



Society of Women Engineers

CENTRAL OHIO SECTION

Region G
Section G001

Newsletter

Autumn 2004

LOGO CONTEST

The Central Ohio Section of SWE is looking for a logo that represents our Section. We are holding a design contest allowing the membership to design the logo. This logo will be used on the website, and all Central Ohio Section correspondence, as well as on t-shirts/sweatshirts, etc. that will be purchased in the near future. Here are the rules:

1. It must incorporate the official SWE logo.
2. Designs should be sent to Rachel Lewis:
Rachel.Lewis@dot.state.oh.us
2577 Findley Ave
Columbus OH 43202
3. You may hand draw your design or use a graphics program to design.
4. All entries must be received by January 1, 2005.
5. Entries will be posted on-line January 2.
6. The membership will have 2 weeks to vote on the entries.
7. EVERYONE can participate (officers, chairs, any SWE member).
8. The winning logo becomes the sole property of the Central Ohio Section of the Society of Women Engineers for the Section to use how it wishes.

RESOURCES for logo:

The SWE logo can be found at:
<http://www.societyofwomenengineers.org/members/logo.a.spx>

Pictures of Columbus can be found at:
<http://www.societyofwomenengineers.org/SWE/RegionG/ProfSects/CentralOhio/logo.html>

The winner will receive the first printed T-shirt/sweatshirt bearing the new logo and receive public recognition on the website and in the newsletter.

Pottery Painting

Saturday, November 6, 11 am-1 pm
at the Clay Café in Grandview
Please RSVP to Tricia Fought at
pfought@columbus.rr.com
by Nov. 1st.



Limited spaces are available and will be filled on a first come basis.

Website Gets Facelift

The website has received a face-lift! Both Headquarters and Central Ohio have given their sites face-lifts and went through extensive updates. Our site has a calendar and detailed descriptions of upcoming events. You will also find local community events. We plan on adding information to help our members get to know each other better and we have a page set up for announcements. Please visit this page often to see what is happening with our members. Also, if you'd like to submit anything to be posted please e-mail Rachel: rachel.30.lewis@earthlink.net.

Visit the new SWE site at: www.swe.org and add Central Ohio's site to your favorites:
<http://www.swe.org/RegionG/CentralOhio/>.

And finally, the Region website will be getting a face-lift over the next few weeks. To see what is happening around the region visit: www.swe.org/regionG

From the President:

Well, Fall is finally here! I hope everyone is enjoying the cooler weather and having fun rooting for their favorite football team. Being a University of Iowa grad, it's been a challenge living in "Buckeye Country." Go Hawkeyes! :)

Now, a few words about SWE...our membership is steadily growing and we are working hard to make sure we organize a variety of events for all our members to enjoy. Please take a few moments to fill out the Membership Survey included in this newsletter to let us know what your interests are. We appreciate your feedback and continued support. If you have any questions or want to learn more about how to get involved, please feel free to e-mail me at: Kristina_Kennedy1978@hotmail.com.



The Quest for Equilibrium -- Cultivating a Supportive Family Environment

Article 3

By Rebecca Blust

A family support system is another critical element for balancing work and family. Having a spouse who shares in the responsibilities that are involved in the raising and caring for children is essential. The first step to ensure that the spouse is "on board" is to discuss your goals, aspirations and priorities together. The next step is to agree to share responsibilities. For example, decide in advance who is going to stay home with a sick child, make dinner each night, chauffeur active children, and clean up after meals.

Children can also participate in responsibilities. Each child can have tasks like setting the table or helping with cleaning. For example, Lynne Paul, working mother of three assigns her nine-year-old son Adam the task of making dinner one night a week. Adam must write out a menu, define what needs to be purchased on the Saturday prior to his night to cook dinner. She states that making dinner has boosted her son's self-confidence knowing that he contributed to helping the family achieve its goals. Finally, reward the family for a job well-done by having a celebratory family dinner or movie night each week.

Seek A Supportive Work Environment - Many companies care about helping parents with young children. A recent survey of federal employees found that satisfaction with work/family balance is a vital component of an employee's job satisfaction. The survey also found that the use of policies such as on-site child care and flextime appear to help employees, particularly mothers, better face the dual demand of work and family life. Some progressive companies identified by Working Mother Magazine include:

- Banc One - Their family-friendly programs reduce absenteeism and turnover and increase employee retention. These programs provide a win-win situation for employees, the company and the customer. Banc One's program offers:
 - Flexible start and end times.
 - Telecommuting - Having time to do a few loads of laundry or start dinner while still working or talking on the phone may make the difference between a happy employee and one unable to feel good about either role.
 - Compression of working hours into fewer working days - For example, some employees work four ten-hour days instead of five eight-hour days.
 - Manageable hours - Employees are able to take a child to an appointment or to volunteer at the child's school during lunchtime.
 - Company Childcare Search Programs - the Company helps find providers near the employee's home. They also develop a list of questions for employees to ask potential child care providers.
- Abbott Laboratories - After taking an employee survey, Abbott Laboratories offers job sharing, flextime, and telecommuting.
 - These plans work for women who want some relief from the stresses of trying to do it all. Now instead of spending time on the weekends running errands and doing chores, job-sharing allows her to accomplish these on her day off so she can spend

time during the weekends enjoying family and friends. Women who job-shared earned 60% of their former salaries, but benefits were retained and their working hours were reduced from 40 to 24. Management states that besides being happier, these employees were more productive. The mothers report that they are more relaxed and productive when they had more time at home.

- Deloitte and Touche - This large accounting firm located in Columbus, Ohio, was cited by Working Mothers for the past eight years for being one of the best companies for working women because of their attitudes and initiatives when hiring and promoting women. Most women in the firm state that they could not be the mothers they wanted to be when working 60 hours a week. If it were not for the company embracing these programs, many say they would not be there. Some of the company's practices are:
 - Women are told that they still can advance or remain on the "partner track" even with a reduced workload.
 - Women have advanced time and time again even after their first child was born.
 - Since the firm has launched its new incentives for women, it has more than doubled its percentage of women partners and directors. The number of partners has gone up 30% in 2001 from 376 to 489.



Stay tuned next quarter for Article 4 - Getting Organized

Upcoming Membership Meetings:

Monday, Jan. 17, 2005, 7-8 p.m.
TGI Friday's, Fishinger Road, Hilliard

Table Topic: Bioinformatics

Speaker: Gina Cooper

Tuesday, April 12, 2005, 7-8 p.m.

Cozymel's at Dublin

Table Topic: Aerial Engineering

Speaker: Rachel Lewis



Editor's Corner:

The Central Ohio SWE section publishes this quarterly newsletter. To submit articles, email or mail to:

Lynne.M.Waldron@delphi.com

Lynne M. Waldron

6238 Muirloch Court South, Dublin, OH 43017-8794

Mother Daughter Brunch

Our first annual Mother Daughter Brunch was held September 18 at Lindy's in Polaris Mall. Here are a few pictures from the event:



[\(see more photos on our website\)](#)

Meet member Gina Cooper

(MS ISE 1998 and BS. ME 1997)

Gina Cooper has been teaching at Devry University for five years. She received her undergraduate degree from Ohio State University in Mechanical Engineering and received her Master's Degree from Ohio State University in Industrial Engineering. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Computer Engineering from Wright State. Her specialization is in bioinformatics. Gina presented her research at an IEEE International Bioinformatics Conference in Taiwan in May 2004. She will speak on this topic at our January membership meeting.

While pursuing her undergraduate degree, she worked as a coop student at LTV Steel in Cleveland, OH. Gina Cooper worked as a mechanical engineer for Techneglas Inc. for three years. Since joining Devry her instructional area of focus is business information systems. Gina is an active member of Vineyard Christian Fellowship and volunteers in coordinating their technical support. Gina served for three years as a presenter for the Devry Young Women in Science and Technology Conference, and is currently the advisor for the Devry Columbus Section of the Society of Women Engineers.

Do you want to become more involved?

Just Contact Rachel Lewis (RachelLewis@dot.stateohus) if you are interested in being a committee member on either of the following committees:

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

What: The function of the Membership Committee is to track Central Ohio's membership, develop activities and find speakers for Membership Meetings, plan professional development activities, and find ways to increase recruitment and retention of Central Ohio members.

Goals: This year we have a few specific goals. The first is to work with the President to locate speakers for the quarterly Membership Meetings. Second, we would like to plan one professional development activity. We also are planning the second annual Mother/Daughter Brunch. And finally we want to have procedures/programs in place that address how we handle new members, focus on member retention and satisfaction, how we track our membership, and how we handle members who have dropped membership.

Specific Needs: The membership committee is looking for 2-4 Central Ohio SWE members to serve on the committee. Members can decide which areas they want to help with, whether it's locating speakers, developing new member packets, or helping to plan activities, etc.

Time Commitment: Minimal, committee meets once a quarter for planning, and as needed thereafter.

FUND DEVELOPMENT

What: The fund development committee's main focus is to locate funds for the Section. We work with the President to develop relationships among local industry to foster their support for our Section. The committee also tries to plan several fundraising activities for the section a year.

Goals: This year's goals are to locate corporations that we can work to develop relationships with. Plan 2 fundraising activities, one of which will be the annual garage sale, and have Central Ohio SWE gear made for selling.

Specific Needs: First, we need every member to help be proactive in our financial needs. All members can help by giving us contact information for your company and help us to communicate with your company about our organization and specifically what kind of help we need. The committee also needs 2 members to help plan semi-annual fundraising activities, write letters and contact companies, and sell Central Ohio logo items.

Time Commitment: Minimal, Semi-Annual planning meetings and other meetings as necessary.

We would appreciate it if you could take the time to complete the following survey. The survey is a great tool for the Executive Council to use when planning activities and meetings for the year. We use the information gathered from our surveys to structure our Section around your needs. Even if you have filled out the survey in the past, please take the time to do so again. (This survey has been updated with some new questions.) Send your completed survey in by January 1st and you will be entered into a drawing at the January 15th Membership Meeting for a SWE sweatshirt (you must be present to win).

Please send completed surveys to: Rachel Lewis
Rachel.Lewis@dot.state.oh.us
 2577 Findley Avenue
 Columbus OH 43202

Survey is also available on-line:
<http://www.societyofwomenengineers.org/SWE/RegionG/ProfSects/CentralOhio/files/survey.doc>

NAME: _____

Which activities would you be interested in participating in? (check all that apply)

- Tutoring elementary/high school children.
- Career advising/lecture for secondary school students.
- Mentoring college engineering students.
- Volunteering for community service events.
- Professional development activities.
- Industry speakers/subject matter expert discussions.
- Networking events.
- Family oriented activities.
- Social events.
- Other (Please list ideas/interests):

What type of professional development activities would you like to participate in? (check all that apply)

- Leadership training.
- Tours of local industry.
- Listening to speakers.
- Other training (Please specify):

- Other activities (Please specify):

What days of the week and times work best for you to attend meetings/activities? (check all that apply – check day and circle which time is best)

- Monday Evenings/Afternoons/Mornings
- Tuesday Evenings/Afternoons/Mornings
- Wednesday Evenings/Afternoons/Mornings
- Thursday Evenings/Afternoons/Mornings
- Friday Evenings/Afternoons/Mornings
- Saturday Evenings/Afternoons/Mornings
- Sunday Evenings/Afternoons/Mornings

Where would you most likely attend meetings? (check all that apply)

- Hilliard Dublin/Powell/Plain City
- Ohio State area Downtown
- Grove City/Groveport Easton
- Polaris Reynoldsburg/Pickerington
- New Albany Other: _____

The following activities are ideas for the 2nd annual Mother/Daughter Brunch. Please rank them in order from 1-5 of what you would rather do at the brunch:

- Listen to technical speaker.
- Listen to fun or motivational speaker.
- Members speak about moms/daughters/friends in lieu of professional speaker.
- Hands on activities with moms/daughters/friends.
- Other ideas:

If we made scholarships available to our members, which type of scholarships would you most be interested in:

- Trip to National Conference paid for.
- Trip to Regional Conference paid for.
- Scholarship to pay for college fees/books for those pursuing higher degrees.
- Professional development.
- Other: _____

What type of committee would you consider involvement with:

- Membership Fund Development
- Community Service Girl Scouts
- Student Liaison (to college student SWE sections)
- Communications Other: _____
- None

Would you be interested in a Central Ohio SWE section buddy? (circle one)

YES/MAYBE/NO

If yes, how would you prefer to be paired up? (check all that apply)

- 'Older' member with 'younger' member
- Members of the same age group
- Members with the same degree/area of work.
- Members with the same hobbies.
- Other: _____

Would you be interested in being a mentor to a college student SWE member? (circle one)

YES/MAYBE/NO

What areas/topics would you like to hear speakers talk about?

Are you available/interested to speak at one of our Membership Meetings or events? (Please circle one)

YES/MAYBE/NO

If yes, what areas/topics can you speak on?

Are you currently a

- Stay at Home Mom
- Work at Home Mom
- Work Full-Time Mom
- Work Part-Time Mom
- No kids at home & work from home
- No kids at home & work full-time
- Other: _____

Other comments/suggestions:

Preferred method of contact:

- Mail Phone E-mail

Please provide current information:

E-Mail:

Address:

Phone:

Birthday:

Again, thank you very much for taking the time to fill out the survey! We appreciate all the input you can offer us in making this Section the best section it can be!