsman. She attended college at Iowa State University in Ames (Go Cyclones!) and earned a degree in Math. After she graduated, she came back to the Quad Cities and the Corps of Engineers where she worked as an intern in the Rotational Program. After she completed the Rotational Program, she went to work in the Hydraulics Branch, where she is employed today. While she was juggling motherhood and a career, she worked at a consulting firm. After a three-year absence she returned to the Corps of Engineers as a permanent part-time employee. After the 1993 flood, Shirley returned to the Corps full-time.

Krisan Steiger's interest in engineering started as a child when she went with her father to work and climbed in "Monkeyholes". She liked to help her father and was fascinated with blueprints. Krisan's career has taken many twists and turns. She has a degree in Physical Education and has worked as a coach at

Augustana University. She worked as a floral designer before she became a groundskeeper at Augustana. While she was working as a groundskeeper, she was given the opportunity to oversee the new construction on campus. Currently Krisan works as a Construction Administrator at KJWW.



Krisan talks about the many twists and turns her career has taken.

The October meeting was a great experience. It was wonderful to hear how the career paths of these very interesting ladies unfolded. A big "Thank You" goes out to Janice, Shirley, and Krisan for speaking to our group. Rose Ayres also deserves a great big "Thank You" for planning such an interesting meeting.

Career Guidance Committee

Our SWE group will be planning and leading an event with area Girl Scouts sometime during the next School Year! The Career Guidance Committee will be heading up this effort. If you are interested in participating on this

committee and helping plan this fun "engineering-related" event, or if you have ideas for the event, please contact Jill Hunt at HuntJill@JohnDeere.com or 563-445-7167. Planning will begin in the fall. Thanks!

Letter from the Editor

Hi All:

I hope you enjoy this month's newsletter. I hope to see everyone at this month's meeting. It should be lots of fun! As always, if you have any suggestions for future newsletters or information on any

upcoming events, please email me at heather.t.bishop@usace.army.mil.

Thanks,
Heather Bishop

Upcoming Events

Quad Cities Engineering and Science Council

November 20, 2002 @ 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. For more information, please see the Council's website at <http://www.qcesc.org/>.

Thanksgiving

Thursday November 28, 2002



Quad Cities/Muscatine SWE Section January Meeting

Wine & Cheese Tasting
Tuesday January 27, 2002 at 6:30 pm
Location: To Be Announced

The January SWE meeting will be a Wine and Cheese tasting event that will be held in Muscatine. The specific location will be announced is yet to be determined.



SWE 2002–2003 Meeting Schedule*



Date	Topic	Location
Tuesday, September 24, 2002	Beginning of Year Picnic	West Lake Park
Tuesday, October 22, 2002	Career Development Paths	Muscatine
Tuesday, November 26, 2002	Christmas Pottery Painting	Quad Cities
Tuesday, January 27, 2002	Wine & Cheese Tasting	Muscatine
Tuesday, February 25, 2002	Tour of John Deere Davenportworks	Davenport
March – TBD	Chartering Banquet	TBD
Tuesday, April 22, 2002	Tour of Lock & Dam	Muscatine
Tuesday, May 27, 2002	Tour of IMAX Theater	Davenport

* Depending of facility availability meeting topics might change.