



Society of Women Engineers

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Society of Women Engineers Minnesota Section

Diversity of Thought

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Pg 2: President's Report
Pg 3: Welcome to New Members
Pg 4: Distinguished New Engineer Awards
Pg 5: SWE MN Scholarship Program
Pg 6: Membership Renewal
Membership Participation
Book Club Discussion
Pg 7: Get to Know SWE-MN Member

Inside this Issue

Pg 8: COR Report
Holiday Party Recap
Pg 9: November Networking Recap
SWE MN Spring Seminar
Region H Conference
Scholarship Committee

Pg 10: New Faces of Engineering
Prospective Awards
Pg 11: Career Guidance Update
Pg 12: February Networking Night
Pg 13: Ecolab Meeting Recap
Pg 14: Leadership Coaching Event
E WEEK 2007
Pg 15: PD Event Water Park of America

President's Report Elizabeth Bierman

Happy Holidays to all of you. I can't believe we are already half way through the SWE fiscal year, and what a great year it's been for SWE-MN! Our last official membership report showed that we have

over 200 members! What this means for SWE-MN is that next year we will have an additional representative on SWE's national council. This is an elected position on the Executive Council. This is an excellent time to review the different leadership opportunities available in our section. Most chair and committee positions do not require any experience, and time commitments vary. If you are interested in being part of the FY08 Executive Council as a chair, co-chair or committee member, please contact me at president@swe-mn.org. Being part of the Executive Council provides various opportunities for outreach and networking, and also opportunities for personal growth in areas such as communication, planning and leadership. In addition to chair and committee positions, there are seven elected Executive Council positions including President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and three Council of Representative positions.

SWE-MN has also already planned some amazing events this year, including the annual Open House and Holiday Party, networking events and professional development meetings. Thanks to Rosemount Inc, a Division of Emerson Process Management, for providing a generous donation towards our Professional Development programs again this year. With their continued support, we have been able to continue offering Professional Development activities to our members. The section has also participated in several Career Guidance activities this year, including our annual Girl Scout Patch Day and demonstrated to numerous students that engineering is an exciting career.

A new event we are trying out this year are metro area lunch meetings. These are a way for members to meet in different parts of the metro for lunch and networking. We have had lunch meeting in the north and south metro and they have been very successful. The lunch meetings will occur monthly, so watch for details in the weekly email. If you are interested in hosting a lunch meeting in your area please contact me.

I am excited to announce that St. Thomas University will host the Spring Professional Development Seminar on March 10. Save the date so you can be sure to attend this wonderful all-day Professional Development seminar.

I would like to thank the entire EC for your hard work the first half of the year, and look forward to continuing to work with all of you. As always, if you have any SWE-MN questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact me at president@swe-mn.org.

Elizabeth

SWE-Minnesota would like to extend a warm welcome to our new members. We look forward to seeing you at an event soon!

**Alexandria Abouf
Alergha Ahlstrom
Sherrian Aimable
Ai Araya
Danielle Burkhart
Melissa Coburn
Jamie Collier
Katie Eiler
Shirley Hu
Megan Kruse
Sharon Kvamme
Patricia Leon**

**Lily Lim
Chandani Malla
Tanya Mamchuk
Jennifer McKinnon
Emily Miner
Dianna Mollenhauer
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Distinguished New Engineer Awards

Cathy Krier

The Distinguished New Engineer Award honors women engineers who have been actively engaged in engineering, demonstrated outstanding technical performance, and have had no more than ten years of cumulative engineering experience. Of the five national individual awards presented at the National Conference held in Kansas City, two were members from SWE-MN: Elizabeth Bierman and Alyse Stofer.

As stated in the SWE Magazine, Elizabeth Bierman was recognized as a recipient of SWE's 2006 Distinguished New Engineer Award for her career accomplishments in the field of Aerospace Engineering, ongoing dedication to the mission of the Society of Women Engineers, and local, regional, and national SWE leadership.

Elizabeth is a product support engineer for Honeywell International Inc. In this role, Elizabeth is responsible for the overall technical support for assigned aviation products. She has close interface with the aircraft manufacturers, airline customers, supplier's and Honeywell's support network. She is also responsible for all inertial navigation products for Airbus, one of the largest aircraft manufacturers in the world. She currently works on Airbus' newest aircraft, the A380, which the largest aircraft ever built. Elizabeth is also working on the Micro Inertial Reference Unit to be used on the new Boeing 787.

"As a product support engineer, Elizabeth has merged technical and interpersonal skills to ensure successful customer experiences with her aviation products," says Jude Garzolini, president of the Society of Women Engineers. "She brings many of these same skills to local and national leadership roles in SWE to the benefit of current and future generations of women engineers."

While currently serving as President of the SWE-MN section, she is also involved at the Regional level as Region H leadership coach. "She continually goes beyond what she is asked to do," says Jennifer Darnell FY06 Leadership Coaching Committee Chair. "Her drive and passion for SWE is evident in all of her work."

As stated in the SWE Magazine, Alyse Stofer was recognized as a recipient of SWE's 2006 Distinguished New Engineer Award for contributions to the field of Biomedical Engineering, and for continued leadership and support of the Society of Women Engineers' Career Guidance and Professional Development efforts.



Elizabeth Bierman and Alyse Stofer

Alyse is a senior mechanical design engineer for Transoma Medical, a leader in implantable telemetric and physiologic monitors. In her current role, Alyse serves as the mechanical lead team member directing work of other mechanical engineers and technicians on a proprietary implantable monitoring device. Additionally, she has designed and enhanced design of a variety of components and materials for proprietary implantable products contributing to the company's intellectual property with four patents pending. She has also planned, coordinated and directed biocompatibility and biostability testing, along with in-vivo and in-vitro testing of prototype devices.

The president of the Society of Women Engineers, Jude Garzolini, stated that "Alyse Stofer is a role model for aspiring engineers that motivation and hard work are key components to a successful, rewarding career."

"Alyse has contributed enormously to the SWE-MN section, and as such in FY05 received the SWE-MN top honor, the section's Key Contributor Award, given to recognize a section member who has provided continuity and stability inside our organization over a period of several years, and has been vital to our organizational success," says Allison Pedersen, FY06 SWE-MN president. "Alyse is a superior role model for younger women everywhere and an extraordinary example of a good leader."

The technical accomplishments of these women truly stand out in their fields. It has been such an honor to get to know them and watch them demonstrate their natural leadership talents in support of the SWE Mission.

MINNESOTA SWE 2007 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

Naomi Brill and Julie Long

We are pleased to announce our Scholarship Program for 2007. This year, we are offering **twelve** scholarships to women engineering students at schools in Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota. Applications, due March 15, and detailed information on the program can be found on our section website, www.swe-mn.org. We are grateful to the following corporate partners for their sponsorship of our 2007 scholarships. Please help us spread the word about this program to women engineering students!

- The **Banner Engineering Scholarship** will be awarded to a student of Mechanical or Electrical Engineering. Banner Engineering, the sensor market leader, with the broadest line of products and solutions in the nation (www.baneng.com), has generously sponsored this **\$2,000** tuition-based scholarship.
- The **Toro Scholarship** will be awarded to a student of Mechanical, Electrical or Agricultural Engineer. The Toro Company is a leading worldwide provider of outdoor maintenance and beautification products for home, recreation and commercial landscapes (www.toro.com) and they have generously sponsored this **\$1,500** tuition-based scholarship.
- The **Boston Scientific Scholarship** will be awarded to a student of Mechanical or Biomedical Engineering. Boston Scientific is a worldwide developer, manufacturer and marketer of medical devices who for more than 25 years, has advanced the practice of less-invasive medicine by providing a broad and deep portfolio of innovative products, technologies and services (www.bsci.com). Boston Scientific has sponsored a generous **\$1,500** tuition-based scholarship.
- Three **General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems Scholarships** will be awarded to students of Electrical, Mechanical, Software, or Computer Engineering. General Dynamics Advanced Information Systems, a leading provider of transformational mission solutions in command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (www.gd-ais.com), has generously sponsored these **three \$1,000** scholarships.
- Two **Lockheed Martin Scholarships** will be awarded to students of Electrical, Mechanical or Systems Engineering. Lockheed Martin's vision is to be the world's best advanced technology systems integrator (www.lockheedmartin.com) and they have generously sponsored these **\$1,500 and \$1,000** tuition-based scholarships.
- The **MTS Systems Corporation Scholarship** will be awarded to a student of Mechanical or Software Engineering. MTS Systems Corporation, the world's leading supplier of mechanical testing and simulation equipment (www.mts.com), has generously sponsored this **\$1,500** tuition-based scholarship.
- The **Goodrich Scholarship** will be awarded to a student of Aerospace, Industrial, Manufacturing, Mechanical or Electrical engineering. Goodrich Corporation is a global supplier of systems and services to the aerospace and defense industries (www.goodrich.com) and has generously sponsored this **\$1,000** tuition-based scholarship.
- The **Polaris Scholarship** will be awarded to a student of mechanical engineering. Polaris has been manufacturing snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles, watercrafts, motorcycles, and sport boats for nearly fifty years (www.polarisindustries.com) and has generously sponsored this **\$1,000** tuition-based scholarship.
- The **Minnesota Section Scholarship** is being offered to qualified women students who will enter their junior or senior year of an accredited engineering program in Fall 2007 at schools in Minnesota, North Dakota, and South Dakota. This is a tuition-based scholarship of **\$1,000**, for a student in any discipline of study.

Membership Renewal

As of December 1, 2006, FY06 members who did not renew their membership for FY07 were dropped from the list we get from SWE Headquarters each month. Those members will no longer receive communication from Headquarters or SWE-MN such as the SWE Magazine and the SWE-MN newsletter. If you would still like to be a member of SWE, you still can! Please go to www.swe.org and click on "Member Log-in." You will need your User ID and Password, then you will be able to renew your SWE membership. We hope to see everyone renew, as we have many exciting programs this year!

Member Participation

The SWE-MN Section has set a goal of 50% of our membership participating in events throughout FY07. In order to meet this goal we are in need of your help. Have you participated in the online Web seminars hosted by the Society? Did you attend the National Conference in October? Are you involved at the Regional or National level? We want to know! Please send an e-mail to Lisa and Jenna at membership@swe-mn.org and let them know which Web seminars, conferences, committees, and other events you have participated in so that we can continue to increase our member participation numbers!

Book Club Discussion

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Her Place at the Table by Deborah M. Ph.D. Kolb, Judith Ph.D. Williams, and Carol JD Frohlinger, is a practical guide for any woman dealing with a demanding role. Drawing on extensive interviews with women leaders, the authors isolate five key challenges.

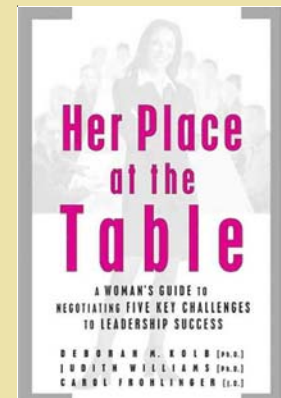
- Intelligence — to make informed decisions you need good information, but getting it can be a tricky proposition for women.
- Backing — no one wants to take on a tough job without the support of major players, but you can't take those allies for granted.
- Resources — allocations don't always square with the results expected.
- Buy-In — you can't lead if no one wants to follow, but bringing a team on board can be problematic.
- Making a Difference — the value you create must be visible before it makes a difference.

Time: 6:00 pm

Place: Bad Waitress Coffee Shop
2 E 26th St (Cross Street: Nicollet Avenue)
Minneapolis, MN 55408

Cost: Free (Food and beverages will be available for purchase at the restaurant)

Questions?: Contact Julie Long
952-563-4865 or jlong@ci.bloomington.mn.us



Take longer to read than the book club timeframe? Feel free to get started on the next book *Good to Great* by Jim Collins which we will be discussing later this spring.

Get to Know SWE-MN

Featuring SWE-MN Member: Cherish Samuels

I became involved with SWE as a college sophomore at Tennessee State University in Nashville. We had a fairly small chapter so I didn't realize the magnitude of SWE until I went to graduate school at Pennsylvania State University (affectionately known as Penn State). SWE became a great resource for academic questions, professional support and finding ways to better the community. When I moved to Minneapolis in 2005 I looked up the local chapter and was welcomed with open arms.

I earned my Bachelors degree in Architectural Engineering from TSU in December of 2002 and returned to my hometown of Detroit, MI to work. I was working for an architectural engineering firm that I had interned with from the age of 18. After a few months on the job in the Mechanical Engineering dept, I decided that I wanted to specialize in Mechanical Building Systems so I applied to Penn State and completed my Masters in December of 2004. A month after graduation I was packing my things and heading to Minnesota for my new job at Ryan Companies as a Mechanical Engineer.



As an ME in construction, I work on the design, modeling, testing and commissioning of building systems (mostly HVAC, plumbing, and fire protection). Ryan is one of the top construction firms in the area and my first

project with the company (my pride and joy) was the 1 million square foot renovation known as the Midtown Exchange (the former Sears building on Lake and Chicago in Minneapolis). Other projects I have worked on as either designer or consultant include retail stores, manufacturing facilities, multi-family residential buildings and schools. I am a LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Accredited Professional and I focus a lot of time and energy in the areas of sustainability as it relates to the built environment. Ryan is also very big on community involvement, which allows me the opportunity to be a regular speaker in science and engineering classes at inner-city middle/high schools, volunteer at a local recreation center and create in-house activities to coincide with national programs like "Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day".

In my personal life, I love to read and watch movies. I am considered the "personal shopper of choice" by my friends and family so I spend a lot of time in the Twin Cities' malls helping to dress them for various occasions. My boyfriend Rickey is a comedian based out of Dallas, TX. He is currently on a national tour, so most of my weekends are spend traveling with him to different cities around the country.

COR Report

Holli Pheil & Patricia Walker

The Council of Representatives (COR) is the voice of the Society of Women Engineers members. The Minnesota professional section has two voting members on the council that represents the issues of our section and provides the information from the national level to the Minnesota members.

The Region H conference call took place on November 21, 2006. The Collegiate Travel Grant proposal passed. North Dakota State University, Minnesota State University Mankato, and Oakland University will be awarded travel grants to help fund travel to the Region H conference. The proposed Collegiate Membership Upgrade Procedure, which will use Region H money to fund collegiate membership upgrades, also passed. The upgrades will be awarded during the Region H conference. The Collegiate Leadership Coaching Committee (LCC) needs five more members. If you are interested in joining, you should be less than five years out of college and there is funding available to assist with the travel expenses. The region also needs a Collegiate Interests Committee (CIC) representative for FY08. Again, members should be less than five years out of college. The obligation is fairly minimal. There is a meeting at the National Conference and most of the contact for the committee is conducted by conference call.

Region membership is looking good! As of October 31, 2006 Region H was at 70.7% for gross retention with 10% more needed to go to meet our goal. Growth is at 9.54% with another 10% needed to achieve our goal.

Alyse Stofer, our Region H Governor, also gave a summary of the Board of Directors conference call. The Partnership Coordination Task Force was approved with Libby Alman serving as chair. This task force will look at our interactions with other groups like corporate management, international groups, career guidance organizations, and other societies. The International Participation Committee was approved with Holli Pheil, from SWE-MN, serving as chair. Congratulations, Holli! This committee will look at expanding SWE internationally. If you are interested in joining the above committees contact cor@swe-mn.org. Lastly, a new position for a Director of Marketing has been approved to focus on our external relationships.

The Region H Conference will be hosted by Northwestern University January 26-28th in downtown Chicago. The professional rate is \$125 for sharing a room and \$200 for a single room. The registration is open. We look forward to seeing you all there!

If you have interests in committees, any questions, or if you plan on attending the Region H Conference, please contact us at cor@swe-mn.org.

Holiday Party Recap

Gretchen Landini and Sarah Steffen

The SWE-Minnesota Holiday Party was held on Saturday, December 9th at Xcel Energy in Minneapolis. There were 28 people in attendance. SWE members were encouraged to bring their families along.

The theme this year was a holiday cookie exchange. Each family was asked to bring three dozen cookies to exchange with others. This was a hit with everyone as there wasn't a single set of duplicate or store bought cookies! We were able to go home with a great sampling of goodies.

We also spent a fair amount of time visiting and making holiday ornaments to bring home. A great time was had by all.



November Networking Night Recap

Jenna Rendon and Lisa Schmalhurst

The fall networking night event was held on Thursday, November 16, 2006. SWE-MN members got together for a holiday card making party in Brooklyn Park. There were a total of seven attendees, including five SWE-MN members and two Stampin' Up demonstrators. The evening began with lively conversation and munching on tasty snacks while we waited for everyone to arrive. After a brief overview from the Stampin' Up demonstrators, the SWE-MN Members began stamping and assembling 4 different stunning holiday cards. A picture of one of the cards along with its matching stamped envelope is shown to the right. Each member made a total of eight cards to take home and share with friends and family during the upcoming holiday season.



Spring Professional Development Seminar

Sharon Kurtt and Erica Hoffman

Please mark your calendar and plan on attending the 14th annual SWE-MN Spring Professional Development Seminar.

When: Saturday, March 10th, 2007, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Where: The University of St. Thomas, Saint Paul, MN

What: Join us for a full day of presentations designed to enhance your professional development. A broad range of technical and non-technical topics will be included.

Highlights include: Keynote Speaker - IBM Executive, Address by the Executive Director - The Bakken Museum, Technical Presentations by St. Thomas Engineering Faculty, Tours of Research Labs - St. Thomas School of Engineering and much more. CEUs available.

How: Please watch upcoming newsletters and the weekly e-mails for registration information.



Region H Conference

Elizabeth Bierman

The upcoming Region H Conference will be held at Northwestern University in Chicago, IL January 26-28, 2007. The cost of the conference for professional members (which covers the cost of the conference, hotel on Friday and Saturday night and meals on Saturday) is \$125 for a double occupancy room and \$200 for a single occupancy room. The conference website is located at:

<http://swe.mccormick.northwestern.edu/>

The website contains the agenda and seminar schedule as well as many of the companies featured in the career fair. Updates to the website will be made as more information becomes available.

Scholarship Committee

Naomi Brill and Julie Long

January through April represents the busy season for the Scholarship Committee and we are looking for extra help. Please join us in judging scholarship applications, preparing the mailing to all Minnesota high schools (making copies or collate and stuff the mailing with networking with other SWE members and students) and sending our Certificates of Merit to high school women who have demonstrated excellence in math and science.

For further information or to volunteer contact scholarships@swe-mn.org.

New Faces of Engineering Prospective Awards and Recognition Report

Cathy Krier

Awards and Recognition Chair

National E-Week recognizes the accomplishments of engineers with the New Faces of Engineering recognition from each society. This year SWE encouraged each section to submit one candidate for consideration. Tricia Walker was submitted as the SWE-MN candidate. There were two other members that were considered by SWE-MN for this nomination that deserve honorable mention: Holli Pheil and Angela Neidermire. It has been a sincere pleasure to get to know these members better through this process.

On November 15, SWE has announced that Tricia is one of five applicants that will be submitted to represent the Society of Women Engineers in the 2007 New Faces of Engineering Program.

Congratulations Tricia on receiving this recognition! Good luck in the final running. It is fun sharing your accomplishments thus far as a 'New Face' in Engineering.

Let's take a moment to check out the interesting and unique contributions Tricia has made in the medical device industry.

With the aging population quickly growing, the technical advances in the medical industry grow seemingly more important every day. Patricia Walker, in her three-year career as R&D Engineer and Engineering Supervisor at Catheter and Disposables Technology, Inc., aided in the design, development, and management of over twenty medical devices used in the cardiovascular, respiratory, urinary, nervous, reproductive, and skeletal systems. She was responsible for customer communications, product development, validation, and launch as well as timeline, budget, and resource management activities.



She conducted Design of Experiments on thermally fused joints in catheter designs, thus optimizing parameters for process validation and also contributed to the design of a drug delivery system where she helped implement the use of mold flow analysis. Walker recently joined Accellent, Inc. and is using her experience to aid in catheter design and manufacturing in this innovative company. Her unique and comprehensive approach to design employs integrated design tools to compress the development cycle thus achieving rapid, high quality, and innovative designs to the customer.

Tricia earned a BS in Engineering Science from Iowa State University in May 2000 and a MS in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Iowa in August 2002. She is an active member of the Society of Women Engineers locally, regionally, and nationally.

National Engineers Week Foundation will profile each of the nominees at eweek.org. The profiles will be posted on the Engineers Week web site at www.eweek.org and at www.discoverengineering.org, the Engineers Week web site for middle school students.

Every SWE-MN member is entitled to one **free pass** to give to a non-member to attend one meeting this year at no cost. We ask that you please do not redeem the free pass at the annual Spring Professional Development Seminar. We hope to see you and your guest at an upcoming event!

SWE Member's Name: _____

Friend's Name: _____

Meeting Date: _____

Offer good through 6/30/2007

SWE-MN Career Guidance Fall 2006 Updates

Krista Johnson and Cassie Piippo

Career Guidance has been keeping busy,
as usual!

On November 11, over 150 Junior Girl Scouts took an adventure to Outer Space with SWE-MN!!! This Girl Scout Patch Day, sponsored by Boston Scientific CRM, was our largest ever!



Experiments included:

- *New* Circuits though Matching Game
- Concrete (Asphalt) Cookies
- Silly Putty
- Aqua Ground Water
- Automotive Egg Crash Group Game

New Hand-Made SWE Rockets

And learning about astronomy and telescopes too!

Finally, our first ever, GSPD Adult Info Session!!



**Crash Safety !!!
OH YEA...**



And The Universe's Greatest Volunteers!!

Angela Neidermire
Lisa Schmalhurst
Alyssa Yarbrough
Allison Pedersen
Mike Svendsen
Ann Majewicz
Holly Kimball
Adrienne Kelsey
Erin Penne
Sarah Struble
Anita Hall
Holli Pheil
Kitti Killilea
Gaby Dani
Bill Bynum



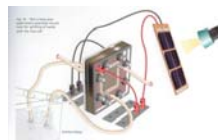
Melissa Lebens
Katherine Black
Kay Thamvichai
Anna Plantenberg
Elizabeth Bierman
Nicole Gordon
Joe Crimando
Jayshee Desai
Sushma Kamran
Paul Olszewski
Eve Commerford
Laurie Gilbert
Krista Johnson
Cassie Piippo
Katy Haugland

Fuel Cell Cars at The Works December 1



**19 home-schooled senior students learned
all about the fuel cells and raced their
speedy cars all over the museum!!**

Big Thanks to our
EventVolunteers:
Cheryl Sykora
Melissa Boom Coburn
Martha Escobar
Jayshree Desai
Anita Hall
Krista Johnson
Cassie Piippo



SWE-MN Chosen for “WOW – That’s Engineering?!”

SWE-MN has just learned that we are **One of Three** (out of 22 applied) national sections chosen to do a “Wow, That’s Engineering?” Event in 2007!!

http://www.developdesigndiscover.org/news_events/about.html

If you’re interested in helping, please contact cg@swe-mn.org
*This is very exciting news and we’re gearing up to
prepare for the fun!*



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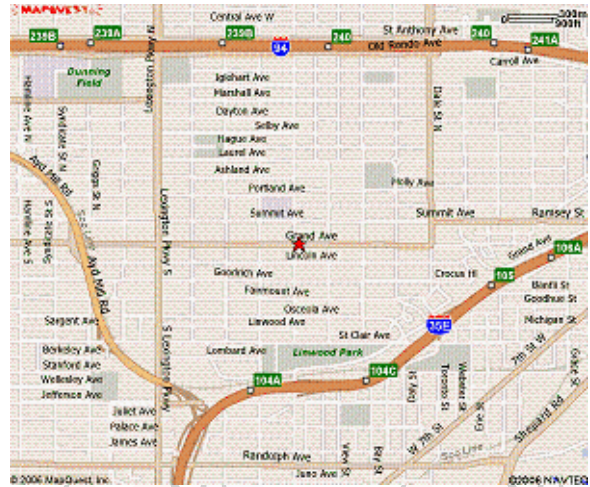
February Networking Night February 27, 2007



We are hosting a fun evening of socializing and dining for our February Networking Night event! Please join us at Cafe Latte Restaurant in St. Paul. Cafe Latte has a bakery specializing in wonderful cakes, tortes and breads. SWE will be providing a delicious dessert from the bakery for this event. Now that's a sweet deal! Take a minute to relax, network and catch up with other SWE Minnesota members.

DATE: Tuesday, February 27, 2007

TIME: 6:00 p.m.



LOCATION: Cafe Latte Restaurant 850 Grand Avenue St. Paul, MN 55105

DIRECTIONS: Cafe Latte is located at the intersection of Grand Ave and Victoria Street in St. Paul. From I-94: Take I-94 to Lexington Pkwy exit. Go South on Lexington Pkwy. Turn left on Grand Ave. From I-35E South Bound: Exit at St. Clair Ave. Turn right onto St. Clair Ave. Turn right on Victoria Street. Arrive at Grand and Victoria. From I-35E North Bound: Exit at Randolph Ave. Turn left onto Randolph Ave. Turn right onto Lexington Pkwy. Turn right onto Grand Ave.

COST: Dinner will be on your own. Dessert will be provided by SWE.

RSVP: By Friday, February 23rd, please send email to membership@swe-mn.org

QUESTIONS: Email to membership@swe-mn.org



Ecolab Meeting Recap

Sarah Steffen & Gretchen Landini

The November Professional Development meeting was held at Ecolab in Eagan, MN on Tuesday, November 28, 2006. The topic for the evening was “Taking Advantage of a Woman’s Touch in Your Organization” and was presented by Sonya Eggen. Twenty-four people were in attendance with four people attending their first SWE-MN meeting!

Sonya spoke of how industry has changed over the years and how those lessons learned can be applied to an organization’s structure.

Prior to the 1990’s, the common business practice was to have a very structured management style. Businesses tended to focus on the end product with little interface between management and customers.

Things changed in the 1990’s where service and innovation were becoming big parts of a successful business. Corporations were forced to change how they treated employees and thus improving their service level.

With the beginning of this era, it was learned how important it is to have a balanced style. Businesses were no longer able to fall back on their strengths all of the time and needed to break outside of their comfort zones.

Many women have natural tendencies toward the style that businesses were striving to attain. This same style is very beneficial in organizations as well.

Women tend to be:

- Excellent Consensus Builders: Women discuss issues with others to get feedback; they are naturally curious of the input of others. This makes people value that they’re being listened to, thus creating more positive communication.
- Flexible and Adaptable: Women are perceptive and read non-verbal cues well. This helps women understand another’s state of mind. Women tend to open up and talk about family/life outside of work. This helps women tailor their style to work well with their counterparts.
- Compassionate and Empathetic: Women can sense and identify with others feelings to help remedy the situation. They tend to see the long-term benefits in the short-term solution.
- Empowering and Nurturing of Others: Women tend to get others involved. This increases the level of enjoyment for others if they are involved. Challenging others and making them feel important is beneficial both in a work and organizational sense. Empowering others to make them feel valued that they are able to contribute something valuable to the situation.

Both verbal and non-verbal communication is a powerful way to get your point across and be heard. Women are very good at this and by relying on a woman’s natural tendencies, an organization (or business) can grow and build to make itself better.

The SWE-MN newsletter is published five times per fiscal year - September, November, January, March and May. Submit articles to the newsletter editor. The SWE annual membership includes a subscription to this newsletter.

To place an ad or sponsor a newsletter, please contact the editor at newsletter@swe-mn.org

**Leadership Coaching Event
Saturday, January 13, 2007**

Join SWE-MN as we conduct a leadership coaching session titled, "Leadership Burnout"

SWE Section Leaders are often "do-ers" and find themselves stretched very thin. SWE Leadership Coach Elizabeth Bierman will lead the discussion to help you understand and deal with leadership burnout within SWE and also your professional and personal life.

Time: 11:00 – 12:00

Location: Boston Scientific
4100 Hamline Ave N
Building 4100A (main entrance)
Arden Hills, MN

RSVP: By **Tuesday, January 8th**, please email to president@swe-mn.org



The newsletter is now being distributed to our members in electronic format.

If you would like to receive a paper copy of this newsletter, please send an e-mail to the newsletter editor at: newsletter@swe-mn.org



**EWEEK 2007
February 18-24**

SWE-MN will again be participating in Connection Day during EWEEK 2007 with the Connecting Educators to Engineering program. Last year we were able to reach out to approximately 35 teachers & administrators and 350 students during that day. We hope to do the same this year.

We will be choosing one Junior High to go visit during Connection Day. We have a session with the teachers and also do an experiment with the students.

We will be needing volunteers for this event. If you are interested, please e-mail Erin at vp@swe-mn.org to be put on the volunteer list for this event. As the details are firmed up, we will contact you with the schedule and see when you can volunteer.



Water Park of America Tour

Come join SWE-MN for a behind the scenes tour of the Water Park of America in Bloomington, MN. Immediately following the tour, we will be having dinner at the Split Rock Grill located at the water park.

We are limited to 20 spaces on this tour. RSVP today so that you are guaranteed a spot. A waiting list will be generated for this event and all members will be contacted by Thursday, January 11th.

When: Tuesday, January 16th at 6pm

Location: Water Park of America
1700 E American Blvd
Bloomington, MN 55425

Cost: \$10 (includes dinner)

RSVP: pd@swe-mn.org by Thursday, January 11th.
There will be no refunds given for this event and all payments must be sent in advance.

Questions?: Contact Gretchen or Sarah at pd@swe-mn.org

Payments should be sent to:

Please make checks payable to SWE-MN

Gretchen Landini
10457 Xylon Rd
Bloomington, MN 55438

January 13	Leadership Coaching Event (Page 14)
January 16	PD Event Water Park of America Tour (Page 15)
January 26-28	Region H Conference Chicago, IL (Page 9)
January 31	Book Club Discussion (Page 6)
February 18 - 24	EWEEK (Page 14)
February 27	Networking Night (Page 12)
March 10	Spring Professional Development Seminar (Page 9)

Visit our website at www.swe-mn.org



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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED