



Upcoming Events

Contractor Aerospace Recruiting Expo

Date: Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Time: 10:00am – 6:00pm

Location: Space Center Houston
1601 NASA PARKWAY
Houston, Texas 77058

Leadership Brunch and Learn

Date: Saturday, September 18, 2010

Time: 10:00am

Location: La Brisa
501 North Wesley Drive
League City, TX 77573

Gulf Coast Science & Technology Job Fair

Date: Thursday, September 23, 2010

Time: 10:00am – 2:00pm

Location: University of Houston, Clear Lake Bayou
Atrium II

Register:

http://prtl.uhcl.edu/portal/page/portal/CSS/Job_Fairs/2010_GCJF_Science

Happy Hour with Architects

Date: Thursday, September 23, 2010

Time: 5:00pm

Location: Chelsea
4106 Nasa Parkway
El Lago, TX 77586

Brunch and Learn with Georgia Dismukes

Date: Saturday, October 16, 2010

Time: 10:00am

Location: La Brisa
501 North Wesley Drive
League City, TX 77573

2010 SWE National Annual Conference

Date: November 4-6, 2010

Location: Orlando, FL

More Information: <http://we10.swe.org/>

Poised for Leadership Conference

Date: Friday, February 11, 2011

More details to come

More events are listed [online](#).

Presidential Address

Hello, SWE members. We are heading into our third month of the fiscal year, and already, the section is making great progress. We continue to have our new happy hour event along with the traditional luncheon. In July, we held a summer picnic where we enjoyed good food and took the time to share ideas for the future of the section. This past month, members of SWE-TSC joined SWE-HA for the SWE-HA Membership Extravaganza as we continue to reach out to other sections for ideas, support, and resource sharing.

As you read through this newsletter, you will find that new programs are coming, most notably our new Brunch and Learn. We have registered for the Emerging Women's Leadership Webinar Series and will provide an opportunity for members to view the series. This will be a great opportunity for members to learn new skills and ideas, improve on their current skills, and share ideas with fellow SWE members. For our September happy hour social, we have invited a group of women architects to come share a brief presentation on their links with engineers. Afterward, they will join us for the evening for a unique networking opportunity. We continue to explore opportunities to work with other organizations to bring value to our members and community.

As this is not an easy time in our community, we are striving to provide information in a timely fashion. You will find a listing of upcoming career fairs. I encourage you to check them out. Times are hard, but opportunities are there. Please, reach out to one another for support, networking, and help.

I encourage everyone to consider the mentoring programs our Education and Outreach team are coordinating. We have had several people step up for the programs, but we would like to see more! School has started; this is the perfect time for us to get involved with young potential engineers. This is how we can help shape the future.

Please, take the time to look over the newsletter, and do not hesitate to contact your Executive Council team with questions, concerns, and/or ideas.

Yours in SWE,
Kellie Anton
SWE-TSC President

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SWE-HA Chocolate Bar Extravaganza: A Great Networking Opportunity

See Page 5 for pictures.

On August 18th, members of SWE-TSC joined in the fun at the SWE-Houston Area Section's annual Membership Extravaganza. This year's event was hosted at the Chocolate Bar in Rice Village - and as expected, chocolate was in abundance! SWE-TSC members networked with other Houston-based engineering professionals while decorating chocolate pizzas with a variety of mouth-watering "toppings." Strawberries, cranberries, walnuts, marshmallows, gummi worms... Team building was stressed by the all-important process of deciding which toppings to use. Engineering skills were also put to the test by some teams as they developed planning sketches of pizza layout or created tabular accounts for even topping distribution and variety. Then again, some teams just went wild with candy! Tasty beverages and an oh-so-good variety of chocolate-coated hors d'oeuvres allowed ample snacking throughout the evening.

SWE-HA Vice President Charu Jain was recognized for her hard work and dedication in organizing the event. Her efforts paid off! The event was not only fun, it allowed SWE members from across Houston to get to know one another. Be sure to stay tuned for next year's event!

September Brunch and Learn: Making the Most of Mentoring



Join us for a Leadership Brunch and Learn! SWE is kicking off a series of events featuring the Emerging Women's Leadership Webinar Series, presented by Women's Leadership Coaching, Inc.

Discover proven strategies for breaking out and establishing yourself as an up-and-coming leader. Add to your leadership toolkit with techniques to lead and make a greater impact in business, regardless of your current job title. The program is designed for early career to mid-career women in corporations.

In every webinar, Jo Miller, CEO of Women's Leadership Coaching Inc., teaches leadership skills and invites a senior-level woman leader to share her experiences and weigh in with real-world leadership advice.

The guest speakers are outstanding women from industry who will share their top tips for career success. Confirmed speakers include:

- **Jill Jones**, Senior Vice President, Chief Production Officer, Brown-Forman
- **Cyndi Mitchell**, Managing Director, ThoughtWorks Studios
- **Dr. Michal Tsur**, President and Co-founder, Kaltura
- **Maureen Brekka**, SVP Director of North American Region Marketing, Brown-Forman

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September Brunch and Learn: Making the Most of Mentoring

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Join us to hear first-hand what it means to be a leader, and what it really takes to break into leadership.

SWE-TSC will showcase these webinars for our members **free of charge at La Brisa** (501 North Wesley Drive - League City, TX), beginning at **10 am on Saturday, September 18th**. Join us for excellent leadership training and good food!

The topic of the first webinar is "Making the most of Mentoring." Mentoring is frequently cited as a critical success factor among successful women leaders. Learn a simple step-by-step process to approach and engage mentors, create win-win partnerships, and ensure all parties gain maximum benefit from mentoring relationships.

For more information on the webinars, see their website: <http://www.womensleadershipcoaching.com/emergingleaderswebinar2.htm>

E-mail Mentor

Sarah Hargrove, SWE-TSC Education & Outreach Chair, is collecting bios from volunteers to be e-mail mentors. Sarah will distribute these bios to local science and math teachers for them to allow interested students to contact mentors of interest. If a student contacts you, you can work out specific communication guidelines as you'd like. Please answer the following questions in the bio. Inclusion of a picture of yourself is optional, but please include some type of interesting photo/diagram related to your work.

- Where are you from?
- Relate your high school engineering related experiences (including interest in math/science).
- What inspired you to become an engineer (or whatever you are now)?
- Where you went to college and at least 1 interesting student experience.
- Synopsis of your career (be as elaborate as you want). Include student engineering experiences.
- What you do now (in detail).
- How you would like to be contacted (email, phone).

Please respond to:

Sarah.j.hargrove@nasa.gov

Can You Piece the Answers to Our September Happy Hour Puzzler?

Our September Happy Hour will feature a group of architects from the Houston Area. Some of our officers have already met with these ladies and really enjoyed hearing about their experiences working with and around engineers! The hour will be a great opportunity to meet professionals from a different, yet closely related, field.

As a teaser they've sent us a puzzle. Can you figure out which architect is which? The six presenters: Emily Winters, Janis Brackett, Linda Camacho, Nicola Springer, Taryn Kinney, Valerie Bugayong.

- All six of us met and became friends while working at the Kirksey Architectural firm.
- While at Kirksey, five of us worked on the design and construction of schools and churches.
- The remaining one worked on aquariums and luxury residents.
- Five of us went to college out of the state of Texas, but three of us are closet Twilight fans.
- Five of us have been to Italy, but only one of us just got back from there.
- Three of us are married to architects, but only one married a Kirksey colleague.
- Two of us are foreign born, but only one remains a foreigner.
- Three of us met for lunch with NASA engineers, but all of us look forward to meeting more.



Come to the Happy Hour on
September 23rd to find out
who's who!

October Brunch and Learn: Utilizing and Marketing Transferable Skills to a New Job or Career



Transferable Skills

With the start of a new fiscal year, October marks the beginning of numerous career transitions in the Texas Space Coast. To facilitate the transition, Georgia Dismukes presents effective strategies and skills at the **October Brunch and Learn** on:

Saturday, October 16, 2010

10:00am

La Brisa

501 North Wesley Drive

League City, TX 77573

Georgia Dismukes Biography:

A motivated professional with broad experience in education, corporate training, human resources and project implementation. She enjoys all aspects of developing and implementing projects related to reaching goals, company growth and strategic planning.

Current Experience

Adjunct Instructor **San Jacinto College**

Educational Institution; Higher Education industry

August 2010 – Present (1 month)

Consultant **Dismukes Consulting Services**

Human Resources industry

May 2010 – Present (4 months)

Consulting and training services to improve employee and manager productivity.

Past Experiences

- Training and Development/ Human Resources at Andrews Federal Credit Union
- Training and Development at United Space Alliance
- Assistant Principal at Fort Bend ISD
- Teacher, Coach, Dept. Chair and Girls Athletic Coordinator at Fort Bend ISD
- Owner at Fort Bend Driving School
- Teacher and Coach at Fort Bend ISD

Education

- Prairie View A&M University
- University of Houston
- University of Houston

Specialties

- Facilitation of training and teams
- Leadership and management development
- Recruiting and new hire orientation
- Policy and Procedure development

Fred Hartman Bridge

The Fred Hartman Bridge (The Texas 146 bridge named after the WWII hero, Texas state Director of Transportation, and 1954-1974 editor/publisher of the *Baytown Sun*) is the cabled beauty and engineering marvel that adorns this month's newsletter header. It spans the Houston Ship Channel and takes travelers along State Highway 146 across the cities of Baytown and La Porte. The bridge replaced the Baytown Tunnel when the Houston Ship Channel was deepened to accommodate larger ships in 1999. It is one of two cable-stayed bridges in Texas (the other being the Veterans Memorial Bridge in Orange County, Texas) and is the longer of the two with a main span of 1,250 feet. Two sets of steel-reinforced diamonds carries two separate spans (with 4 lanes of traffic on each span) at a height of 178 feet to keep away from the traffic of the busy seaport. Since there are two independent spans, the National Bridge Inventory considers the Fred Hartman Bridge to be 2 bridges. The cables are polymer-wrapped twisted steel wire bundles and the pylons are also made of reinforced concrete. Leonhardt, Andra Und Partner, URS Dreiner and District 12 of the Texas Department of Highways and Public Transportation designed this \$117.5 million project.

Like other cable-stayed bridges, the cables experience vibrations during light rain that causes weld failures from the large amplitude, low cycle fatigue on cables. See <http://www.wdpa.com/repair-restoration-projects.html> for more information and a video about the evaluation of this vibration. To ameliorate the devastating effects of the vibrations, dampening cables were installed.

Other images and videos can be found at:
<http://www.johnweeks.com/cablestay/pages/csb18.html>
http://www.ourbaytown.com/Fred_Hartman_Bridge_Baytown.htm

SWE-TSC Candid Shots



Chocolate SWE Pizza in the making.



Tess Caswell (SWE-TSC Vice President) with other SWE-HA members at the SWE-HA Chocolate Bar Extravaganza with their finished product.

Have article ideas, articles to submit, industry tips, job postings, photos, Texas Space Center engineering marvels, or anything to share in the next SWE-TSC newsletter?

Send them to Irene (irene.chan@swe.org) by
Monday, September 20, 2010