

SWE Philadelphia Section

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Editor's Note:

Next newsletter deadline is **Dec. 21th**.
Please send articles to:
habernardin@juno.com

January Meeting

***Wednesday
January 21!***

Mark your Calendar

Contact Carol Stowell
(610)531-5320

More details on the January meeting
In the next newsletter.

This newsletter's mailing is funded through a grant from Lockheed Martin Management and Data Systems. *Thank you!*

**SWE Philadelphia Section
C/O Engineer's Club
Suite 36
215 South 16th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19102**



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Visit our webpage at: <http://www.libertynet.org/~sweps>



**Society of Women Engineers
Philadelphia Section
December 1998**

***Letter from the President,
Janet Anderson***

In case you haven't heard, **I'm leaving the Philadelphia area.** I'm transferring with DuPont to Beaumont, Texas with a promotion in supervision to oversee an ammonia plant that makes more than 1400 tons of ammonia each day. The Houston section has already contacted me about getting SWE activities started in the Beaumont area!

Susan Sciarratta has assumed the responsibilities of being the **President** of this wonderful section. The section will soon have an election to fill the vacancy (vice president).

I want to thank all of you for your help and cooperation. I'm sure you'll extend the same to Susan.

I was looking forward to the December holiday party, the Spring Conference, and the chartering of a Delaware section. I know we have the ability to be successful in all these endeavors. Please support them with your involvement. And I promise I'll attend the 2004 conference in Philadelphia!

Just a quick reminder that Ronna Robertson will be hosting the Holiday Party in December!

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NOVEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The speaker at this meeting was Raymond V. Civatte and his topic was : Electric Utility Deregulation. Raymond is the Director of Electrical Engineering at Conectiv and has been with Conectiv for 29 years. Pennsylvania is one of the first States to deregulate utilities. This year 2/3rds of electric users in Pennsylvania will be able to select their electricity provider. The commercial users have already reached the 2/3rds limit, but the residential usage is not expected to reach the limit.

Status of other area states utility deregulation is as follows:

New Jersey – Legislation Pending. Retail access to begin June 1, 1999.

Delaware – Legislation passed in house, but no vote taken in the senate. Expect passage of legislation in 1999.

Maryland – Public service commission order in place. Retail competition begins July, 2000.

Virginia – Legislation in place. Retail competition begins January, 2004.

Regulated utilities receive a steady rate of return. In return they have an obligation to serve.

Under deregulation the power lines will still be regulated, but the energy source becomes competitive. As Raymond pointed out it is similar to a reservoir. The reservoir is in place and maintained. Water enters the reservoir from numerous locations. According to Raymond even if the supplier you select has a problem generation power and must purchase the power from another supplier, you will still pay your suppliers rate.

Finally, under deregulation, when you have a problem with your power, you contact your local power company. This is similar to when you have a problem with your phone service. You would call your local phone company (ex. Bell Atlantic) instead of your long distance carrier (ex. AT&T).

REGION E CONFERENCE

Our section has withdrawn our bid for the Region E Spring 1999 Conference. The New York section will be hosting the Region E conference. Volunteers are needed to help with the conference. Contact Susan Sciarratta Work:(609)273-1110, Home:(215)579-1377, E-mail: susan_sciarratta@golder.com

Below are several of the program topics being discussed:

1. An "Outward Bound" type of workshop
2. Career development (how to transition skills from one career to another)
3. Marketing yourself

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- **2004 Convention Bid**

The intent to bid has been submitted to Headquarters and we were the only section to meet the September 1 date. However they are allowing two additional Sections, Salt Lake City and Saint Louis, to submit bids in order to have a true competition. Susan Best is working on a concise and detailed bid and is looking to have a draft completed shortly. Volunteers are still being sought for the committees. Members from the Lehigh Valley & New Jersey Sections are invited to participate.

- **Still in need of filling KEY POSITION in the section**

Elections will be held to fill the position of Vice President, which is empty now that Susan has taken on the responsibility of President.

The section **still** needs a chair for Career Guidance. This position can simply be one of coordination, relaying requests to the appropriate section program Chair, and take only a few hours a month. Or, if you are so inclined, you can make it as big as you like and develop new programs and activities! This position makes it easier for the "public" to access our pre-college programs -- they call one person to connect with any of our various activities. If you have questions, feel free to contact Susan Sciaratta Work:(609)273-1110or Barbara Zubenko (302-234-2050), our previous Career Guidance Chair.

- **1999 PHILADELPHIA REGIONAL FUTURE CITY COMPETITION**

The regional competition date is Saturday, January 30, 1999. Volunteers are needed to assist with all aspects of the competition process. Contact Jennifer Wetzel 610-695-7432 (Phone)
Jennifer.Wetzel@mgind.com (e-mail).

Awards Program

- **Call for Awards Nominations – Must be postmarked by December 15, 1998.**

Achievement Award – Given annually to a woman who has made an outstanding contribution over a significant period of time in a field of engineering.

Upward Mobility Award – Recognizes a woman who has made an outstanding contribution in the field of engineering or technical management such that she has achieved at least the level of general manager or equivalent upper management position.

Resnik Challenger Medal – Honoring the memory of Dr. Judith A. Resnik, NASA Astronaut, and is designed to recognize engineering contributions toward broadening the frontiers of space exploration.

Rodney D. Chipp Memorial Award – Celebrates and recognizes a man or a company who has contributed significantly to the acceptance and advancement of women in the engineering field.

Distinguished Engineering Educator Award – Presented to a SWE member who has demonstrated excellence in teaching.

Distinguished New Engineer Award – Presented to SWE members who have been actively engaged in engineering, demonstrated outstanding technical performance, and have had no more than 10 years of cumulative engineering experience.

Fellow Grade – Conferred on SWE members to recognize their outstanding service to the public's advancement and awareness of engineering as a profession for woman.

For nomination application contact
The SWE awards program coordinator.
Phone: (212) 509-9577. E-mail: anette.sauer@swe.org
or
Heather Bernardin at (610) 989-3212.

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DECEMBER SUB-SECTION MEETINGS

King of Prussia Plymouth Meeting

WEDNESDAY,
DECEMBER 16th

6:00 PM
Bennigans
Plymouth Meeting

RSVP to Jennifer Wetzel
(610) 695-7432

Full Chapter Holiday Pot Luck Dinner

SATURDAY,
DECEMBER 5th

Contact Ronna Robertson
at
work:(302)-761-2104 or
home:(302)369-6417
for more information.

Lancaster, Reading, & Harrisburg

A volunteer is still needed to
coordinate the Lancaster,
Reading, Harrisburg subsection
meetings.

Contact
Heather Bernardin
(610)454-0146
if you are interested.

Center City

A volunteer is still needed to
coordinate the center city
subsection meetings.

Contact
Heather Bernardin
(610)454-0146
if you are intersted.