



Society of Women Engineers

Texas Space Center

Newsletter February 2005



TEXAS SPACE CENTER
Society of Women Engineers

Invites you to:
Our Charter

CELEBRATION DINNER!

Friday, February 18th, 2005 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
At the JSC Gilruth Center – Lonestar Room

This event will celebrate the charter of
the Texas Space Center section of the
Society of Women Engineers!

Everyone is welcome!



Tickets: \$20 before February 11th, 2005
\$25 after and at the door

Price includes a three course dinner meal. Please let us know if you prefer vegetarian.

To RSVP and buy tickets, contact Shanece Fowler
Email: Shanece.S.Fowler@boeing.com
Tel: 281-226-8851



Please RSVP no later than February 11, 2005

2. February Luncheon – 2/10 at the Nassau Bay Hilton

The Hilton is on NASA Rd 1 next to the Space Center Blvd. Intersection. We meet at 11:30. Cost is \$8 for soup & salad buffet, or \$12 for soup, salad, and entrée. Prices include tax and tip. Luncheons are open to anyone interested in meeting women engineers; you do not have to be a SWE member to attend.

3. Community Service Opportunities

a. Expanding Your Horizons – February 12

If you didn't sign up as a speaker and still want to help out, adult volunteers are welcome to help with registration and other odd jobs at the Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conference on February 12.

EYH is a conference for 6-8th grade girls to be held at the University of Houston-Clear Lake on Saturday, February 12, 2005. This conference provides young girls with the opportunity to meet women role models and discover essential information about potential future careers. Please help make this exciting educational event a success!

Point of contact- Dr. Marguerite Sognier at masognie@utmb.edu or marguerite.a.sognier1@jsc.nasa.gov or call 832-216-0001

b. JSC Lunar Settlement Design Competition

The JSC Annual Space Settlement Design Competition is an industry simulation game for high school students, in which they experience the sense of being part of a large aerospace company proposal team, developing a complex proposal for a big job, with too much information and too little time.

We have two sessions of the weekend Competition this year. The weekend of Feb. 18 - 20 and the weekend of March 4 - 6, 2005 (Friday evening through Sunday afternoon). In each session up to 160 high school students will come to JSC (Gilruth Center and Building 9) for the weekend. They are divided into four competing teams, given briefings and technical training, and then each team is given the Request For Proposal (RFP) which is their challenge for the weekend. This year the job will be for them to design a large Lunar base in a realistic but future scenario. The four teams have 24 hours to put together their proposal for the base design and operations plan. They also must prepare a 45 minute oral presentation of their concept, with a paper presentation of 50 pages or less, which they give to a team of judges on Sunday morning. The students learn a lot about engineering, space, the space environment, teamwork, systems engineering, communications, and management of a complex effort.

We would like very much to have some SWE members help us out at both sessions of the Competition. The opportunities are:

- a. Serve as a Team CEO (mentor) to help the team get focused on the requirements and to stay on track. This is for process guidance - not technical content guidance. The CEO function basically takes up all day Saturday, from about 7:30 a.m. in the Gilruth Center to after dinner in building 9. We try to recruit CEO teams (2 or more people) to share the load. We would love to have a SWE CEO team! About half of the students are females and it would certainly provide a role model for them!
- b. Serve as a technical trainer to give the students some appreciation of the engineering concepts and requirements for four broad areas: Structural Engineering concepts; Human Systems Engineering concepts; Operations Engineering concepts; and Automation and Robotics Engineering concepts. I have the briefing charts all prepared for these training sessions - the volunteers just have to present the material and answer questions. This function is for Saturday morning from 8:30 a.m to about 11:30 a.m. in building 9.
- c. Serve as a Competition Judge on Sunday morning in the Gilruth Center. This function runs from 8:30 a.m. till after lunch.

In each case we provide meals to the volunteers and a nice Competition tee shirt.

A more detailed description of the Competition and a detailed description of the three volunteer functions is available on request. Contact Kim Curry (kim.s.curry@boeing.com) or Norman Chaffee (norman.h.chaffee1@jsc.nasa.gov).

c. Clear Creek ISD Science Fair

-----Original Message-----

From: Terri Berry [mailto:TBerry@ccisd.net]

Subject: Clear Creek ISD District Science Fair 2005

As we wind down on 2004, students throughout the district are working on their science projects for the 44th Annual Clear Creek ISD District Science Fair. This year's fair date is:
Monday, February 21st,
President's Day.

I know for some of you, this may be a holiday. We have had it on this holiday in the past and, while it was a problem for some, for many judges, having it on this day proved more convenient than getting off work. One week earlier is Valentine's Day and one week later does not allow time to get entries into the Houston Fair. So Feb.21 it will be!

As before, we will have online registration. I hope that the registration page will be up in very early January, with access from the CCISD home page. However, between now and then, I would appreciate your help in getting the information and date of the science fair out. We were short judges last year and want to be sure we have plenty this year!

Education Support Center
2425 East Main
League City.

New secondary judges will begin at 11:00;
Experienced judges will register between 11:45 - 12:00.
Judging lasts until about 5:00.

As soon as the registration page is online, I will let you know so that you and others can register as judges, or indicate that you are not available this year.

Our students would not have the success they do at the Houston and state competitions without your valuable contribution. It is greatly appreciated!! I hope you will be able to be with us again this year on Feb. 21st.

d. Engineering Science and Technology Day – Feb. 26.

This day is held in conjunction with Engineer's Week. Several hosts throughout Houston work with Girl Scouts on Engineering and Science projects, for which the girls earn badges. Texas Space Center SWE has been asked by Bechtel to help with their event on February 26. They are looking for 2 volunteers to lead workshops and additional volunteers to assist.

This is a great opportunity for our section to help introduce girls to engineering and gain experience for hosting our own event in the future. Please contact Courtney Pankop ([832-265-3081](tel:832-265-3081)/Courtney.A.Pankop@boeing.com) by Thursday, Feb. 3rd if you are interested in participating.

e. Lunar Settlement Design Competition – Mar. 4-6

There are two sessions of this event. Please see the Feb. 18-20 event description at b. above.

4. SWE Professional Development

a. Leading Teams without Authority - a SWE Professional Development Web Seminar Feb. 16, 2005 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm EST

Join SWE and Caterpillar's Gwenne Henricks for a one-hour session on leading successful teams.

Have you ever found yourself in charge of a project filled with co-workers from other departments, disciplines and possibly even other companies? This type of team exists everywhere - sometimes all in one location and sometimes scattered throughout the country or world. The numerous challenges involved in leading successful teams to project completion are greatly intensified when you have no direct authority over the team members. This SWE Professional Development Web Seminar will give you the tools and insight to lead a successful team and a successful project.

The ***Leading Teams without Authority*** Web seminar, sponsored by Abbott Laboratories, is **free** for all SWE members, but you must register for the event to get access information. For non-SWE members, we offer this valuable seminar for \$49. Non-members who join SWE by February 28, 2005 will be entered into a drawing for a free National Conference Registration! To register, go to www.swe.org/webseminarreg. Registration ends at 5:00 pm EST February 14, 2005. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact SWE at hq@swe.org.

This SWE web seminar, targeted to mid-level managers, continues SWE's professional development programs customized to various levels of a woman engineer's management career. Based on previous research and focus groups, SWE is now offering professional training targeted to various "tracks" such as entry, middle, senior and executive management. These programs are produced based on pertinent subject matter for each track. For more information, visit the [Professional Development](#) area of the SWE web site.

For additional information on Gwenne Henricks, go to www.swe.org/webseminar216.

5. Events In Work

a. February – Dinner and Speaker to celebrate our charter

Now that we have our charter, it's time to celebrate! TSC SWE is holding a dinner on February 18th from 6:30 to 8:30 at the Lone Star Room of Gilruth. Everyone is welcome to come help us celebrate! Tickets purchased before February 11th are \$20, which includes a three course meal. Vegetarian meals are available. Tickets can be purchased after Feb. 11th for \$25 as long as you have RSVPd by February 11th. For more information contact Shanece Fowler (226-8851). To RSVP or purchase tickets, contact the focal in the building nearest you:

JSC On-Site:

Laura Vincent	laura.d.vincent1@jsc.nasa.gov	281-244-7414
Stacey Morrison	stacey.e.morrison@nasa.gov	281-483-2649

Boeing:

Bay Area Building: Courtney Pankop (226-6792)

Tower II: Laura Allen (244-4182)

Space Park: Shanece Fowler (226-8851)

- b. Texas Space Center SWE is sponsoring Bechtel at Engineering Science and Technology Day

(Note this is the same event from Community Service Opportunities)

For those of you who aren't familiar with Engineering Science and Technology Day, its an annual event held in conjunction with Engineers Week and 'Introduce a Girl to Engineering' day. Several host throughout Houston work with Girl Scouts on Engineering and Science Projects, for which the girls earn badges. Last year, our SWE group sent several volunteers to the University of Houston to help with their EST Day activities. This year, we've been asked by Bechtel to help with their event on Saturday, Feb. 26, 8:00am-2:30pm. They are currently scheduled to host ~170 girls (4th-6th grade), and they are looking for volunteers to lead and assist with workshops. They will provide breakfast, lunch, and T-shirts for volunteers.

Working with Bechtel will be a great opportunity for us to network with other women engineers, practice for hosting our own EST Day event someday, and help make a difference in the life of many aspiring girls. My goal is to send at least 5 volunteers from our group. Although the event is still a few weeks away, Bechtel would like to start working with volunteers to get us familiar with the workshops.

6. SWE Region C News

Region C Spring Conference

Louisiana State University is excited to announce that they will be hosting the 2005 SWE Region C Conference in Baton Rouge, LA. The SWE fun will be the weekend of April 1-3, 2005. Check out the Region C website for more details. <http://www.swe.org/regionc>. Make plans now to attend, and make sure to encourage your membership to attend. More details attached below... If you have any questions or want to get involved, contact the LSU Conference Chair Nekisha Harris (nharri5@lsu.edu) or the Professional Conference Chair Tammy Cheatham (tcheatham@cecoconcrete.com).

Region Bylaws Committee Status

Standard Region Bylaws have been developed and the Region Bylaws Committee, led by Marie Laplante, is working to have these ready for vote at the Region Conference next spring.

SWE Awards Nominations Packages Available

SWE is now accepting nominations for the 2005 Individual Awards! The deadline date for individual award nominations is February 28, 2005. A few

changes this year include the elimination of the photo and citation requirement. We will only ask for those once the recipients are identified. You will find the updated nominations package, instructions, and requirements for each award in the [Individual Awards](#) section of the SWE Web site. Please remember that all nominations must be submitted electronically in Word format to awards@swe.org. If you have any questions please feel free to contact Awards Committee Chair Marilyn Reeder at awards-chair@swe.org.

Region Governor (Update 1/28/05)

TO: Region C Council Members

COPY: Region C Professional Section Presidents, Region C Alternate Council Members, Region C Officers and Committee Chairs, and other Region C Key Members

On behalf of the Region C Nominating Committee (Jennifer Bell, Houston Area Section; K'Andrea Bickerstaff, Southwest Texas Section; and Davinia Chism, Dallas Section), I am pleased to announce the committee selected **Melissa Tata** (Southwest Texas Section) as the candidate for Region Governor for the two-year term beginning July 1, 2005. She has done a tremendous job this year as our Region Governor and is well deserving of this nomination.

Voting members of the Society assigned to the Region will elect the Region Governor during the Society's general elections. The slate for the other region officer positions will be announced separately.

According to our bylaws, additional candidates may be nominated by petition for the position of Region Governor, provided the person is qualified for the position and agrees to be on the ballot if the petition is successful. A candidate for Region Governor must be a paid voting member of the Society assigned to one of the professional sections or members at large in the region and must have served at least two years in the aggregate as a professional member of the council of representatives or as a professional section or members at large president; one year as a region student representative may be counted toward this requirement.

A minimum of 5% or 20 members, whichever is greater, of the voting members of the region, with no more than half of the petitioners being from any one section or from the members at large, must sign or endorse the petition. There were 546 voting members of the Society in the Gulf Coast Region as of 12/31/04; accordingly, 28 signatures/endorsements are needed to nominate a member by petition. The petition, along with written consent from the candidate and supporting materials for the ballot, must be received by March 1. Petition candidates should contact me by February 20 for complete details.

7. Region C Call for Lieutenant Governor Nominations

IS IT TIME FOR YOU - OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW - TO STEP UP TO LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR???

TO: Region C Representatives and Alternate Representatives:

We need your help!!! Although the Region C Nominating Committee is charged with determining the most qualified individuals to serve as region officers, we rely on **YOU** to help identify potential candidates. We are again soliciting for potential candidates to serve as Lieutenant Governor for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2005.

If you are qualified for and interested in serving the region in this position, or if you know other members who are, **please** provide suggested names and e-mail addresses to me, Claire Shortall [c.shortall@worldnet.att.net], by Thursday, February 10. Using your input, I will then send potential candidates short questionnaires which will need to be completed for the Region C Nominating Committee to finalize the slate.

To qualify for consideration as Lieutenant Governor, potential candidates must:

- Be a voting member of the Society assigned to the region.
- Have served at least two years in the aggregate as a professional section or MAL representative to the Council of Representatives or as a professional section or MAL president; one year as a student region representative may be counted toward this requirement. (These positions may have been held in any professional section or region, not just in Region C.)

Desired skills for Lieutenant Governor candidates include enthusiasm/commitment for SWE, knowledge of the organization, leadership, communications, people skills/motivation, strategic thinking, and results oriented.

The responsibilities of the Lieutenant Governor are:

- Assume the duties of the region governor (see below) if the region governor is absent or a vacancy occurs.
- Be the point of contact for organizing the region conference and drive publicity and attendance.
- Seek out region candidates to serve on Society committees and focused interest groups.
- Perform any other duties assigned by the region governor or region council.
- Facilitate visibility of region to national such as newsletter and award applications.
- Work with region newsletter editor to publicize events including a regional calendar.
- Work with region newsletter editor to include key contact information and biographies for regional officers.

Since the Lieutenant Governor would become the Region Governor in the event of a vacancy in that office, the responsibilities of the Region Governor are:

- Attend all meetings of the region governors.

- Prepare and submit reports of activities within the region as requested by the director of regions or the council of representatives.
- Preside over region membership and region council meetings.
- Execute the business and policies of the region.
- Appoint region committee chairs (other than the nominating committee chair).
- Authorize the disbursement of region funds within the budget approved by the region council.
- Coordinate communication within the region.
- Promote and facilitate section vitality in the region
- Identify needs within the region and be a resource to sections and members within the region.
- Represent the region before the public.
- Consider requests from sections for deviation from standard region assignment.
- Consult with the board of directors on issues of deactivation and reinstatement of sections within the region.
- Perform any other duties assigned by the region council.
- Conduct quarterly regional officers meetings.

8. SWE Awards

The race is officially on for the 1st annual Region C Membership Awards!



Region C Membership Awards



6 Awards will be given at the Region Conference this year

- Highest Growth, Professional Section
- Highest Retention, Professional Section
- Retention, Mid Student Section*
- Retention, High Student Section*
- Growth, Small Student Section*
- Growth, High Student Section*

* See list of competing schools



See the details below :

Region C Competing Student Sections

Mid Retention - highest percentage

- University of Houston
- Lamar University
- Southern University
- University of TX Arlington
- Texas Tech University
- Southern Methodist University
- Baylor University
- University of Arkansas

High Retention - highest percentage

- Louisiana State
- Mississippi State
- Rice University
- University of LA, Lafayette
- TX A&M - Kingsville
- TX A&M - College Station
- University of TX Austin

Small Growth - highest percentage

- Devry University
- University of AR Little Rock
- University of TX Pan Am
- Texas A&M - Galveston
- Texas State University
- LeTourneau University
- Louisiana Tech
- Prairie View A&M

High Growth - highest percentage

- Texas Christian University
- University of New Orleans
- MAL
- University of TX San Antonio
- University of Mississippi



9. SWE News

January 2005 Newsletter

Welcome to the January issue of *SWE NEWS*. [Click here](#) to view the newsletter online or go directly to <http://www.swe.org/E-newsletter/>.

10. SWE Membership Notices: For Your Information

Were You Dropped from Membership?

If you did not submit your FY05 renewal payment by December 1, you are now an inactive member of SWE. Contact the Member Service Center at hq@swe.org or 312.596.5223. Someone will be happy to take your renewal over the phone. You may also join SWE or renew your membership online at www.swe.org. SWE membership fees have been reduced for Half-Year dues, so now is a great time to renew or join!

Attention Student Members

Are you a recent graduate? If so, you are eligible to upgrade your membership from student to professional. Now that you have invested in your future by obtaining your engineer degree, support the success of your career by becoming a professional SWE member. If you have graduated within the last 12 months, are not continuing with an advanced degree and have not yet renewed your dues for 2005, visit the Member Service Center to

[submit your upgrade request](#) with your dues renewal. If you have already submitted your 2005 dues but didn't indicate on the invoice or online form that you graduated, contact us at hq@swe.org.

SWE Career Center

Did You Know?

There have been more than 1,800 jobs posted from top companies since the new [Career Center](#) launched in September 2003

Searching for jobs and posting your résumé is FREE for SWE members

You can cut and paste your current résumé right into the Career Center database

As a SWE member, you have access to career enhancing articles in the [Resources](#) section of the new Web site

Region C conference:

Louisiana State University is excited to announce that they will be hosting the 2005 SWE Region C Conference in Baton Rouge, LA. The SWE fun will be the weekend of April 1-3, 2005. Check out the Region C website for more details, including conference hotel information, a tentative agenda, and possible session topics! <http://www.swe.org/regionc>