

Valley Views

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Society of Women Engineers
Sacramento Valley Section

Valley Views



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November/December 2006

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SVS SWE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December

- 2 NANOQUEST 2006 ROBOTICS CHALLENGE at SAM BRANNAN MIDDLE SCHOOL
- 7 HOLIDAY SOCIAL EVENT at CAFÉ ETTORE at 6:30 PM

January

- 12 2nd FRIDAY LUNCHEON in RANCHO CORDOVA
- 23 JOINT DINNER MEETING with SIERRA FOOTHILLS SECTION
"FIGURING OUT WHAT'S NEXT IN YOUR CAREER"

PRESIDENTS COLUMN

Dear Section Members,

Is everyone ready for the holidays? Just a couple of weeks and we'll be writing 2007 on our checks! I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and a healthy and happy new year. Looking over the first half of the year, I've got to say "We've been busy".

We continue to stay active with networking, professional development, mentoring and supporting our local students. Since our last newsletter we were able to participate in the Breast Cancer walk, assist the UC Davis students prepare for their Evening with Industry with a coaching session, lead workshops for Rosemont High School students and network with our local members at our Second Friday Luncheons. We also had two members attend the National Conference.

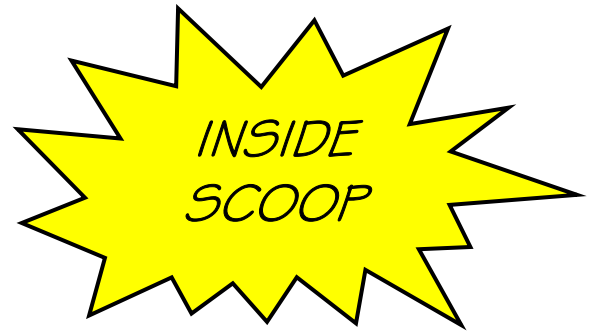
The second half of the year will prove to be even busier than the first half. Please take a moment to review the upcoming schedule and choose one or two events to attend. If you haven't experienced Ettore's great desserts, you should consider attending our December 7th Social (note date change). The strength of our Section is directly related to your participation. We have a good foundation and leadership for upcoming events but will need your help to make it a reality.

Check out our new feature: **Inside Scoop**. In upcoming newsletters our members will share recommendations on cool places to stay, wonderful hikes, unique camping spots, and other experiences. In this issue, I've written one about a great place to escape here in Northern California. I'm headed there in 2 days and can't wait!

I hope to see you at one (or more) of our many rewarding events.

Sincerely,

Liz



Every year on Super Bowl Weekend I escape with a girl friend or two for a spa weekend. Our favorite spot is Indian Springs Resort & Spa in Calistoga. In about an hour and a half I can escape to place with a totally different feel: lots of local 'Calistoga' flavor, but updated and renovated. The drive up through Napa Valley is wonderful (crank up some good tunes) and offers plenty of wine tasting and great dining opportunities.

This time I'm bringing my husband and we'll stay in one of their adorable cottages. The resort also offers a Lodge with newly renovated hotel-type rooms. Indian Springs has a *huge* thermal pool (naturally heated to 90-102 degrees) with mineral water from one of the four geysers on-site. The Resort which has been around since 1862 is a great place to "relax, retreat, and revitalize". While the traditional mud baths are available, I usually opt for a facial. My husband has decided on a massage. But my favorite things to do are just relaxing in the pool, lounging around drinking refreshing cucumber/citrus mineral water, enjoying the steam room and exploring the wonderful grounds (all complimentary).

Cottages start at \$185/night (Lodge at \$175/night) and treatments are quite reasonable by resort standards. The town of Calistoga has a number of dining options: from pizzas to gourmet picnic to the upscale, and all are within walking distance of the Resort. After a rejuvenating visit, I love to drive home down the Silverado Trail and marvel at the glorious scenery and prolong my escape for just a few more hours.

Need a quick get away? This is a treasure!
www.IndianSpringsCalistoga.com

UPCOMING EVENTS

December

NanoQuest 2006 Robotics Challenge

WHEN: Saturday, December 2
WHERE: Sam Brannan Middle School
5301 Elmer Way
Sacramento
TIME: 9 AM – 5 PM
RSVP to: Heather Ramil
(916) 875-9088 or ramilh@saccounty.net

Holiday Social Event

WHEN: Thursday, December 7
WHERE: Ettore's European Bakery and Restaurant
2376 Fair Oaks Blvd
Sacramento
(Next to Zinfandel Grille between Howe
and Fulton)
TIME: 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM
RSVP to: Liz Raley
(916) 638-3058 or borden@lanset.com

January

2nd Friday Luncheon

WHEN: Friday, January 12th
WHERE: To Be Determined
Rancho Cordova
TIME: 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM
RSVP to: Liz Raley
(916) 638-3058 or borden@lanset.com

Joint Dinner with Sierra Foothills Section

WHO: Lorraine Brinker, Principle of Real World
Career Strategies
TOPIC: "Figuring Out What's Next in Your Career"
WHEN: Tuesday, January 23rd
WHERE: Sacramento Brewery Company's Oasis
7811 Madison Ave
Citrus Heights
TIME: 6:00 PM
RSVP to: Liz Raley
(916) 638-3058 or borden@lanset.com

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.

OFFICER'S ROSTER

President	Elizabeth Gillis-Raley (916) 638-3058 (home) borden@lanset.com
Vice President	Himali Rodrigo (916) 853-5340 (work) hrodrigo@brwnald.com
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UOP Counselor	Louise Stark lstark@uop.edu
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Scholarship Committee Co-Chair	Dianna Jensen jensen@ford-consulting.com
Membership	Wendy Cohen (916) 464-5817 (work) wcohen@dcn.org
Newsletter	Sue Xiong (916) 875-9429 (work) xiongsu@saccounty.net
Speaker's Bureau	<i>Open</i>

PRESS RELEASE

“Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk”

On October 22, 2006, two local SWE sections (Sac Valley and Sierra Foothills) joined up once again to participate in the “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer 5K Walk”. This year’s team fundraising goal for the American Cancer Society was \$2,500, a goal we far exceeded by raising \$3,237! The SWE walking team consisted of 12 women and 1 dog, and they enjoyed a lovely hour-long walk through downtown Sacramento in warm sunshine. SWE thanks the entire team for their efforts and participation. The top five fundraisers were Laurin Johnson, Nandini Parthasarathy, Carmen Lee, Lisa Polvi, and Wendy Cohen. Mark your calendar, and plan to join the team next year on October 21, 2007, when we’ll do it once again!



Wastewater Treatment Plant Presentation at Hiram Johnson High School

On October 8, Heather Ramil and Mai-Tram Le gave a presentation about Sacramento Regional Wastewater Treatment Plant to Ms. Dana Jenks’s 10th graders and 12th grader. SWE would like to thank Heather and Mai for taking the time from their schedules to speak to Ms. Dana Jenks’s classes.

“It was an opportunity to share the experience at the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The students were very interactive.” – Heather Ramil.

NanoQuest 2006 Robotics Challenge Saturday, December 2

Volunteers needed to help American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) with regional robotics competition for students ages 9 to 14. Twenty-three teams compete this year to make the national competition. Fourteen judges plus referees and scorekeepers are needed to pull this off. The competition is located at Sam Brannan Middle School from 9 AM to 5 PM.

Sam Brannan Middle School
5301 Elmer Way
Sacramento, CA 95822

<http://schools.scusd.edu/sambrannan/Website/Html/Robotics.html>

Please contact Heather Ramil at (916) 875-9088 or ramilh@saccounty.net to volunteer or to get more information.

ARTICLES

Scholarship Committee Seeking Helpers – Low Time Commitment!

By Dianna Jensen

Want to get involved with SWE, but don't have a lot of time? Please consider joining the Scholarship Committee to help with the application process or to help with the fundraiser. The application process includes offering an opinion about the application form and deadlines, etc. and reviewing the applications once submitted. All of this is done by email and/or phone calls. The fundraiser committee can also mainly be done with email and phone calls with a bit more time commitment at the actual time of the fundraiser in late May or early June. Please send an email to Dianna Jensen at jensen@ford-consulting.com and let her know which committee you'd like to help with! Current members for application process are Dianna Jensen, Wendy Cohen, Martha Styer and Marianne Marion; and fundraiser members are Liz Raley and Theresa Arnold.

News from the 2006 SWE National Conference Kansas City

By Mary Frederick

The Council of Representatives (COR) met and discussed bylaws changes, the Vision Statement, formerly known as the Big Hairy Audacious Goal (BHAG), and Mega issues were discussed.

The bylaws changes considered and adopted related to the chair of the nominating committee, appointment of committee chair and limitation of the president's authority to appoint committee chairs, the addition of a term restriction for the nominating committee, creation of the position of deputy director of regions to serve a one-year term, a change to the eligibility requirements for region governor, require reinstated sections to use the section bylaws template, require a collegiate section requesting reinstatement use the collegiate section bylaws template. After discussion, these changes were approved.

The Vision Statement was discussed during a Pre-COR meeting at length and was adopted at the COR meeting.

This year's Mega issue related to the expansion of the Society internationally in the future. White Papers and discussions on the topic were held at a special Mega issue meeting. It was determined that efforts to expand the Society to serve members working or residing abroad is something for the future as resources are dedicated to the effort.

Awards events and the membership meeting were well attended by Region A representatives and honors and awards will be reported via the SWE websites. I encourage more award applications from Region A and our Sacramento Valley Section!

Annual Calendar Sacramento Valley Section SWE, 2006-2007 Meetings

Month	Section Event	Responsible Party	2nd Friday Monthly Lunch	Business Meeting (RP)	Regional National Events
July	7/16, Planning Meeting	Liz			
August			8/11 Downtown Noon-1:00		ABJ meeting August 11-13, Santa Clara
September	Tentative 9/19, Meeting w/CSUS 7:00 p.m.	Mary Serra	9/8 La Bou, RC Noon-1:00	9/14; 6:00 pm ENSR Financial Policy Jennifer	
October	10/7, EYH at UOP 10/22, Breast Cancer Walk	Liz Carmen	10/13 Davis		National Conference 10/11-14 Kansas City
November	Tentative Meeting with UCD Students	Linda F.	11/10 Downtown		
December	12/7, 6:30 p.m Holiday Meeting Ettore's	Liz			
January	Joint Meeting p.m.	SFS	1/12/07 Rancho	TBA Scholarship Dianna	
February	Engineers Week Classroom Activity w/SCUSD	Himali & Liz	2/9 Davis		
March	YES Program Saturday, 3/24	JJ Wendy	3/9 Downtown		Regional Mtg March 2 & 3 San Jose State
April	Technical Topic Lunch	Mary F.	4/13 Rancho		Regional Conference
May	5/10, Member Bring a Member Luncheon	Himali	5/11 Davis		
June	Fundraiser			TBA Debrief Liz	

Society of Women Engineers

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

B R O W N A N D C A L D W E L L

Engineers Geologists Scientists

Water	Wastewater	Stormwater
Solid and Hazardous Waste		Air Quality
Construction Management		Energy
Competitive Utility Performance		G.I.S.

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED