



Society of **W**omen **E**ngineers
Sacramento Valley Section



Valley Views

A Bi-Monthly Publication for the
SWE Sacramento Valley Section

March - April 2010

| INSIDE THIS ISSUE | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 | Calendar of Events |
| 2 | President's Column |
| 2 | Regional SWE News |
| 3 | New Member Profiles |
| 4 | Upcoming Events |
| 4 | Past Events |
| 6 | Call for Volunteers |
| 6 | Announcements |
| 7 | Officers Roster |
| 8 | 2010 Calendar of Events |

SVS SWE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

March

- 12 Second Friday Luncheon in Davis
- 18 Scholarship Fundraiser
 Planning Meeting
 SASD Office, Sacramento
- 27 Young Engineer Sessions (Y.E.S!)

April

- 3 SWE SVS Scholarship Deadline
- 9 Member Bring A Member Dinner
 Downtown Sacramento
- 20 Business Meeting
 SASD Office, Sacramento

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN

Dear Section Members,

Spring is coming and I'm looking forward to the warmer weather. We have a few major SWE events coming up. We would love for the members to participate and join us for Y.E.S! with the Girl Scouts on March 27. We have four modules this year that includes Physics, Energy, Chemistry and Computer. We plan to give the girls an opportunity to earn raffle tickets during the event for prize drawings at the end of the day. Come join us in promoting math, science, and engineering to them.

Besides Y.E.S!, we will have a spring Member Bring a Member Dinner on Friday, April 9 from 6:00 – 7:30 in downtown Sacramento. Our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser event is scheduled for late May. The venue and date has not been finalized yet. We will keep the membership posted on the event in the coming weeks.

I would like to thank Regina Soucek for speaking to our section and the Sierra Foothills Section at the Joint Meeting in January. It was a pleasure to have her and Debbie Myers provide information about LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and give us a tour of the new Sacramento Area Sewer District (SASD) building. The members enjoyed learning about LEED and seeing the building with all of its innovative features.

I would like to welcome Monica Reis and Heather Giovanni to the section. We look forward to seeing both of you at the upcoming SWE events.

I would like to thank Maria Pang and Wendy Cohen for attending the Sacramento Unified School District's School of Engineering and Computer Science's Engineer's Week Event. They represented SWE and provided the students with information about engineering careers.

I would like to thank the members for supporting the section's events like the second Friday luncheons. It is always a great pleasure to know that our members support us and this makes it all worthwhile. Enjoy the coming of spring time and join us for one of our upcoming events.

Sincerely,
Sue

REGIONAL SWE NEWS

Region A Leadership Summit

On Friday, February 26 a workshop of leadership and succession planning was held for members of Region A sections. Sue Xiong and Andrea Bergamini attended on behalf of the Sacramento Valley Section. They had the opportunity to meet women from Hawaii, the Bay Area and Northern California. It was a great day of leadership training and sharing ideas and experiences. Each section has its own 'personality' and challenges, but many of those challenges were shared across all regions.

Region A Conference Report

written by Paula McDonald

From February 26 to 28, women engineers descended upon the University of the Pacific (UOP) campus in Stockton. It was a very successful conference in terms of attendance (136 registered, including 65 collegiates and 71 Professional) and also in revenue; UOP SWE is estimating at least \$2000 will be returned to the Region, which helps bolster the Region travel fund to support Professional Council Members and Collegiates to attend Region events and the National Conference.

Membership renewal decline is an issue nationwide with SWE, as well as a 15% decline in new growth after peaking in 2008. Sections are encouraged to contact their non-renewing members and investigate the reasons why the person did not renew. A common issue reported so far involves a website glitch in which the new on-line form has one additional screen to confirm the registration that is apparently not straightforward.

The Region Bylaws are being updated and committee members are needed to assist. Please contact Paula McDonald at paulalmcdonald@sbcglobal.net if you are interested. The hot topic is to seek approval of an amendment involving the voting rules when a Section Representative is also a Region Council Member.

Mary Frederick gave a presentation overview of the National's outreach program and resources. Visit <http://www.swe.org/aspire>, especially the "Engineers" link, followed by the "Get Funding" area to see the opportunities for National funding for the Section's outreach activities. National Headquarters is asking all Sections to go to the Aspire area of the website and post our Section events on the calendar to help publicize and

also track the types of outreach events being offered Nationwide.

We also received a report from the Senators. Seven Mega Issues are still being worked on and efforts are being focused to get them closed out, with the data and conclusions reported (i.e white papers to be issued soon). There have been two Face-to-Face Senate meetings since it was formed. All votes so far have involved items related to "housekeeping" of the Senate policies, which includes a Code of Conduct passed that ALL elected SWE leaders, including Section Leaders, will be required to sign.

Sidika Demir of the Golden Gate Section is the incoming SWE President and will be installed in San Francisco on August 12. There will be a celebration hosted by the Region and Golden Gate SWE in San Francisco on the following day, August 13 which everyone is invited to.

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

San Joaquin Valley Section

The San Joaquin Valley Professional Section has reformed. If you live near Stockton, Fresno, or Merced, please visit: <http://swe-goldenwest.org/sjvs/> to learn more.

Sierra Foothills Section

Sierra Foothills is our neighboring SWE section. Members of both sections are welcome at many of the other section's events. We anticipate doing a big event for SWE's 60th Anniversary in May. For more information about the Sierra Foothills Section, please visit: <http://www.swesfs.org>

NEW MEMBER PROFILES:

Welcome Heather Giovanni & Monica Reis!

written by Wendy Cohen

Heather Giovanni graduated from California State University Sacramento in 2000 with a BS degree in Computer Science. After graduation, she worked for one year at Orion Scientific Systems, where she worked as a software engineer. In 2001, Heather went to work for Hewlett Packard in the ProCurve Networking Division as a systems software engineer. She specialized in multicast routing protocols. After 6 years, Heather was promoted to Project Manager and now manages the work of 10 engineers and one intern. Her team covers implementing bridging and routing protocols, but her specialty continues

to be multicast. She and her team develop embedded systems programming and design network software found in routers. A router can have a single source and single destination, which is one task, or it could be multicast, meaning a packet of data goes from a single source out to several areas. For example, hospitals with TV sets in all the rooms need data routed to all the TVs at once.

Heather wasn't involved in SWE in college, but has become interested more recently from a recruiting standpoint to find new engineers for HP. Although she works at HP in Roseville, Heather lives in Carmichael so she is a member of the Sac Valley Section instead of the Sierra Foothills Section. In her spare time, Heather enjoys theater and dancing. However, she doesn't have much spare time since she has a 3-year-old daughter. Welcome to the Section, Heather!



Monica Reis received her BS in civil engineering in December 2006 from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Upon graduation, she went to work for Peterson Brustad Inc., a water engineering consulting firm. As a water engineer, Monica works on infrastructure design, including pipelines, water treatment plants, and interior drainage analyses. She also assists Peterson Brustad with writing proposals for new jobs. With the economic downturn of the past year, she said the emphasis is switching from infrastructure to a focus on water resources, and the company has lots of work.

Monica worked on a major project last year, a pipeline for the City of Folsom, taking it from pre-design all the way through construction. She conducted frequent site visits and attended weekly construction meetings. Monica was involved in SWE at Cal Poly and was on the planning committee for the Evening with Industry. She was in charge of the gifts for the industry representatives. In her spare time, Monica loves to bake. She enjoys going to movies, spending time with friends, and traveling. Monica has jumped right into Section activities, attending several Section meetings and volunteering to help with the Scholarship Fundraising Committee and the Scholarship Review Committee. We appreciate the help, and welcome to the Section, Monica!

UPCOMING EVENTS

March

Second Friday Luncheon in Davis

When: Friday, March 12
Where: Mikuni Japanese Restaurant and Sushi Bar
500 1st Street (in the Davis Commons)
Davis
Time: 12:00pm – 1:00pm
RSVP: Wendy Cohen at wcohen@dcn.org or
(916) 464 - 5817

Scholarship Fundraiser Planning Meeting

When: Thursday, March 18
Where: SASD Office
10060 Goethe Road
Sacramento, CA 95827
Time: 12:00pm – 1:00pm
RSVP: Sue Xiong at xiongsu@sacsewer.com

Please join us in person or on the conference call line at (916) 876-6089 to share your ideas for our scholarship fundraiser event.

Young Engineer Sessions (Y.E.S!) Event

When: Saturday, March 27
Where: Bell Avenue Elementary, multipurpose room
1900 Bell Ave Sacramento
Time: 8:00am – 3:00pm

This event is in need of group leaders to lead groups of 6th, 7th, and 8th graders to engineering workshops put on by SWE SVS Members. Lunch is included for volunteers. Please contact Heather Sheridan at sheridanhm@bv.com



Amy Terrell presents the Energy Module to Girl Scouts at 2009 Y.E.S!

April

Member Bring A Member Dinner

When: Friday, April 9
Where: Old Spaghettii Factory, 1910 J St. , Sacramento
Time: 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
RSVP by April 7 to Andrea Bergamini at andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com

Please invite fellow women engineers and coworkers to learn more about SWE and the Sacramento Valley Section. Potential members will enjoy a free dinner!

Business Meeting

When: Tuesday, April 20
Where: SASD Office
10060 Goethe Road
Sacramento, CA 95827
Time: 12:00pm – 1:00pm
RSVP: Sue Xiong at xiongsu@sacsewer.com

This meeting is a great opportunity to learn more about our section and its relationship with Regional and National SWE. Please join us in person or on the conference call line at (916) 876-6089.

PAST EVENTS

Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design (LEED) Presentation at the Joint Section Meeting

written by Sue Xiong

On Wednesday, January 27, 2010, the Sacramento Valley Section and the Sierra Foothills Section were honored to have guest speaker, Regina Soucek of Williams+Paddon, who gave a presentation about LEED and LEED features designed into the new Sacramento Area Sewer District's (SASD) building in Sacramento. LEED is Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design that is governed by the United States Green Building Code (USGBC) and professionals need to be accredited in order to build and certify LEED projects. Buildings cannot be LEED certified until they are fully operational and evaluated by the USGBC. Buildings are evaluated based on categories such as Sustainable Sites, Water Efficiency, Energy and Atmosphere, Materials and Resources, Indoor

Environmental Quality, and Innovation in Design. The new SASD building is anticipating a Gold or Silver LEED Rating. Fully constructed and occupied in December 2009, key LEED features include vegetated swales, dual flush toilets, drip irrigation, onsite photovoltaic solar array and under-floor air distribution to name a few.



Members who attended the LEED Talk and Joint Section Meeting at the Sacramento Area Sewer District's new building.
 Top Row (L-R): Debbie Myers (SASD Project Manager), Amy Terrell (SVS), Lynda Weiss (SFS), Monica Reis (SVS), Virginia Squire (SVS), Wendy Cohen (SVS) Bottom Row (L-R): Marianne Marino (SVS), Sue Xiong (SVS), Allison Goodman (SFS), Kiki Okeke (SFS), Regina Souchek (Guest Speaker), Andrea Bergamini (SVS)

SWE Participates in Professional Organization Day at School of Engineering and Sciences

written by Wendy Cohen and Rob Aadland

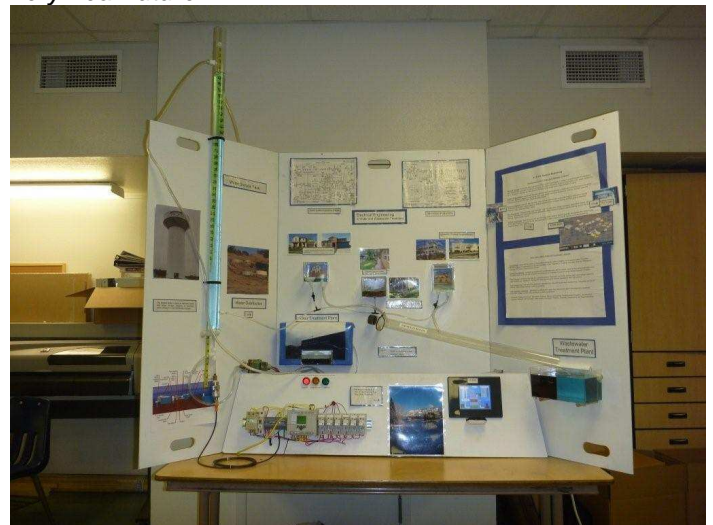
On February 16, SWE Sacramento Valley took part in an Engineers Week activity at Sacramento City Unified School District's School of Engineering and Sciences. This small 7th through 12th grade school in the district is dedicated to an engineering and science curriculum (the school is still growing and currently goes through 11th grade). During an extended lunch period, several engineering societies, including SWE, set up tables in the multi-purpose room with information and demonstrations about engineering careers.

At the SWE table, Maria Pang and Wendy Cohen talked to students about what SWE does, the many engineering careers that are available, and the fact that SWE covers all the different disciplines. Maria handed out SWE brochures while telling the students about the rigors of pursuing an engineering discipline and the great rewards of doing so.

Several girls stopped to engage in more in depth conversation.

Wendy brought water quality sampling and testing equipment to illustrate water quality engineering. She showed the students the equipment used to collect water samples from streams, lakes, and groundwater monitoring wells. Then she demonstrated how to operate the Electrical Conductivity meter, a field testing instrument that measures the salt content of water. Wendy used the meter to test three different water samples for salt levels and showed the students each result. The tap water from her home in Davis had about 650 units. Treating the tap water with a Britta filter lowered this level to 500. Finally, the tap water was treated by a business called H2O To Go, which uses large reverse osmosis filters, and the number plummeted to 40. This big decrease in the salt content through water treatment illustrated to the kids what it means to treat water, when needed, so that its quality is improved and it does not harm the environment.

SWE member Sharon Kimizuka's company, A TEEM Electrical Engineering, had a table for IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers). It was a Water/Wastewater display. Rob Aadland of A TEEM Electrical Engineering wrote about the event: *It was such a joy to see such interest in our display and it was very inspiring to see such well mannered energetic young people to have such a huge curiosity for Electrical Engineering pertaining to the Water production and Waste Water treatment. We engaged in great question and answer sessions with what seemed to be as many as 15 students at a time. ... After the event was over we were informed by one of the teachers at the High School that some of the students that took a great interest in our display were students who never seem to be interested in anything. That was very gratifying to hear and I hope we have a chance to present our demonstration again in the very near future.*



A TEEM Electrical Engineering Water/Wastewater display

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Outreach Panel at Sacramento School: Encourage Girls into the Science and Engineering Fields

written by Maria Pang

SWE SVS is planning to hold one or two focused events at the School of Engineering and Science before May. The dates are yet to be established but there are strong interests from the principal for SWE to hold a special panel discussion for a girls-only event to promote careers in science and engineering. She is open to working with us on the date and time. Please contact Maria Pang at Maria.Pang@cdph.ca.gov if you are interested. We are looking for members who are interested in sharing their career path and experience with girls grades 7 to 11.

2010 Scholarship Committee Search

written by Amy Terrell

Who deserves our scholarships?

We need a few folks just like you to identify who should benefit from our scholarships. We will read the scholarship applicants request letters, review, rank, and discuss them amongst ourselves, then collectively select the big time recipients. We reviewers will determine the cash award sizes and the lucky beneficiaries.

This review, rank and confer action happens between April 4, and April 19. A brief burst of attention on your part will reap rewards for the lucky few candidates we select. To be a genuine Sacramento Valley Section SWE scholarship selector, notify Amy Terrell right away!

See the Scholarship Application & Announcement for 2010 at: <http://swe-goldenwest.org/svs/scholarships.html>

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Articles

Questions? Comments? Requests? Have an article you would like to contribute? Contact Andrea Bergamini at andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com.

Deadline to submit articles for the May/June issue is

April 20, 2010

Stay Connected

If you have a facebook account, we encourage you to join the SWE Sacramento Valley Section 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/>

Newsletter Reader Appreciation Raffle

Thank you for reading this edition of the Valley Views bi-monthly newsletter! SWE SVS is holding a raffle for members who read our newsletter.

By March 20, 2010, please send an email to our newsletter editor, Andrea Bergamini at andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com to be entered into a drawing for two movie tickets!

The raffle winner will be announced in the April E-Update email.

2009-2010

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Scholarship Fundraising Chair ***OPEN***
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2010 Calendar of Events

| Date | Event | Location/Time | Coordinator |
|-----------------|---|---|--|
| March 12, 2010 | 2 nd Friday Lunch | Mikuni Japanese Restaurant and Sushi Bar 500 1st Street (in the Davis Commons) Davis | Wendy Cohen wcohen@dcn.org |
| March 18, 2010 | Scholarship Fundraiser Planning Meeting | SASD Office 10060 Goethe Rd Sacramento, CA | Sue Xiong xionsu@sacsewer.com |
| March 27, 2010 | Y.E.S! with the Girl Scouts | Bell Avenue Elementary, multipurpose room 1900 Bell Ave Sacramento 8:00 am – 3:00 pm | Heather Sheridan sheridanhm@bv.com |
| April 3, 2010 | 2010 Scholarship Application DUE | SWE SVS Scholarship P.O. Box 924 Rancho Cordova | Amy Terrell aterrell@waterboards.ca.gov |
| April 9, 2010 | Member Bring A Member Dinner | Old Spaghetti Factory 1910 J St. Downtown Sacramento 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm | Andrea Bergamini andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com |
| April 20, 2010 | Business Meeting | SASD Office 10060 Goethe Rd Sacramento, CA | Sue Xiong xionsu@sacsewer.com |
| May 14, 2010 | 2 nd Friday Lunch | Pita Q 9689 Folsom Blvd #B Rancho Cordova | Sue Xiong xionsu@sacsewer.com |
| 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 nd 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

| 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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