



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



Valley Views

A Bi-Monthly Publication for the
SWE Sacramento Valley Section

September - October 2011

INSIDE THIS ISSUE	
1	Calendar of Events
2	President's Column
3	Regional SWE News
3	New Member Profiles
4	Upcoming Events
5	Past Events
5	Announcements
7	Officer Roster
8	Fiscal Year Calendar

SWE SVS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

21 Business Meeting
Sacramento

October

4 Scholarship Fundraiser
Planning Meeting
Sacramento

7 Quarterly Friday Luncheon
Rancho Cordova

8 Expanding Your Horizons
Sacramento State University

12 Young Engineers Sessions (Y.E.S!)
Kick-Off Meeting
Rancho Cordova

13 – 15 National SWE Conference
Chicago, IL

16 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer
Walk
West Capitol Steps, Sacramento

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN



Vyomini Pandya

Hello All,

It's been a great summer so far with nice weather and we have more events planned to take advantage of the cool temperatures. We had our 1st Quarterly lunch in July. Thank you Sue for coordinating the luncheon. Our 2nd Quarterly lunch will be held in Rancho Cordova at Steve's Pizza. Please join us to catch up on the recent events and share new ideas.

The Women of AT&T and Sac State STEM will be hosting the 5th Annual Expanding Your Horizons event at Sac State University Union on Saturday October 8, 2011. Please join us at our SWE SVS Booth to introduce the young women to successful careers in math, science, engineering, and technology.

Our annual joint event with Sierra Foothills Section for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk will be held on Sunday, October 16th. Please join us on the west steps of the State Capitol Building to raise money to fight breast cancer.

I would like to thank Heather Sheridan for volunteering to be the Young Engineers Session Chair. The Sacramento Valley Section hosts a day with Girl Scouts teaching them science and technology to keep them interested and engaged in math and science. The Young Engineers Session event will have a kick-off meeting at the Black and Veatch Office in Rancho Cordova on October 12th. Join us to share your ideas on how to keep girls learning about math and science.

The Section's Business Meeting will take place on September 21st. We will be discussing membership numbers, upcoming events and outreach strategies.

The SWE National Conference is in Chicago this year from October 13-15. Please visit <http://we11.swe.org> to register for the conference. The early bird registration deadline is September 16!

Please join me in welcoming three new members to our section: Jeanette Hummel, Ashley Hemping and Latasha Perreault. Jeanette and Ashley are featured in the "New Member Profiles" section of the newsletter.

I am very pleased to announce that Erin Marquis has volunteered for the Scholarship Committee Chair. I am sure she will be able to lead the committee through the process of selecting scholarship recipients. If you would like to review the scholarships and be part of the scholarship committee, please contact Erin at engineeringerin@gmail.com

We had a very successful technical tour of the Folsom Dam Modification Project. Several members and non-members attended the event. Thank you Sue for organizing the tour for us. More tours are coming up so keep checking for announcements in our newsletter and on our website.

We had our kick-off meeting to begin planning for our Annual Scholarship Fundraiser event. There are a few volunteer positions open to assist in planning and hosting this event. Please see details in the Announcement section. This is a great way to get involved and support our section. Our next meeting is scheduled for October 4, 2011 from 12-1. Please RSVP me if you would like to attend.

We have had a great start to this year and your continued support will only make it better!

Thank you,

Vyomini

REGIONAL SWE NEWS

National SWE

Membership Renewal

Be sure to renew your membership by September 30th to avoid a disruption in SWE Member Services. For more information on membership options and the benefits of membership, please visit the National SWE website at <http://societyofwomenengineers.swe.org>.

National Conference

The National Conference will be October 13 - 15th in Chicago! Hotel Reservations are now open. A link and more information is available on the conference website at <http://we11.swe.org/>. Register by September 16 for an Early Bird Discount.

Region A

San Joaquin Valley

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

Sierra Foothills is our neighboring SWE section. Members of both sections are welcome at many of the other section's events. For more information about the Sierra Foothills Section, please see their new website at <http://swe-goldenwest.org/sfs/>

Regions A, B and J

Conference in Hawaii

Mark your calendars for February 29 – March 3! The SWE University of Hawaii at Manoa Collegiate section and the SWE-Hawaiian Islands Proposed Professional section will be co-hosting the 2012 SWE Regional ABJ Conference at the Sheraton Waikiki. More information is available at <http://www.swewestern2012.org/>

NEW MEMBER PROFILES

interviewed by Wendy Cohen

Jeanette Hummel graduated from CSU Sacramento in 2008 with a BS in Geology. She came to SWE in an unusual way. Through a college friend, Jeanette was asked to participate in a program named Techbridge out of Oakland. This program helps to encourage young girls to pursue careers in science-related fields by preparing career cards that profile real women in each science profession, and distributing the cards to various girl scout councils across the nation. Jeanette's career card was featured in the engineer-related career section, along with the profiles of other professional women, and her card mentioned that all of the featured women were members of professional organizations, such as SWE. To make it factual, Techbridge offered to sponsor Jeanette's membership in SWE

During college, Jeanette worked for a short time as a student for the Regional Water Quality Control Board and then accepted a student job offer from Luhdorff and Scalmanini Consulting Engineers (LSCE) in Woodland, where she went to work full-time upon graduation in 2008. Jeanette conducts groundwater explorations for municipal water supply well installation. Her role in the groundwater investigations includes background research, permitting, lithologic description, geophysical survey interpretation, oversight of well construction, well testing and analysis, and the use of GIS to create maps and aid in geologic research. Jeanette works alongside engineers to create successful water supplies for cities, water districts and agricultural uses.

When I asked Jeanette what she does in her spare time, she said "What's that?" She mostly likes to hang out with her husband and 2 kids, and she sings in a Christian band. Welcome to SWE Sac Valley, Jeanette!

Ashley Hemping graduated from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo in June of 2011 with a BS in BioResource and Agricultural Engineering (BRAE). This engineering discipline combines civil, mechanical and agricultural engineering with Cal Poly's "Learn By Doing" philosophy, in order to provide students like Ashley with the skills, tools and opportunity to build what they design. Her education was focused on areas of irrigation, water, and hydraulics, and her professional interests are in environmental and water resources. The degree she earned in BRAE was an exceptional fit with these interests, and it should eventually propel her into a worthwhile career opportunity.

Ashley has been an active student member of SWE since 2005, and held an officer position from 2008-2010. As a

student, she was employed on Cal Poly's campus at the Irrigation Training and Research Center (ITRC), and she is currently working as a student assistant with the Department of Water Resources' Northern Region Office. Ashley has applied for several permanent engineering positions at DWR in the last two months. She has applied to other state agencies, as well, such as CalTrans, and private firms, such as Black & Veatch. Most recently, Ashley applied for a position in the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District. Ultimately, Ashley is looking for an employer who will grant her that first legitimate post-graduate professional experience she desires.



Ashley Hemping

Ashley currently lives in Chico, CA, and is looking for a water resources engineering job anywhere between Chico and Sacramento. The Sacramento area would be a preferential location as Ashley and her fiancée will be relocating there upon completion of his Masters degree at California State University, Chico in 18 months. Ashley would like to pursue an eventual Masters degree once her fiancée has finished his schooling. She is particularly interested in the Environmental and Water Resources Engineering graduate program at the University of California, Davis.

In her spare time, Ashley is an avid bicyclist. Though she hasn't had as much time to do so lately, both she and her fiancée own vintage early-80's road bikes, and they enjoy riding through Chico's gorgeous Bidwell Park. Ashley also loves to hike, and Chico once again provides the perfect landscape for her outdoor sensibilities. When the weather prevents such activity, she appreciates a challenging puzzle, delights in a good book, and loves an excellent cup of tea. Welcome to SWE Sac Valley, Ashley!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

September

Business Meeting

When: Wednesday, September 21
Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Where: Sacramento Area Sanitation District
Office
10060 Goethe Road
Sacramento
Contact: Vyomini Pandya, vyomini21@gmail.com

Please join us to learn more about the administration of the Section and to share your ideas. We will be discussing membership numbers, upcoming events and outreach strategies.

October

Scholarship Fundraiser Planning Meeting

When: Tuesday, October 4
Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Where: Sacramento Area Sanitation District Office
10060 Goethe Road
Sacramento
Contact: Vyomini Pandya, vyomini21@gmail.com

We are getting an early start this year to raise as much money as possible for scholarships. A volunteer committee is now forming. Attend this meeting to learn more about getting involved. Additional information about the new Scholarship Fundraiser Committee is in the Announcements section and at the end of the newsletter.

Quarterly Friday Luncheon

When: Friday, October 7
Time: 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Where: Steve's Pizza
3191 Zinfandel Dr
Rancho Cordova
Contact: Vyomini Pandya, vyomini21@gmail.com

Please join us for a great lunch and social hour. Note that our Friday luncheons are now quarterly, instead of monthly.

Expanding Your Horizons

When: Saturday, October 8
Where: Sac State University Union
Time: 11:30 am – 1:30 pm

RSVP: Sue Bianchi at bianchis@sacsewer.com

Volunteer at this one-day science and math conference hosted by the Women of AT&T and Sac State STEM . Please join us at our SWE SVS Booth to introduce the young women to successful careers in math, science, engineering, and technology.

Young Engineers Sessions (Y.E.S!) Kick-off Meeting

When: Wednesday, October 12
Time: 6:00 – 7:00pm
Where: Black & Veatch Office
10995 Gold Center Dr, Suite 100
Rancho Cordova

At Y.E.S! , you can mentor local girl scouts by leading groups or assisting in teaching engineering concepts during a hands-on lab. Materials and training provided, just bring your passion for engineering! To learn more, contact: Heather Sheridan at sheridanhm@bv.com

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk and Fundraiser

When: Sunday, October 16
Where: West Capitol Steps, Downtown
Time: 9:00 am – noon
Contact: Wendy Cohen at wcohen@dcn.org

Join or donate to our joint SWE team with Sac State and Sierra Foothills. Our team will raise money to fight breast cancer. To make a donation and/or sign-up to walk visit <http://makingstrides.acsevents.org/> An announcements about our team will be made in the October E-update.

PAST EVENTS

Folsom Dam Modification Project Tour

by Sue Bianchi

On Saturday, August 20th, 13 members and friends of SWE met at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers office in Folsom. They gave us a brief overview of the project and divided us into four groups. Then, we were driven through security and off to the construction site. After a safety briefing, our first stop was the site where the Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is implemented. Pipelines and pumps stationed throughout the job site remove groundwater to allow construction to take place. Our second stop was the groundwater treatment site. Here, the contractor sets up the groundwater treatment facility which consists of a filtration system. All of the groundwater is stored and treated before being discharged back into Folsom Lake. Our last stop was the excavation site. The contractor was excavating for the new flow control structure and chute. This phase of the construction is expected to be completed by 2014. We would like to thank U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Folsom Resident Office for taking the time to give us this tour.



(Back row from left to right): Sue Bianchi, Heather Ramil, John Wong, Jason Lofton, Heather Sheridan, Ryan Seamons, Devina Dayal, Andrew Bianchi, Jim Ngo, Elizabeth Bigley, and Joyti Devi
(Front row from left to right): Thao Le and Vyomini Pandya

Scholarship Fundraiser Planning Meeting

by Vyomini Pandya

We have begun planning for our annual fundraising event. We talked about the theme, location, time, date and cost of the event, and discussed approaches to encouraging participation from members, seeking more donations from corporations and benefactors, and outreach to other agencies for increased attendance. We will be making an effort to expand our corporate connections and local businesses to solicit more funds for the scholarship fund. Some ideas regarding the theme for the event, such as a chocolate tasting, are in consideration. In order to make this event stress-free and successful, we need assistance from our members. Tasks related to the scholarship fundraising event have been divided into smaller roles including Corporate Sponsorship Coordinator, Sales Executive, Event Manager, Communication & Media Coordinator, and Benefactor Coordinator. Descriptions and duties related to each of these can be found in the Announcement section. Please see if you can volunteer for any of these positions.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scholarship Fundraising Committee Call for Volunteers

With tuition rates on the rise and high unemployment, it is a crucial time for us to support women pursuing engineering degrees. The Scholarship Fundraising Committee is now being formed to raise money for local collegiate women in engineering and to organize the Section's Annual Fundraiser. More detailed descriptions are available at the end of the newsletter. Position duties begin this month and run through May. Please consider joining the committee to support efforts to raise funds and offer scholarships to more recipients than last year.

Committee Chair - Manage the committee and the event. Update President with progress.

Corporate Sponsorship Coordinator - Assist the committee in seeking potential corporate sponsors/contributors. Update Chair with progress.

Communication and Media Coordinator - Assist the committee in advertising and promoting the event. Update Chair with progress.

Sales Executive - Assist the committee in advertising and promoting the event. Update Chair with progress.

Benefactor Coordinator - Assist the committee in advertising and promoting the event. Update Chair with progress.

Event Manager - Assist the committee in selling admission and raffle tickets for the event. Update Chair with progress.

If interested in a position, or volunteering in any capacity, please contact Vyomini Pandya at vyomini21@gmail.com



Officer Positions Open Fiscal Year 2011-2012

Please consider volunteering for one of the following unfilled officer positions.

Vice President - Assist Section President in coordinating and planning events, meetings, and outreach efforts.

Collegiate Coordination Committee Chair - Remain current with the status of the Section's collegiate chapters and coordinate any outreach efforts requested by the collegiate chapters.

Speakers Bureau Chair - Maintain a list of SWE members who are willing to speak to middle and high school students about engineering and science, send letters to local middle and high schools to inform them about the availability of women engineer speakers, and match up school requests for speakers with available willing SWE members.

For detailed information about the duties of any of the officer positions, please contact Vyomini Pandya at vyomini21@gmail.com.

MEMBER CORNER

If you have an article, poem, technical paper, book, tool or Sacramento Valley hot spot you would like to share with everyone, please send it to the newsletter editor for inclusion in the next bi-monthly issue!

Engineering and Halloween...?

by Andrea Bergamini

What does engineering have to do with Halloween? Engineers make it possible to distribute and manufacture hundreds of millions of pounds of candy each year. Chemical engineers design the product, mechanical engineers solve production issues and design packaging, and civil engineers design the candy factory. Mechanical, electrical and computer engineers improve monitoring equipment and build factory robots. Environmental engineers monitor and provide suggestions for how to make candy in a clean, low impact way. Industrial engineers work on improving factory efficiency and increasing the quality of the candy product. Aeronautical engineers design planes that deliver the candy to stores and packages of Halloween merchandise. Materials engineers invent types of synthetic skin, fabrics and makeup for costumes, masks, fake blood and other ghoulish products. Engineers make it possible for households to enjoy Halloween!

The idea for this article was provided by Engineer Girl, a great website and resource on careers in engineering. To learn more about engineering careers in chocolate, visit <http://www.engineergirl.org/?id=3883>.



OFFICER ROSTER

President	<i>Vyomini Pandya</i> (916) 876-6677 vyomini21@gmail.com
Vice President	OPEN Contact Vyomini Pandya
Treasurer	<i>Liz Raley</i> (916) 638-3058 elizabethgraley@att.net
Section Rep	<i>Paula McDonald</i> (916) 832-0019 paulalmcdonald@sbcglobal.net
CSUS Counselor	<i>Sue Bianchi</i> (916) 876-6383 bianchis@sacsewer.com
UCD Counselor	<i>Linda N. Finley</i> (916) 557-7411 Linda.N.finley@usace.army.mil
Collegiate Coordination Committee Chair	OPEN Contact Vyomini Pandya
Scholarship Fundraising Chair	OPEN Contact Vyomini Pandya
Scholarship Committee Chair	Erin Marquis engineeringerin@gmail.com
Speaker's Bureau	OPEN Contact Vyomini Pandya
Membership Chair	<i>Wendy Cohen</i> (530) 756-7518 wcohen@dcn.org
Newsletter Editor	<i>Andrea Bergamini</i> andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com
Web Site Administrator	<i>Alice Ames Jahm</i> alicejahm@alumni.ucdavis.edu
Y.E.S! Chair	<i>Heather Sheridan</i> (209) 986-5656 sheridanhm@bv.com

Annual Business & Calendar Events

Fiscal Year 2011 – 2012

Date	Event	Location/Time	Coordinator
September 21, 2011	Business Meeting	SASD Office 10060 Goethe Road Sacramento 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm	Vyomini Pandya vyomini21@gmail.com
September 2011	Joint Intel Networking Event with NSBE, SHPE, and SWE	Intel	TBA
October 4, 2011	Scholarship Fundraiser Planning Meeting	SASD Office 10060 Goethe Road Sacramento 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm	Vyomini Pandya vyomini21@gmail.com
October 7, 2011	Quarterly Friday Lunch	Steve's Pizza Rancho Cordova	Vyomini Pandya vyomini21@gmail.com
October 7, 2011	Newsletter Articles DUE	Send week of October 19, 2011	Andrea Bergamini andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com
October 8, 2011	Expanding Your Horizons (EYH)	CSUS University Union	Sue Bianchi bianchis@sacsewer.com
October 12, 2011	Young Engineers Session (Y.E.S!) Kick-Off Meeting	Black & Veatch Office 10995 Gold Center Dr, Suite 100, Rancho Cordova 6 pm – 7 pm	Heather Sheridan sheridanhm@bv.com
October 13-15, 2011	National Conference	Chicago, IL	Please visit http://we11.swe.org
October 16, 2011	Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk	West Steps, State Capitol Building 9 am – 12 pm	Wendy Cohen wcohen@dcn.org
October 2011	Meeting with UCD Students	UC Davis	Linda Finley Linda.N.Finley@usace.army.mil
October 2011	Meeting with CSUS Students	Sac State	Sue Bianchi bianchis@sacsewer.com
November 2011	Scholarship Fundraiser Planning Meeting	SASD Office 10060 Goethe Road Sacramento 11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Vyomini Pandya vyomini21@gmail.com
November 2011	Jelly Belly Factory Tour		TBA
December 8, 2011	Holiday Meeting	Ettore's European Bakery & Restaurant 2376 Fair Oaks Blvd Sacramento, CA 6 pm – 8 pm	Sue Bianchi bianchis@sacsewer.com
December 9, 2011	Newsletter Articles DUE	Send week of December 21, 2011	Andrea Bergamini andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com

January 2012	Scholarship Fundraiser Planning Meeting	SASD Office 10060 Goethe Road Sacramento	Vyomini Pandya vyomini21@gmail.com
January 2012	Joint Meeting w/Sierra Foothills Section	Sacramento	Wendy Cohen wcohen@dcn.org
January 2012	Y.E.S! Planning Meeting	Black & Veatch Office 10995 Gold Center Dr, Suite 100, Rancho Cordova, 6 pm	Heather Sheridan sheridanhm@bv.com
February 10, 2012	Quarterly Friday Lunch	Davis	Wendy Cohen wcohen@dcn.org
February 10, 2012	Newsletter Articles DUE	Send week of February 22, 2011	Andrea Bergamini andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com
February 2012	ABJ Spring Senate Meeting	TBD	TBD
February 19-25, 2012	Engineers Week	Nationwide	Please visit http://eweek.org
February 29 - March 3, 2012	Region ABJ Conference	Sheraton Waikiki Oahu, Hawaii	Please visit http://www.swewestern2012.org/
March 2012	Scholarship Fundraiser Planning Meeting	SASD Office 10060 Goethe Road Sacramento CA 95827	Vyomini Pandya vyomini21@gmail.com
March 2012	2011 Scholarship Application DUE	SWE SVS Scholarship P.O. Box 924 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741	Erin Marquis engineeringerin@gmail.com
March 2012	Y.E.S! with the Girl Scouts	Sacramento 8 am – 3 pm	Heather Sheridan sheridanhm@bv.com
April 2012	Send out Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Officer Ballots	SWE SVS P.O. Box 924 Rancho Cordova, CA 95741	Wendy Cohen wcohen@dcn.org
April 13,14 or 15 2012	Member Bring a Member Luncheon	Downtown	TBA
April 13, 2012	Newsletter Articles DUE	Send week of April 19, 2011	Andrea Bergamini andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com
April 2012	Business Meeting	SASD Office 10060 Goethe Rd Sacramento, CA	Vyomini Pandya vyomini21@gmail.com
May 11, 2012	Quarterly Friday Lunch	Dos Coyotes 8519 Bond Road #100 Elk Grove 11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Sue Bianchi bianchis@sacsewer.com
May 2012	Scholarship Fundraiser	SASD Office 10060 Goethe Rd Sacramento, CA	Vyomini Pandya vyomini21@gmail.com

May - June 2012	Region A Awards Banquet	TBA	TBA
June 8, 2012	Newsletter Articles DUE	Send week of June 21, 2011	Andrea Bergamini andrea.g.bergamini@gmail.com
June 2012	C&H Sugar Factory Tour	Crockett, CA	TBD
June 2012	Planning Meeting	Brew It Up 801 14 th Street Sacramento 6 – 8 pm	Vyomini Pandya vyomini21@gmail.com

Note: TBA/TBD – To be Announced / To be Determined