



Society of Women Engineers CENTRAL OHIO SECTION

Region G
Section G001

Newsletter

October 2005

President's Pen:

Dear Fellow SWE Members:

Summer is now gone and I hope everyone is enjoying the beautiful fall season here in Ohio. I am happy to report that our 2nd Annual Mother / Daughter Brunch on October 1st was a big success. Thank you again to our speaker, **Sara Shunkwiler**, who spoke about her fight with breast cancer. What an amazing speech...and an amazing woman! ☺ As a side note, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month – a great reason to wear pink and show your support for finding a cure.

Please be sure to check out our website for the latest updates including, new activities, SWE t-shirt sales, and our NEW job postings from Honda Research & Development.

Thank you for your continued support of our Section!

Sincerely,
Kristina Kennedy
SWE President

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NOVEMBER Membership Meeting:

WHERE: TGI Friday's (Hilliard - Off of Fishinger Rd.)

WHEN: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

Menu: Appetizers & Non-Alcoholic Beverages

COST: \$5.00 per person

The November 16th membership meeting will be a roundtable discussion with a panel of OSU professors and administration. The panel will include:

Dr. Patricia Morris
Materials Science and Engineering Professor

Dr. Mary Juhas
Senior Assistant Dean for Diversity, Outreach and Communications in the college of engineering

Glenda LaRue
Director of the Women in Engineering program

All three of our panel members will briefly describe their educational background, work experience and how they achieved their current position. Following will be a question/answer session and open topic candid conversation.

This is an excellent opportunity to network with fellow engineers and learn more about the various careers that are available to you.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS:

- Margot S. Damaser
- Diana L. Dieringer
- Sherry Lynn Fields
- Tamara N. Franklin
- Lili Ma
- Elaine Marie Paulus
- Sarah N. Prasher
- Anna K. Shumpert
- Kari Smith



We look forward to seeing you all at our November Membership Meeting!

Membership News:

I hope that everyone is having a great fall season! We have nine new members that have joined our section since July:

It is great to see our section growing with currently 40 paid members. If you have a friend or coworker you would like to share SWE information with, please contact me at Anna.Shumpert@gmail.com and I will send you our new member packet. We would love to have them join us! Bringing someone to a meeting is a great way to churn interest as well!

Anna Shumpert
Membership Committee

SWE Annual MOTHER DAUGHTER BRUNCH:

On Saturday October 1st we held our 2nd Annual Mother Daughter Brunch at Biddies Coach House in Dublin. It was a great event for the mothers and daughters to get spend some quality time with each other and other dynamic women! One of our members, **Sara Shunkwiler** spoke in regards to finding the humor in breast cancer. It was both entertaining and heartfelt. With 12 members and their mom's and daughter's present, it turned out to be a great event!



Girls Explore...Engineering

COSI Columbus organized a day-long event for local Columbus girls called a "Girls Explore...Engineering" to encourage 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls to study math and science. To kick off the day, COSI director Dr. Kathleen Sullivan (and former NASA astronaut) gave an inspiring speech on some of her experiences as an astronaut in training and contributions on the actual flights. Throughout the day, girls participated in various hands-on engineering challenges in a non-competitive environment. Girls also attended panel sessions where they could learn about actual engineering jobs in central Ohio from female engineers. Areas included Bridges & Environment, Making Consumer Products, Space & Flight, Medical & Research, and Sports & Entertainment. SWE members volunteered their time to serve as engineering challenge coaches and panel speakers. For all of those who participated, thank you for your continued support!

Thank you especially to **Suzanne Singhas** whose hard work helped make this event success.



Hands-on engineering challenge – Who can build the tallest tower?



Welcome by Dr. Kathy Sullivan (director of COSI and former NASA astronaut)

Member News:

SWE President Kristina Kennedy ran in the Columbus Marathon (on a Relay Team) on Sunday, October 16th. Her team has 3 runners (all Honda employees) and the relay is divided up into 10 miles, 3.1 miles & 13.1 miles. She completed the final "leg" of 13.1 miles. Congratulations Kristina!!

September Membership Meeting Recap:

Rachel Lewis was the presenter at the September 28th meeting on "Aerial Engineering and LiDar applications." Rachel explained how ODOT (her employer) uses aerial applications of LiDar. LiDar stands for "Light Detection And Ranging". It uses the same principles as RADAR to measure distance, speed, rotation, and chemical composition and concentration. Applications included digital terrain models for planning of interstate highway and state route improvement projects, design of new interstate highway systems, and monitoring of natural disasters or changes in land/water masses (rock slides, etc.). Rachel supported her presentation with visual displays and actual project photos.

Thank you Rachel for an excellent and educational presentation!

Attendees included: Megan Roe, Lynne Waldron, Kristina Kennedy, Peggy Flaherty, Nicole Reed, Cindy Tatalovich, Melinda Snyder, Rebecca Dunn, Tamara Franklin, Darcy Dom, Rachel Lewis, Lynsay Bensman, Suzanne Singhas Miller, Lee Ann Schwope and Elizabeth Widman.



Member Spotlight:

Anna Shumpert *Membership Committee*

Anna was born and raised in Fort Lauderdale, Florida and attended Saint Thomas Aquinas High School. After graduating from Saint Thomas in 1999, she attended the United States Military Academy, West Point, New York for a year before taking a medical leave due to a knee injury. During Ann's year off, she attended Auburn University, Auburn, Alabama in pursuit of a Pre-Veterinary Science degree. After discovering that she would be returning to West Point the following summer, and realizing that Vet school was not for her, Anna returned to Fort Lauderdale. There she attended Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida and took general courses.

After returning to West Point, Anna declared her major as Systems Engineering. During her two years at West Point I was a member of the Army Equestrian Team and Team Captain her final semester. Anna received a medical discharge from West Point during the summer of 2002 because of knee injuries. She then took the summer and the fall semester off to rethink her options.

Anna began at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama during spring of 2003, in pursuit of an Industrial Engineering degree. During her two and a half years at Alabama Anna's main involvement has been with the Society of Women Engineers. Not only has she been on the Girl Scout Engineering Day committee, but has been an officer for the past two years. As the Executive Engineering Council Representative, she represented the Society at the College of Engineering student governing body. A big part of the Executive Engineering Council is running E-Week. Additionally, last year Anna was elected as the Student Regional Representative for Region D. This position has given her great insight into the Society and how beneficial of an organization it is.

During the last year Anna has had an internship at Elk Corporation of Alabama, a leading manufacturer of laminate adhesive shingles. Working in the Quality Assurance department provided her with experience in supervision, team work, and project management.

In June 2005, Anna started working for Rolls Royce Energy Systems as a manufacturing engineer.

Anna states that she is looking forward to being an integral part of the Central Ohio SWE Section!

Welcome Anna. We are excited to have you as a member!

Mark your Calendar:

Jan. 26, 2006: Speaker: Sara Shunkwiler

Topic: Career Changes

March 22, 2006: Speaker: Peggy Flaherty

Topic: Public Speaking Skills

May 17, 2006: Speaker: Meghan Roe

Topic: Environmental Engineering, impact on industry

SWE T-Shirt Fundraiser:

SWE T-shirts may be purchased at all SWE events for \$15. They may also be purchased by emailing Lee Ann Schwope, lschwope@exceramaterials.com. All proceeds will be used for future SWE functions!

Job Postings:

A new member benefit has been added to the Central Ohio SWE Website. Check out the link below for job postings:

http://www.swe.org/RegionG/CentralOhio/corporate_honda.html for job posting

Corporate Sponsorship:

Central Ohio SWE wants to thank **Honda** for their generous donation to our organization. The funds will support our youth educational programs.

If your company would like to support a SWE program please contact our SWE Treasurer, Meagan Roe (mroe@ppg.com).

Women and engineering: A good mix

Posted Aug. 17, 2005

www.iienet.org

<http://www.iienet.org/public/articles/index.cfm?cat=492#women>

Why should a woman go into engineering?

"Why SHOULDN'T a woman go into the field of engineering," responds Bevlee Watford, Ph.D., founding director of the Center for the Enhancement of Engineering Diversity and associate dean for academic affairs at Virginia Tech.

"Women are certainly as capable as men with respect to becoming successful engineers," noted Watford, former president of Women in Engineering Programs & Advocates Network. "The problem is with our society that is still not promoting engineering as a viable and fulfilling career field for women."

Women bring a different perspective to the field, so better and more wide-ranging solutions to engineering problems can be found, she added.

Watford, an industrial engineer and IIE member, is on a one-year temporary assignment with the National Science Foundation, where she is serving as program director in the division of undergraduate education.

Linda Scherr, WEPAN president, said that a company's work force should reflect the diversity of that firm's marketplace.

Scherr said that there are too few women and minorities in the engineering profession. "It is in our culture that engineering is primarily for men. This is a stereotype. And a lot of times parents steer their kids based on stereotypes.

"Businesses complain that there is a shortage of skills," she added.

"Well it is imperative that businesses look at all levels of society for those skills.

Susan M. Sinclair, IIE president-elect and vice president for engineering at The Hershey Co., said the organizational skills that women have make them very adept at the engineering profession:

"Engineering is a great field for women since problem solving and analysis are key skills that women have."

Sinclair added that women who combine an engineering undergraduate degree with a business graduate degree can make excellent managerial candidates.

"There's nothing more gratifying than knowing that you have the ability to impact an operation or a process and improve it, either making it more efficient, less costly, or more flexible," she said.

Profession of variety and value

Industrial engineer Karen Zunkel, Ph.D., director of the Program for Women in Science and Engineering at Iowa State University, said that since coming to the university, she is helping the next generation to become engineers.

"I think it is important to let women know that engineers work in a variety of settings, with teams of people, and on all sorts of projects and issues," Zunkel added. "It is important that women be part of those teams."

"There are women using their engineering degrees to develop new products that are environmentally friendly, to design better prostheses, to research ways to regenerate nerves to help individuals who are paralyzed, and to make products -- from cars, to computers, to can openers -- more ergonomically correct," Zunkel said.

While educational emphasis is often placed on math and science skills, Anita K. Ranhotra, an engineer at Hallmark Card Inc., said that engineering requires more.

"It is important that anyone going into engineering also has good people and communication skills," she said. "Engineering is not just a technical field; one needs to have the right balance of technical and 'soft' skills."

Ranhotra, a senior vice president on the IIE Board of Trustees, finds methods to improve production through reducing costs, modifying machines, or improving product quality and workplace safety in her work.

The best part

Judith S. Liebman, Ph.D., a 34-year engineer and professor emerita of operations research in the department of mechanical and industrial engineering at the University of Illinois, said the best part of being an engineer is threefold.

"In practice, solving people's problems. In teaching, getting students excited about operations research. In research, discovering new ways to solve problems," she enumerated.

Teresa A. Helmlinger Ratcliff, Ph.D., P.E., immediate past president of the National Society of Professional Engineers, was the first female president in the society's 68-year history. She said that as a woman, she was a distinct minority when she started work as an engineer.

"I can still see the look on some men's faces when I claimed to be an engineer," Helmlinger Ratcliff said.

"Attitudes toward women in engineering have changed due to increased access, a support network, encouragement, and mentoring," she added.

"My goal is that I leave a legacy so the next person doesn't have to go through what I went through."

"No other profession is as pervasive in supporting the health, safety, and welfare of people," she said. "Engineering is the ultimate people profession."

Helmlinger is executive director of the Industrial Extension Service in the College of Engineering and assistant vice chancellor for extension and engagement at North Carolina State University.

Relevant Resources

Society of Women Engineers – www.swe.org Women in Engineering Programs & Advocates Network – www.wepan.org American Society for Engineering Education – www.asee.org National Society of Professional Engineers – www.nspe.org Engineer Girl – www.engineergirl.org MentorNet – www.mentornet.net Association for Women in Science and Engineering – www.awise.org International Network of Women Engineers and Scientists – www.inwes.org Extraordinary Women Engineers – www.engineeringwomen.org

SWE Member Discount Available:

http://www.kaplanaecengineering.com/kaplanAECEngineering/home.aspx?catalog_id=engswe&sFrom=home&redirect=no

This website is set up in partnership with Kaplan AEC Education to provide SWE members with a discount on study and reference materials for the Fundamentals of Engineering (FE) and the Principles and Practice of Engineering (PE) exams, the two exams necessary to become a licensed, professional engineer; as well as other tools for professional development.

As a partner of Kaplan AEC Education, SWE members receive:

- A 20% discount on all Kaplan AEC Education FE and PE exam preparation materials on this site
- \$50 off GMAT, GRE, LSAT and SAT Classroom Courses, Premium Online Courses or Private Tutoring Programs from [Kaplan Test Prep and Admissions](#)
- A 40% discount on [professional development titles](#) covering topics such as leadership, management, entrepreneurship, sales, and marketing </SPAN< DIV>

MAX & ERMA'S SWE FUNDRAISER

Please help support Central Ohio's SWE Community Outreach Programs by dining at **The Hilliard Max & Erma's on October 20th, 2005.**

SWE receives **20%** of the cost of your meal. You must present the coupon below for SWE to receive the donation.

Thank you for your support!!

<p>Max & Erma's[®]</p> <p>PRESENTS</p> <p><i>Society of Women Engineers Central Ohio Section Proceed Day!</i></p>	<p><i>Society of Women Engineers-Central OH Section Proceed Day</i></p> <p>Present this ticket to your Max & Ermas server and 20% of your lunch, dinner and carryout sales will benefit community outreach programs!</p> <p>Proceed donation does not include gift certificate sales.</p>
<p>Thursday, October 20th</p>	<p>Max & Erma's[®]</p> <p><i>Valid at</i> Hilliard 4279 Cemetery Road, 614-771-0455</p>
<p>20% of your lunch, dinner and carryout sales will benefit community outreach programs!</p> <p><small>Flyer distribution on Max & Erma's property is prohibited and will result in the forfeiture of your organization's entire donation.</small></p>	<p>Name: _____ Address: _____ E-Mail Address: _____</p>