



**S**ociety of **W**omen **E**ngineers  
Sacramento Valley Section



# Valley Views

A Bi-Monthly Publication for the  
SWE Sacramento Valley Section

January - February 2010

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## SVS SWE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### January

27 Joint Meeting with Sierra Foothills

### February

11 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday Luncheon  
Rancho Cordova

14 – 20 National Engineers Week

26 – 28 Region A Conference

# PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Section Members,

Happy New Year 2010! Welcome back from the holiday season. It's time to get busy this year. We have lots to do and so much fun to plan. We have the Joint Meeting with the Sierra Foothills Section in late January, the Young Engineers Session with the Girl Scouts in March, and the Scholarship Fundraiser event in May. I'm looking forward to the exciting events this year.

Hopefully, the New Year will inspire some new year's resolutions and goals. Goals may include being productive in your personal life, career, or spiritual faith. Other goals may just be little refinements of last year's goals, like making sure you save a little bit more in the vacation fund to splurge. Regardless of what kind of goals we have set for ourselves, let us make sure to include SWE in one of them. I'm hoping to get more volunteers this year since it'll be a busy year. Please come out and get to know the other members of our section by joining us in the lunches, planning meetings, or events.

I would like to thank everyone for their support last year and look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming events this year. Let's have a great year SWE members!

Sincerely,  
Sue



From Left to Right: Sue Xiong, Wendy Cohen, Mary Serra, Virginia Squire and Amy Terrell having fun at the Holiday Dessert Social on December 10, 2009

# REGIONAL SWE NEWS

## Region A Conference

The Region A Conference is just around the corner. It will be held February 26 – 28 at the University of the Pacific campus in Stockton. All SWE Region A Leaders and Members are being encouraged to attend. This year it will be hosted by University of the Pacific in Stockton California. Visit <http://www1.pacific.edu/eng/swe/index.htm> for all the details.

## Region A Officer Nominations

In the remaining weeks of January, the Region A Nominating Committee is accepting applications for open candidate positions. On February 1, 2010, the Region A slate of confirmed candidates will be handed in so that the election process can be initialized. At this time, we are accepting qualified candidates for the Region A positions of **Lt. Governor, Secretary, Treasurer, Senator \*(1 yr term), and Region Nominating Committee Chair**

For interested candidates (section officers, representative, and members), self nominate for a position if interested by emailing Elizabeth Giuliani at [elizabeth.giuliani@swe.org](mailto:elizabeth.giuliani@swe.org).

Region A is looking for immediate leaders, as well as leaders for the future. Forward the name and email information of any possible candidate or future candidate to Elizabeth and she will start the process of follow-up and contact each potential candidate and confirm their request to be a candidate.

If you need additional information on position descriptions or term requirements, or have any further questions, feel free to contact Elizabeth Giuliani, SWE Region A Nominating Committee Chair.

For the latest regional news and events, visit the SWE Region A website: <http://swe-goldenwest.org>.

## Sierra Foothills Section

Sierra Foothills is our neighboring SWE section. Members of both sections are welcome at many of the other section's events. They will be joining us at the joint section meeting on January 27. Please see "Upcoming Events" for more details. For more information about the Sierra Foothills Section visit: <http://www.swesfs.org>

## San Joaquin Valley Section

The San Joaquin Valley Professional Section has reformed. They are helping host the Region A Conference on February 26 – 28. If you live near Stockton, Fresno, or Merced, you can view their latest events at:

<http://swe-goldenwest.org/sjvs/>

## National Engineers Week

Engineers Week is February 14 to 20. Across the country, engineering outreach events will be taking place. Visit <http://www.eweek.org/> for more information. National SWE events are listed at [www.swe.org](http://www.swe.org).

## National SWE Scholarships

For sophomores or above in college, the deadline to apply for a SWE National Scholarship is February 15, 2010. Incoming Freshman will be able to apply starting in March. The application and eligibility details can be found by following the “Scholarships” link on the National SWE website [www.swe.org](http://www.swe.org). Sacramento Valley Section also awards scholarships to college women in our area. The deadline to apply is April 3. Please refer to “Announcements” section article “2010 Scholarship Recipient Search Begins” for more information.

## NEW MEMBER PROFILE

edited by Wendy Cohen

**Kathy Marks** received her BS in civil engineering in 1982 and her MS in environmental engineering in 1989, both from CSU Sacramento. After completing her undergraduate degree, Kathy worked for RVA Consulting designing water and wastewater facilities and went to graduate school at night. In 1989, Kathy moved to Southern California and worked for Psomas Engineers on water and wastewater design. Later that year, she went to work for Carollo Engineers, and in 1992, returned to Sacramento, where she has worked ever since.

For the past 11 years, Kathy has worked primarily on City of Roseville facilities and helped design the original Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant as well as numerous follow-up projects. Carollo Engineers has completed two “design/assist” projects, with the design engineers retained by the City and the contractors chosen based on qualifications described in proposals rather than

bids. Thus, the engineers and contractors form a team approach. Carollo has completed \$200 million of design and construction and follow-up work for Roseville/Pleasant Grove. Kathy enjoys this work because she it allows her the opportunity to take projects from planning through construction. She followed the initial Pleasant Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant construction as the “design intent” engineer, which provides the input of the design team in the field to expedite decisions. In this way, the whole team learns from the changes and improves future designs.

Kathy attended some SWE meetings in college and during her time at RVA Consulting. Since then, her time became limited when she married and had 2 children. In 1997, she became a partner in Carollo Engineers, at the time the third woman to make partner. One of her responsibilities is to be the office manager and chairman of the training committee as well as assist in the corporate recruitment effort. As such, she has attended several SWE national conferences. Kathy’s spare time is taken with her high school aged kids’ sports activities. Her daughter is on a traveling softball team playing tournaments year round as far away as Nevada, and her son plays football and lacrosse with travel to the Bay Area. Now that’s a wide swath of land to cover! Welcome to the Section, Kathy!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### January

### Joint Section Meeting with Sierra Foothills

When: Wednesday, January 27

Where: SASD Office, 10060 Goethe Road, Sacramento

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Topic: What is LEED? How is the new SASD Building a LEED Building?

Speaker: Regina Soucek, Williams + Paddon Architects & Planners

Cost: Members \$18, Non-members \$20

RSVP to Sue Xiong at [xiongsu@sacsewer.com](mailto:xiongsu@sacsewer.com)

LEED stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental design. Ms. Regina Soucek of Williams + Paddon Architects and Planners will be presenting on what LEED is and how the new Sacramento Area Sewer District Building is a LEED building. You can view the building by visiting here: <http://www.sacsewer.com/hqbldg.html>  
Please join us in learning more about LEED. Dinner will be catered.

## **February**

### **Second Thursday Luncheon in Rancho Cordova (instead of our usual Second Friday Luncheon)**

When: Thursday, February 11

Where: Thai Mango Restaurant, 10821 Olson Drive

Time: 12pm – 1pm

Contact: Amy Terrell at (916) 464-4680

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Sacramento Valley Section Wins \$250 in GenCorp Foundation Volunteer Raffle**

The GenCorp Foundation awards money quarterly to non-profit organizations that their employees volunteer time to. Our Section representative Paula McDonald works for Aerojet, part of the GenCorp company. She earned a ticket for the Sacramento Valley Section by recording her volunteer time at the Y.E.S! Planning meeting and the Scholarship Fundraiser planning meeting. Our Section was awarded \$250 thanks to Paula's efforts and the generosity of the GenCorp company. GenCorp also contributes generously to our scholarships.

### **2010 Scholarship Recipient Search Begins**

We raised and distributed \$2500 in scholarships at our May 2009 fundraiser and now is the season to roll out the gifting again! Scholarship applications will be available on our Sacramento Valley Section Website and at our local universities by February 1. Last year's scholarship recipients benefited from our big contributors of GenCorp/Aerojet, ATEEM Electrical Engineering, AECOM, MBK Engineers, Brown & Caldwell Environmental Engineers & Consultants, West Yost Associates and you, our Sacramento Valley Section members and participants.

Eligible scholarship applicants will be currently enrolled in engineering or computer science and studying for their first degree. The recipient will be enrolled in a Sacramento Valley University the semester after the award is granted. The applicant provides a letter explaining why she selected engineering and why she is applying for this scholarship. This letter, a resume, official transcripts, a letter of reference, and the requisite application form complete the application package. Applicants need to provide this to us in a single package by April 3. If you

care to share the announcement at work, you'll find it on our website (below) or we can send you your own personal copy and announcement to post.

In early April, we'll need your help (a few good reviewers) to review, rank, discuss, and select the recipients. We'll make our selections by April 19. Contact Amy Terrell to secure one of these influential reviewing positions or to request your personal copy for posting.

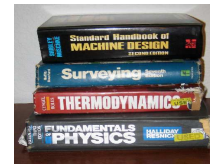
Meanwhile, plans are formulating for this year's fundraiser that will power this year's scholarships. Since we don't have a fundraising chairperson this year, it is a group activity. Contact Sue Xiong to get in on the design side of the event.

Beginning February 1, the Scholarship Application & Announcement for 2010 can be found at:

<http://swe-goldenwest.org/svs/scholarships.html>

Scholarship Application Reviewers and Applicants can contact: Amy Terrell at [swesvs@gmail.com](mailto:swesvs@gmail.com) or by phone at (916) 464 - 4680

Scholarship Fundraiser Planners & Participants can contact: Sue Xiong at [xionsu@sacsewer.com](mailto:xionsu@sacsewer.com)



## **CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS**

### **Young Engineers Session SVS mentors the Girl Scouts**

For the eighth year SWE is teaming up with the Girl Scouts to present Young Engineers Session (Y.E.S!) where Girl Scout Cadettes (sixth to eight graders) participate in hands-on workshops lead by Sacramento Valley Section members and learn more about science and engineering.

This event is a great success each year, thanks to the continued support of our Section members. We have four workshops planned for this year that include physics of simple machines, computer programming, and power/energy. If you are interested in assisting with a workshop, being a team leader or donating goodies to the event please contact Heather Sheridan at [sheridanhm@bv.com](mailto:sheridanhm@bv.com) for more information. Y.E.S! will be held on March 27, 2010 from 8am to 3pm, location to be determined.

## Call for Participants Study on Workplace Productivity in the Technical World

Monica Bandy, student at UC Berkeley, is doing a research thesis on Workplace Productivity in the Technical World. Monica is interested in two groups of women (Group 1: youngest child 16 or older and Group 2: youngest child under 16). She is hoping to interview about equal numbers in both groups.

She is looking for women who:

1. Are currently working in technical positions (engineering, computer science, general science, lab technician and so on; technical Business Analyst is also okay)
2. Have birthed at least one child
3. Would be willing to participate in a recorded interview that would last about 1 hour

She is willing to interview on-site or over the phone. The interview must be completed by March 30, 2010. The name and identifying information of all interviewees will be kept confidential and will not be used in any discussions, papers, and so on. Standard sociological research precautions and procedures will be followed. If you would be interested, please contact Monica Bandy at [monicabandy@berkeley.edu](mailto:monicabandy@berkeley.edu) and indicate whether you are part of Group 1 or Group 2.

## Stay Connected

SWE Sacramento Valley Section has a Facebook group account. If you have a facebook account, we encourage you to join our group to help stay in touch with other members. To join, click on "Groups" in the bottom menu bar. Search for "SWE Sacramento Valley". The SVS logo will come up. Click on the "Request to Join" link.

For the latest event information, visit our section website: <http://swe-goldenwest.org/svs/>

## Call for Articles

Questions? Comments? Requests? Have an article you would like to contribute? Contact Andrea Bergamini at [andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com](mailto:andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com).

**Article submission deadline for the  
March/April publication**

**February 20, 2010**

2009-2010

## OFFICERS ROSTER

<b>President</b>	<b>Sue Xiong</b> (916) 876-6383 <a href="mailto:xiongsu@sacsewer.com">xiongsu@sacsewer.com</a>
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<b>UCD Counselor</b>	<b>Linda N. Finley</b> (916) 557-7411 <a href="mailto:Linda.N.finley@usace.army.mil">Linda.N.finley@usace.army.mil</a>
<b>Scholarship Fundraising Chair</b>	<b>OPEN</b> Contact Sue Xiong
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<b>Membership Chair</b>	<b>Wendy Cohen</b> (916) 464-5817 <a href="mailto:wcohen@dcn.org">wcohen@dcn.org</a>
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<b>Web Masters</b>	<b>Andrea Bergamini &amp; Ben Maher</b> <a href="mailto:swesvs@gmail.com">swesvs@gmail.com</a>
<b>Y.E.S! Chair</b>	<b>Heather Sheridan</b> (209) 986-5656 <a href="mailto:sheridanhm@bv.com">sheridanhm@bv.com</a>

## 2010 Calendar of Events

Date	Event	Location/Time	Coordinator
January 27, 2010	Joint Meeting w/Sierra Foothills Section	SASD Office 10060 Goethe Road Sacramento, CA 95827	Sue Xiong <a href="mailto:xiongsu@sacsewer.com">xiongsu@sacsewer.com</a>
February 11, 2010	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thursday Lunch	Thai Mango Restaurant, 10821 Olson Drive Rancho Cordova	Amy Terrell <a href="mailto:aterrell@waterboards.ca.gov">aterrell@waterboards.ca.gov</a>
February 2010	Engineers Week	Sunrise Mall	Sue Xiong <a href="mailto:xiongsu@sacsewer.com">xiongsu@sacsewer.com</a>
February 2010	Y.E.S! Planning Meeting	TBD	Heather Sheridan <a href="mailto:sheridanhm@bv.com">sheridanhm@bv.com</a>
February 26 – 28, 2010	Region A Conference	University of the Pacific Stockton, CA	<a href="http://www1.pacific.edu/eng/swe/">http://www1.pacific.edu/eng/swe/</a>
March 12, 2010	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday Lunch	Davis	Wendy Cohen <a href="mailto:wcohen@dcn.org">wcohen@dcn.org</a>
March 27, 2010	Y.E.S! with the Girl Scouts	TBA 8 am – 3 pm	Heather Sheridan <a href="mailto:sheridanhm@bv.com">sheridanhm@bv.com</a>
March 2010	Scholarship Fundraiser Planning Meeting	SASD Office 10060 Goethe Road Sacramento, CA 95827	Sue Xiong <a href="mailto:xiongsu@sacsewer.com">xiongsu@sacsewer.com</a>
April 9, 2010	Member Bring A Member Luncheon	Downtown	TBD
April 17, 2010	2010 Scholarship Application DUE	SWE SVS Scholarship P.O. Box 924 Rancho Cordova	Amy Terrell <a href="mailto:aterrell@waterboards.ca.gov">aterrell@waterboards.ca.gov</a>
April 2010	Tentative Business Meeting	SASD Office 10060 Goethe Rd Sacramento, CA	Sue Xiong <a href="mailto:xiongsu@sacsewer.com">xiongsu@sacsewer.com</a>
May 14, 2010	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday Lunch	Pita Q 9689 Folsom Blvd #B Rancho Cordova	Sue Xiong <a href="mailto:xiongsu@sacsewer.com">xiongsu@sacsewer.com</a>
May 2010	Region A Awards Banquet	TBA	TBA
May 2010	Scholarship Fundraiser Planning Meeting	TBD	TBD
May – June 2010	Scholarship Fundraiser	TBD	TBD
June 11, 2010	2 <sup>nd</sup> Friday Lunch	Davis	TBD

**Society of Women Engineers**

***If you are interested in making a contribution to SWE SVS, please contact Sue Xiong at 876-6383.***

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

<b>Engineers</b>	<b>Geologists</b>	<b>Scientists</b>
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Water	Wastewater	Stormwater
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