



Valley Views

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Society of Women Engineers Sacramento Valley Section



Volume 6, Issue 6

November/December 2005

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SVS SWE 2005 CALENDAR OF EVENTS



January

18 JOINT MEETING WITH SIERRA
FOOTHILLS SECTION,
MISSION ROGELIO MEXICAN
RESTAURANT

February

8 LUNCHTIME SEMINAR ON
PRESENTING IN THE
CLASSROOM, BROWN &
CALDWELL

19-25 ENGINEER'S WEEK (SWE HOST
ENGINEERING ORGANIZATION)

23 GIRL DAY (SEE ARTICLE ON
PAGE 9)

March

25 YES! PROGRAM

PRESIDENTS COLUMN

Dear Section Members,

As we are approaching the holidays I want to wish everyone a happy and healthy holiday season. At the moment I am packing for a family reunion with my mother and all my brothers and their families. We are spread across the country and I am very much looking forward to the time I will spend with them. I hope you all enjoy the season and have the opportunity to visit with your family and friends and reflect upon what is truly important to us all.

I want to take the opportunity to thank all the SWE members who have donated their precious time and energy. Life places huge demands on us all and we all appreciate that you have chosen to donate your time to the promoting the ideals of SWE. Community service is an important ingredient in a strong and healthy society as well as enhancing our individual lives and promoting well being. I salute you all!

More than a dozen members attended the Holiday Social on December 6th at Ettoros. There were brand new members and long-time members, which made for some fun exchanges. We heard about the plans to revitalize our Scholarship Program, happenings at the Regional and National levels, and the preliminary planning for the June Silent Auction Fundraiser (for the Scholarship Fund) to be held at the Julia Morgan House.

Our January meeting will be our annual Joint Meeting with the Sierra Foothills Section. It is scheduled for Wednesday, January 18 at Mission Rogelio Mexican Restaurant. We always have an interesting program, and it's a great opportunity to network. More details will follow closer to the date.

Liz



UPCOMING EVENTS

January

Joint Meeting with Sierra Foothills Section

WHEN: January 18th, 6:00-8:00 PM
WHERE: Mission Rogelio Mexican Restaurant, Gold River



Come join the fun with fellow SWEsters from the Sierra Foothills Section! Share your holiday stories with new and old friends, enjoy the great Mexican food and hear about our exciting upcoming events.

February

Presenting in the Classroom

WHEN: February 8th, 12:00-1:00 PM
WHERE: Brown & Caldwell
10540 White Rock Road, Suite 180

Learn specific techniques and age appropriate classroom activities that will help inspire students to continue in math & science. This mini-workshop will contain information on engineering careers, startling statistics, and other information that will help you as a speaker and engineering ambassador in the classroom. RSVP to Himali Rodrigo by Feb 3rd at hrodrigo@brwnccald.com.

Engineer's Week

WHEN: February 19th – 25th

An engineering diversification outreach for young women and girls!

“Girl Day”

WHEN: February 23rd



See article on Page 9

March

YES! Program

WHEN: March 25th
WHERE: TBD

As part of the Girl Scouts' Innovation and Inquiry program, the SVS SWE Section will be leading the YES! Event for the fourth year. This is a wonderful opportunity to make a difference and be part of the most rewarding event all year. Don't miss it! Contact Jennifer Johnston at jennifer.johnston@swe.org for more information.

OFFICER'S ROSTER

President	<i>Elizabeth Gillis-Raley</i> (916) 638-3058 (home) borden@lanset.com
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Speaker's Bureau	<i>Open</i>
Eweek Coordinator	<i>Open</i>

M E M B E R P R O F I L E

Cathy Chui Ly was born and raised in Sacramento. She graduated in 2002 from the University of California at San Diego with a B.S. in Structural Engineering, and then studied abroad for one semester at the Chinese University of Hong Kong as a post-graduate student in Architecture. Cathy left the program early to gain some work experience before continuing graduate school. From Hong Kong, she moved back to Elk Grove, where she now resides and works as a Water Resource Engineer at Mead & Hunt.

In Cathy's two years of experience in the water resources field, she has been on a variety of construction projects ranging from tainter gate inspections, flood control and flood levee design, to structural design of a number of hydroelectric buildings on the Mokelumne River. The Mokelumne River is located along the Alpine and Amador County line, which is on the border of California and Nevada. Cathy actually lived in the area for the first year of construction and now commutes to this location twice a week to check on the construction projects. There are three sites out of 10 that are still under construction, and Cathy is the resident engineer in the field.

In her spare time, Cathy likes spending time with the great outdoors. She enjoys rock climbing and has been fortunate to be able to incorporate her climbing techniques for dam and tainter gate inspections in the field. She also is an avid runner and hiker, and in the winter months enjoys snowboarding at Lake Tahoe. Cathy loves to travel and has been to various cities around the world, including Sydney, Melbourne, London, Rome, Dublin, Cork, Bangkok, Beijing, Seoul, Cabo San Lucas and many cities in the U.S. She also loves photography and has a huge collection of photos from her travels and construction.

Cathy was involved in the SWE Student Section throughout her four years in college. She developed and conducted programs at elementary schools, and helped organize an annual banquet for sophomore women engineering students, since it is at this time that many women drop out of engineering studies. The banquet was to encourage and support them and help keep them on track for engineering degrees. Cathy also has jumped right into SWE Sac Valley Section activities by volunteering to be the Counselor to the Sac State Student Section, and to help with the Young Engineers Session next March 25, an all-day event with hands-on engineering activities for middle school girls. Cathy said she was influenced by such an event when she was a teenager, so wants to return the favor! Welcome to the Sac Valley Section, Cathy!



SWE Sac Valley Section sends a BIG thank you to Sarah Belway for editing the Section Newsletter for the past three years. Sarah was reliable and creative with the newsletters, getting them out on time with interesting articles and graphics. Sarah changed jobs recently and will be doing a lot of international

travel (she's already been to South Korea on a construction site), so had to pass on the editorship. The Section is extremely lucky to have Maya Oulanovitch volunteer to take over this very important job. Thank you to both Sarah and Maya!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SVS SWE OPEN POSITIONS

CSUS COUNSELOR, SPEAKER'S BUREAU, AND E WEEK COORDINATOR

Contact Liz Raley at borden@lanset.com for more information on these positions.

Jobs!!!

Please send job openings to Maya Oulanovitch at mayavalдан@sbcglobal.net to be placed in upcoming SVS SWE Newsletters! **IT'S FREE!!!**

WANTED!!!!

YOUR ARTICLES FOR THE SVS SWE NEWSLETTER

SWE Sacramento Valley Section Newsletter is published six times a year for its membership. Call or write for subscription rates. Editorial office: SWE, PO Box 924, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-0924 Fax: (916) 255-3439. Email: sbelway@yahoo.com.

SWE members are encouraged to submit articles that may be of interest to other SWE members. Articles may reflect personal opinions and be controversial in nature and will be published as long as they are not deemed "offensive".

ADS

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN PLACING AN AD IN OUR NEWSLETTER, PLEASE SEND CAMERA-READY ADS, PHOTOS, ARTICLES, ETC. TO THE NEWSLETTER EDITOR AT OUR P.O. BOX ADDRESS LISTED PREVIOUSLY. E-MAIL AND/OR ATTACHMENTS CAN BE SENT TO MAYAVALDAN@SBCGLOBAL.NET.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS THE 20TH OF EVERY OTHER MONTH (SEPTEMBER, NOVEMBER, JANUARY, MARCH, MAY, AND JULY).

REGIONAL SWE NEWS

Looking for additional SWE information???



Check out the SWE Region A website, located at <http://swe-goldenwest.org>. If you're looking for regional information and events, this is the place to go.

For National SWE Information, check out www.swe.org

SWE encourages professional development. For more information visit the Professional Development link at www.swe.org. Below is a summary of the SWE approach.

The Advancement of Women in Engineering & Technology

Professional Development at SWE has a focused approach to empower women to succeed and advance in their engineering studies and careers. Our programs support the retention, recruitment and advancement of women in engineering and technology through career services, professional development programs and networking opportunities.

SWE Professional Development Program Tracks

SWE's professional development programs are customized to various levels of a woman engineer's management career. SWE offers programs targeted to entry, middle, senior and executive management. These programs are produced based on pertinent subject matter for each track.

JOB ANNOUNCEMENTS

El Dorado County Department of Transportation

Is accepting applications for:

Deputy Director, Engineering
\$92, 165 - \$112,050

Right of Way Program Manger
\$73, 736 - \$89,606

Supervising Civil Engineer
\$80,142 - \$97,407

Senior Traffic Engineer
\$74,922m - \$92,083

Senior Civil Engineer
\$69,680 - \$84,718



Applications are being accepted on a continuous basis.

For more information, visit www.co.el-dorado.ca.us

Sacramento City Unified School District

The Sacramento City Unified School District is looking for a unique individual to build a construction technology and woodshop program at Luther Burbank High School in south Sacramento. The successful candidate will have at least five years professional experience in the construction industry, preferably in a skilled trade, and will also be able to teach woodcraft using typical cabinet shop equipment and traditional hand tools.

This is an opportunity to affect the lives of inner city students in a meaningful way. By teaching about construction trades you are opening them to an opportunity for good jobs they and their family have likely not considered. You will also teach them personal skills that will be of value in any occupation they choose.

If you are a retired construction industry professional, or simply want to make a change of career, passing along what you have learned by connecting with our youth carries great personal reward. This is an opportunity to take a program to the next level and put your personal stamp on the future of many young people.

This is a full time position during the regular school year, full benefits are included, and summers are off. The

Sacramento City Unified School District is committed in all of its activities, policies, programs, and procedures to provide equal opportunity for all to avoid discrimination against any person regardless of age, race, sex, religion, color, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, marital status, Vietnam-era veteran status, or any other reason. The District will make reasonable accommodations for applicants with disabilities. Please contact Larry Loban at 916-643-9208 or Larry-Loban@sac-city.k12.ca.us for more information.

**Sacramento County
Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant**

Sacramento County is recruiting for assistant and associate civil engineers. These positions are located at the Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant (SRWTP) in Elk Grove, California. SRWTP is permitted to treat 181 million gallons of wastewater per day (mgd) during dry weather and is one of the largest inland surface water dischargers in California. SRWTP is part of the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SRCSD) and includes approximately 100 miles of interceptor pipelines.

Position responsibilities are focused on operation, maintenance, and compliance aspects at SRCSD. Key responsibilities include compliance issues for liquid, air, solids, groundwater, landfill, and storm water permits; including investigations, special studies, and various monitoring and reporting programs.

Responsibilities also include development of a Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) that defines and documents maintenance activities and practices for the interceptor collection system. Experience and knowledge of wastewater treatment processes, maintenance activities, permit compliance, process investigation/optimization, environmental monitoring, evaluation, and reporting is desired but not required.

**For more information contact
Mitch Maidrand at (916) 875-9083
8521 Laguna Station Road
Elk Grove, CA 95758
maidrandm@sacounty.net
Apply on-line at www.sacountyjobs.net**

Please visit the SWE website for more jobs:

<https://scc.societyofwomenengineers.org/index.aspx>

ARTICLES

National Conference Report

By Virginia Squire

SWE's 2006 National Conference was held in Anaheim Nov 2-5. Mary Frederick, Jennifer Johnston, and Virginia Squire attended from the Sacramento Valley Section. Imagine a convention hall filled with 4000 women engineers, recruiters, guests and speakers from all over the nation. It was noisy, energizing and surprising. The Career Fair and Exhibits ran for a day and a half and probably involved everyone present at some time. Thousands of pens, toys, posters and products were distributed. Dozens of Ipod's were given out by drawings in various booths. Resumes were collected, interviews were held and general information was passed out to those not yet ready to commit to applying for a job or graduate school.

Throughout the conference workshops were held on topics of career guidance and professional development. There were student, joint and professional Region meetings for all ten regions. There was a Mega Issue discussion involving representatives of all the sections, some students and the members at large. There were technical and fun tours, a golf match, awards banquet and celebration of SWE achievements. In between activities, there were opportunities to meet SWE members from just about everywhere, old friends, and SWE pioneers. There was a meeting of the Council of Representatives, COR, that decides SWE policies and direction for the coming years, and a Membership Meeting where the officers noted accomplishments and upcoming opportunities.

I attended workshops on Strategic Planning for Sections, Professionalism in Sections, E-Week, and Introducing Girls to The Wonder of a Tech Career. There were workshops on starting Special Interest Groups at community colleges and succession planning in sections that I couldn't fit into my schedule.

Some key facts that I want to share are:

- A Jr. SWE Outreach program for middle school is being piloted for the 06-07 school year, with a full launch planned for 07-08
- There will be a "Connecting Day" planned for the Connecting Educators to Engineering project of E-Week.
- There will be Women in Engineering and Technology campaign launched in five cities in conjunction with Women's History Month in March.

- There is now an International Outreach taskforce in place
- There are now 8,800 members of SWE, about 45% are students.
- There were over 4100 people in attendance at the Conference
- There are updated Career Guidance brochures available from HQ

THE NEXT CONFERENCE WILL BE IN KANSAS CITY IN OCTOBER 2006! Why not plan to be there and experience even more of what SWE has to offer?

Raise a Glass for the Sacramento Valley Section Scholarship Fund!

In order to continue the positive momentum from last year's highly successful fundraiser as well as incorporate our members' interest in enjoying food and wine, the 2006 fundraiser to benefit the Sacramento Valley Section Scholarship Fund will feature a raffle, auction, and . . . wine tasting! Furthermore, we are hoping to award scholarships in 2006 that will be presented at the event.

Planning efforts have already begun, and with the help of one of our most esteemed section members, Anne-Louise Radimsky, we have secured the beautiful and historic Julia Morgan House as the venue for the event. Much more needs to be done however, and we could use your help! Areas where help is needed include:

- Solicitation for donations: auction items, raffle items, and wine for the tasting
- Solicitation of corporate donations & sponsorship
- Auction planning
- Raffle planning
- Wine Tasting planning
- Food & refreshment
- Entertainment
- Site management & decorations
- Publicity

If you would like to help in planning this event, please contact the 2006 Fundraiser Committee Chair, Rachel Huang via email at ryhuang1@hotmail.com or by phone at (530) 297-1223. We will be pulling together a kickoff meeting in the next few weeks, and hope you will join us!

Aiming To Connect With A Key Constituency, Engineers Week 2006 Launches Outreach To America's Middle School Teachers

Diligence, says an ancient proverb, is a great teacher. The engineering community will put that maxim to the test during Engineers Week 2006 with an extensive outreach to middle school teachers.

The new program, "**Connecting Educators to Engineering**," will target up to 10,000 middle school teachers with a coordinated push to train engineers to directly interact with educators, provide needed learning materials, and create an online forum for educator and engineer interaction.

The Engineers Week 2006 co-chairs, the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and Northrop Grumman Corporation, aim to build on the extensive record of other EWeek programs to connect with students from kindergarten through high school. The middle school years are a particularly prime time to reach students with math and science education so they are prepared for the high school courses necessary to pursue engineering in college.

The program's agenda includes training sessions for engineers and engineering students on how best to work with teachers and others in middle school environments.

"The importance of reaching young people in seventh and eighth grades shouldn't be underestimated," said Patricia Welesko Garland, Chair of Engineers Week 2006 activities, and a chemical engineer who is currently Combined Heat and Power Program Manager at Oak Ridge National Laboratory based in Washington, D.C. "Students introduced to the potential and promise of engineering at this age have a much greater inclination to pursue it as a career in later years."

Engineers Week, a consortium of more than 100 professional and technical societies and major U.S. corporations, is slated for February 19-25, 2006 . The program aims to ensure a diverse and well-educated future engineering workforce by increasing understanding of and interest in engineering and technology careers among young students and by promoting pre-college literacy in math and science. Now in its 56th year, Engineers Week also raises public understanding and appreciation of engineers' contributions to society and is among the oldest of America's professional outreach efforts.

Returning after a hiatus of a few years is **Executive All Stars**, in which corporate leaders across the country champion engineering and increased participation in Engineers Week in their respective states. The All Stars program will mobilize some of the profession's most visible and media-friendly executives through public appearances,

classroom visits, corporate lectures, and other Engineers Week initiatives.

The second annual **Global Marathon For, By and About Women in Engineering** is a 24-hour, around-the-clock Internet and teleconference event featuring up to 48 presentations and question and answer sessions from points originating around the globe. The Global Marathon, to be held on March 23rd at the Engineers Week web site – www.eweek.org – will heighten awareness of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) issues among pre-college, college, and young career women, and address issues of concern such as retaining women in college engineering programs and the workplace.

Other popular EWeek programs returning in 2006 further underscore the profession's commitment to the world and the future.

Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day, in its sixth year, is targeted for Thursday, February 23, 2006. "Girl Day" mobilizes thousands of women engineers – with support from their male counterparts – to mentor and share firsthand experiences of engineering to more than one million girls and young women each year. Engineers Week is also sponsoring a movie advertising campaign to assist local organizations sponsoring Girl Day programs to advertise their events in local theaters.

Girl Day 2006 will also mark the launch of a new book, **Women Engineers: Extraordinary Stories of How They Changed Our World**, the first project from the Extraordinary Women Engineers Project, a collaborative effort of more than 50 engineering organizations. More information on the program and how to get involved can be found at www.engineeringwomen.org.

New Faces of Engineering, in its fourth year, showcases rising young stars in the profession and includes engineers from around the world. By promoting contributions of young engineers and their benefits to people worldwide, New Faces provides stimulation and incentive for college-level students and encourages younger students to consider engineering careers. EWeek sponsoring societies nominate candidates age 30 and under from industry and academia – nominees must hold an engineering degree, be employed as an engineer from two to five years, and have been involved in projects that significantly impact public welfare or further professional development and growth. All New Faces are featured on www.eweek.org.

The **National Engineers Week Future City Competition** TM returns for its 14 th year, operating in 37 regional sites with 30,000 middle school students from more than 1,100 schools participating annually. The program provides insights into potential careers in engineering, math and science through hands-on applications and teamwork.

Students build computer and 3-D scale models of cities of tomorrow under the guidance of teachers and volunteer engineer mentors, and present their designs before engineer judges at regional competitions in January. First place regional teams win a trip to Washington , D.C. for the National Finals, February 20-22, 2006 . Visit www.futurecity.org for more information.

The Engineers Week partnership with **Engineers Without Borders - USA**, spearheaded by 2005 EWeek co-chair ASME, continues with tsunami relief projects planned for India and Sri Lanka. Information on Engineers Without Borders can be found at www.ewb-usa.org.

The **DiscoverE** program provides educational materials to more than 45,000 engineers who work with five and a half million students and teachers in elementary through secondary schools each year through classroom visits and extracurricular programs. An addition to DiscoverE's 2006 program materials will be a multi-media activity guide developed from "Cyberchase," the PBS television program and web site. The guide, entitled "Cyberchase: Math in Science and Engineering," includes activities for kids, a CD-ROM with handouts and graphics, and a DVD with the Cyberchase episodes on which the activities are based.

Foreign language translations of educational program materials are also available at www.eweek.org. The site currently includes materials in Spanish, with French, German, Mandarin, and Portuguese to be added in late 2005.

The National Academy of Engineering (www.nae.edu) presents its annual awards, including the \$500,000 Draper Prize, on Tuesday, February 21 in Washington. The Chinese Institute of Engineers - USA (www.cie-usa.org) will announce the fifth annual Asian American Engineer of the Year Award, recognizing outstanding Asian American professionals in academe, public service, and corporations, on Saturday, February 25 in Seattle.

Engineers Week-sponsored Internet sites include the **Sightseers Guide to Engineering** (www.engineeringsights.org), with information on engineering marvels in all 50 states, and www.discoverengineering.org, an engineering resource for middle school students with links to educational, professional, and corporate sites. Information on all Engineers Week programs and events can be found at www.eweek.org.

DETERMINED TO OPEN DOORS, INTRODUCE A GIRL TO ENGINEERING DAY TAKES ON NEW URGENCY

“Girl Day” Set For February 23

With a sharpened focus on diversifying the ranks of engineering, Engineers Week 2006, February 19-25, will spearhead an all-out effort to reach young women and girls, especially during the sixth annual **Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day** on Thursday, February 23.

“Girl Day,” as it’s known among engineers, is one of the most crucial components of the EWeek outreach. Women engineers, with help from their male counterparts, are planning to reach as many as one million girls through workshops, tours, speaking engagements, on-line discussions and a host of other activities aimed at showing that engineering is an important career option for everyone.

Engineers have long promoted diversity outreach, but Girl Day 2006 takes on added urgency on the heels of startling findings from a survey of attitudes among high school girls, teachers and counselors, engineering students, and engineers. According to the Extraordinary Women Engineers Project (EWEP) study, led by a coalition of engineering associations and the WGBH Educational Foundation and released in April 2005, a staggering number of high school girls – more than 90 percent – do not even consider engineering as a career option. Further, only three out of 85 girls in an EWEP online focus group of academically prepared students indicated that they were planning to become an engineer.

More troubling is the fact that there is no lack of ability or preparation on the part of girls and young women. Previous studies have found that girls, on average, are just as or more likely as boys to have taken the high school science and math courses (biology, chemistry, physics, and advanced algebra) necessary to enter engineering school.

Currently, about ten percent of America’s engineers are women, despite the fact that women make up 46 percent of the nation’s workforce. To counter that, Engineers Week – a 55-year-old consortium of professional and technical societies and major corporations – launched Girl Day in 2001. By all counts, it has become one of the most significant and well-received programs in EWeek’s history.

In particular, Girl Day is hailed for its direct introduction of engineering to girls, often by women engineers. The EWEP study found that one of the most effective ways to draw young women into the profession is for them to know and be exposed to role models. That emphasis is a departure from typical appeals to girls that stress math and science acumen, messages shown to have little resonance

with the target audience and that may, in fact, be counterproductive.

The EWEP study revealed that high school girls, instead, react positively to personal, informational stories about how engineering makes a “difference in people’s lives” and offers a monetarily and personally rewarding career. Outreach by engineers themselves is essential, since few of those who influence young people – parents, teachers, guidance counselors, media personalities and peers – are likely to understand or even have knowledge of engineering. These factors, along with long-standing stereotypes of engineering being for men only, have spurred the increased attention on Girl Day this year.

Diversification has ramifications far beyond engineering. It is estimated that engineering, science and technology have accounted for more than half of America’s sustained growth in the last 50 years, yet these sectors represent only five percent of the work force.

Last year, Girl Day took its first steps into the international arena, with outreach to girls in Canada, Columbia, Egypt, India, Nigeria and the United Arab Emirates. Educational material from the “ZOOM into Engineering” program, developed in collaboration with the PBS television show, “ZOOM,” have been translated into Spanish, with French, German, Mandarin, and Portuguese to be added in late 2005. The translations, provided by the IEEE Women in Engineering international project, are posted at www.eweek.org/site/News/Eweek/girlsday.shtml.

Organizations and engineers are urged to list their Girl Day activities on the online Pledge Roster at www.eweek.org/site/News/Eweek/2006_nationalpledgeroster.shtml.

Patricia Welesko Garland, Chair of Engineers Week 2006 activities and a chemical engineer who currently serves as Combined Heat and Power Program Manager at Oak Ridge National Laboratory based in Tennessee, notes that the challenges to diversification are great, but the potential reward greater. “If we turn this around not only will engineering benefit, but so will all of society around the globe.”

Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day is led by Engineers Week 2006 co-chairs, the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) and Northrop Grumman Corporation, with major sponsors Agilent Technologies, Inc., Lockheed Martin, and the S.D. Bechtel, Jr. Foundation.

The Sacramento Valley Section of the Society of Women Engineers would like to thank the following sponsors for their generous support.



ENSR International
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Suite 210
Sacramento, CA
95827-2508

(916) 362-7100
FAX (916) 362-8100
www.ensr.com



Society of Women Engineers

If you are interested in making a contribution to SWE SVS, please contact Carmen Lee at 875-9254.

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