

# SWE Outlook

December 2004 / January 2005

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## Newsletter Editors:

Danielle Dunn  
Barbara Faust

We welcome your contributions to the next issue of *SWE Outlook*! See page 3 for details.

*SWE Outlook* is published on our website and is available for direct mail to Section Members and other interested parties in electronic and/or paper formats. Please forward your preferred e-mail address and option for electronic copy only or for both electronic and paper copies to [Barbara.Faust@swe.com](mailto:Barbara.Faust@swe.com).

## December 2004 Holiday Social

Date: Monday, December 13, 2004      Time: 6 pm

Place: T.G.I. Friday's  
Oxford Valley Mall, Langhorne, PA  
<http://www.oxfordvalleymall.com/>

RSVP: Lisa Colosimo, [lisa.colosimo@siemens.com](mailto:lisa.colosimo@siemens.com), 610-219-6690

### Three Unbeatable Reasons to Be There:

- (3) Enjoy the great food at Friday's
- (2) Relax and celebrate the holidays with old and new friends
- (1) **The Re-Gift Exchange!** We've all received gifts that we didn't really want. Bring something that's been sitting lonely in your closet or basement, and help it find a new home.

## January 2005 Meeting with ISA

### Materials Management Systems - Old Lessons, New Technology

Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2005      Time: 5:30 - 8:30 pm

Place: Siemens Office  
1015 Virginia Drive, Fort Washington, PA

RSVP: 215-637-5534 or [isaphilaed@aol.com](mailto:isaphilaed@aol.com)

Stay tuned for more details via e-mail announcements as we get closer to the date.

## SWE Calendar of Events - FY05

Date	Day	Event	Location
Dec 13	Mon.	Holiday Social	TGI Friday's, Oxford Valley Mall, Langhorne, PA
Jan 19	Wed.	Section Meeting - Material Management Systems, joint meeting with ISA	Siemens Office, Fort Washington, PA
29	Sat.	Philadelphia Regional Future City Competition	Villanova University
Feb 12	Sat.	Engineering Mini-Camp for High School Girls Engineers' Week Activities	Widener University Various
Mar 17	Thurs.	Joint meeting with ASCE and WTS Region E Meeting	Philadelphia, PA TBD
Mar 19	Sat.	Science Fair Judging AAUW Touch the Future Program	Various Walton Farm Elementary School, Lansdale
Apr 11	Mon.	Awards Banquet	Sheraton Parkridge, King of Prussia
May		Technical Tour Certificate of Merit Presentations	TBD Various
June 13		Section Planning Meeting Certificate of Merit Presentations	TBD Various

### Announcements

- **Wetzel Family Welcomes Newest Member!** - At 1 pm on Friday, November 19, Jennifer Wetzel welcomed daughter Katja Elise Wetzel into the world. Katja weighs 8 pounds, 10 oz. and is 21 ½ inches long. Jen and Katja are both doing fine.
- **Call for Hall of Fame Nominations** -The Delaware Valley Engineers invites you to submit nominations for the Hall of Fame Award and two Outstanding Service Awards. The Hall of Fame Award bestows recognition on an individual, team of individuals, an engineering project or a company whose achievements have had long-lasting impact on engineering and/or the public. The Outstanding Service Awards will be bestowed for Service to the Community and Service to Engineering and are designed to recognize career achievement rather than a short term effort or accomplishment. The deadline for submissions is January 14, 2005. For additional information about the nomination process, contact Susan L. Best at [Susan.Best@swe.org](mailto:Susan.Best@swe.org).
- **ASME / AIAA Symposium** - The American Society of Mechanical Engineers and the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics are sponsoring the Greater Philadelphia Regional Mini-Symposium on the latest advances in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering on Saturday, January 29, 2005 at the Plymouth Meeting DoubleTree Hotel. See page 3 for further details.

## Section News

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### November Section Meeting: Project Management

The November section meeting was held at the Fountain Side Seafood Restaurant & Grill in Horsham on Monday, November 8. There was a very good turnout for the meeting, including several new faces. Speaker Larry Cone, business process analyst and founder of Cone Software, presented his tools for effective project management. Larry's project toolbox consists of a collection of analogies for techniques you can use to keep your professional projects on track. For example, use your "scope axe" to trim down the scope of a project if it becomes too broad to manage. Turn to "The Frame" to re-frame or redefine your problem statement if the project hits a roadblock. Rely on your "Worm Detector" to anticipate trouble ahead and initiate open discussion of issues that can stand in the way of the project's progression.

Larry shares his insight and experience through an online journal or weblog ("blog" for short) at IT Toolbox: <http://blogs.ittoolbox.com/pm/implementation>.

### Newsletter Needs: Send your News & Photos!

Contributions to the newsletter are welcome from members of the SWE-Philadelphia section, student sections, other sections in the region, and other engineering organizations. Have you heard about a local volunteer opportunity? Seen an article that may be of interest to women engineers? Have an idea for a joint activity between SWE-Phila and another section or organization? Send us the info!

Also, since a picture is worth a thousand words, please feel free to submit photos of section members participating in section activities, volunteer activities or other engineering-related events. Announcements and photos will be included as time and space permit. Please send inputs to Danielle at [dldunrice@yahoo.com](mailto:dldunrice@yahoo.com).

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## Professional Development

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### Widener Offers Certificate in Mobile Computing

Widener University School of Engineering is proud to announce its new certificate program in Mobile Computing. The program is well-suited to the needs of today's working engineer and is structured in such a way that professionals can earn the certificate - comprised of three required courses and one elective (12 credits total) - in about one and a half years.

All courses within the program are taught by experts in the field of electrical engineering, including tenured faculty and highly qualified adjunct professors with specific expertise in the area of mobile computing.

For more information about the Mobile Computing certificate program, please visit the program website at <http://www.widener.edu/SOE/mobilecomputing>, and/or contact John Dixon, Director of Graduate & Special Programs for the Widener University School of Engineering at 610-499-1294, email: [john.h.dixon@widener.edu](mailto:john.h.dixon@widener.edu).

### ASME/AIAA Symposium in Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering

*Last call for abstracts!*

On January 29, 2005, the Philadelphia sections of ASME and AIAA will hold a symposium to present developments in aerospace and mechanical engineering. Area companies and engineers are invited to present papers and poster sessions during this day-long event at the Plymouth Meeting DoubleTree Hotel. The keynote speaker will be the Honorable Curt Weldon (R-PA). Session Topics will include: Energy & Propulsion Systems, Micro & Macro Materials, Sensors & Controls, and Vibrations & Dynamics. All engineering professionals in the area are encouraged to attend either as presenters or audience members. Presenters must **submit abstracts by December 7, 2004**. For more information and registration forms, visit <http://www.sections.asme.org/philadelphia/> or [www.homepage.villanova.edu/charles.marston/AIAA](http://www.homepage.villanova.edu/charles.marston/AIAA). Send abstracts to [AIAA-ASME@villanova.edu](mailto:AIAA-ASME@villanova.edu).

# ***Volunteer Opportunities***

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## **Future City Competition** **Saturday, January 29, 2005 at Villanova University** *by Jennifer Wetzel*

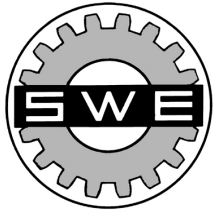
Greetings from the Philadelphia Regional Future City Competition! The 10<sup>th</sup> annual competition is underway with 38 schools signed up - another great turnout this year. However, several of the schools are still in need of mentors. Mentors guide the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students as they design a city of the future on computer using the *SimCity 3000* program and build a 3-D model of their city. The students work very hard for several months, and they need your support! Please consider helping us this year. Here is a list of schools signed up that do not have mentors:

Andrew Jackson Elementary School	Philadelphia, PA
Governor Mifflin Middle School	Shillington, PA
Indian Valley/Indian Crest	Souderton, PA
Mast Community Charter School	Philadelphia, PA (Far northeast)
Morrison Elementary School	Philadelphia, PA (Olney)
Shaw Middle School	Philadelphia, PA (Southwest)
Spring Lake Heights Middle School	Spring Lake Heights, NJ
Stetson Middle School	West Chester, PA
Warren G. Harding Middle School	Philadelphia, PA
Widener Memorial Middle School	Philadelphia, PA (Fern Rock)

Is there a school that you'd like to help out? Please let me know which school, and I'll get you in touch with the teacher. Are you not able to be a mentor, but would like to volunteer at our competition? Please visit [www.futurecityphilly.org](http://www.futurecityphilly.org) for more information and to sign up on-line, or send me an e-mail at [volunteer@futurecityphilly.org](mailto:volunteer@futurecityphilly.org). Volunteers are needed to help out as essay judges, presentation judges, and special awards evaluators at the competition.

## **AAUW Touch the Future Program** **Saturday, March 19, 2005 at Walton Farm Elementary School**

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) Touch the Future program, a day of hands-on demonstrations which celebrate women in math and science fields, will take place on Saturday, March 19, 2005 at Walton Farm Elementary School in Lansdale. Although all students are invited, it is a day designed to encourage and promote the interest of sixth and seventh grade girls in these fields. Workshops presented in previous years by SWE members included constructing rollercoasters out of foam pipe, with marbles for cars - applying basic principles of physics - and forming a puddy-like polymer out of a chemical reaction of Borax, water, and glue. If you would like to present a hands-on demonstration illustrating an aspect of your field for this event, please contact Lee Wolfe at (610)337-3666 or [lee\\_wolfe@urscorp.com](mailto:lee_wolfe@urscorp.com).



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## **SWE Philadelphia Section Newsletter December 2004 / January 2005**

### **Holiday Social and Re-Gift Exchange**

Monday, December 13, 2004  
6 pm  
TGI Friday's, Oxford Valley Mall, Langhorne, PA  
RSVP to Lisa Colosimo  
**Details inside!**

Newsletter copying and distribution is underwritten by a grant from  
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*Thank you!*

*The Society of Women Engineers is a non-profit, educational service organization  
dedicated to making known the need for women engineers and  
encouraging young women to consider an engineering education.*