

# SWE Outlook

# The Philadelphia Section ~ Region E

FY08.2 October 2007

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# SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

SWE Professional Development

Women Mentors Need Apply

**Open Officer Positions** 

#### **Newsletter Editors:**

Tessa Anodide Jaclyn Levengood

Submit Articles To newsletter@philaswe.org

#### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Section Members,

Just as our SWE-Philadelphia section leadership has planned events for members through the FY08 calendar, many similar science and technology organizations have outreach and community activities for which volunteers are needed. Partnering with our community organizations is a great way for SWE members to inspire others about engineering and education while giving back at the same time. The partnerships support our strategies of promoting engineering programs and getting the message of engineering as a great career to diverse audiences. I wanted to highlight the many opportunities available, which are also on the "Events" tab of the philaswe.org website in the Google calendar. Also included are relevant professional development opportunities such as day conferences and workshops. In short, if you are looking to support SWE's outreach to students and other professionals, we have many ways in which you can get involved and share the SWE mission and excitement in the Philadelphia area!

<u>SWE Section Event</u> – Rohm and Haas sponsored meeting, November 13<sup>th</sup> 6:00 p.m., Bristol, PA. Featuring speaker Celia Joseph and a discussion about Conflict Management. Open to professionals, guests, and students with RSVP.

<u>Expand Your Horizons</u> Mini-Conference – November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 9:00 a.m., Chestnut Hill College. Programs for 6<sup>th</sup> grade girls; looking for scientists and engineers to present experiments. To Register: Contact Dr. Kathy Thrush Shaginaw, Phone: (215) 736-9285

<u>Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania - Nov 3 at Villanova University from 9-noon;</u> Nov 10 at St. Joe's University from 9-noon. Volunteers will facilitate workshops which utilize the Alice educational software that teaches students about programming in a 3D environment. Refer to <a href="www.alice.org">www.alice.org</a> for more details; RSVP to <a href="www.alice.org">wmorgan811@verizon.net</a>.

Pennsylvania <u>Governor's Conference for Women</u> – November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2007, Convention Center in Philadelphia, PA. <a href="http://www.pagovernorsconferenceforwomen.org">http://www.pagovernorsconferenceforwomen.org</a>

Philadelphia <u>FIRST LEGO League Tournament</u>, University of Pennsylvania, Irvine Auditorium, January 26, 2008, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. <u>www.firstlegoleague.org</u>

<u>Mentoring</u> - SWE collegiate members receive membership in MentorNet, an online e-mentoring system. Most SWE collegiate members would like to be partnered with SWE professional members. You can support a SWE collegiate member prepare for her career by becoming a MentorNet mentor. For more information, please visit www.MentorNet.net.

To members attending National Conference October 25-27, have a fabulous and safe time! We look forward to hearing attendees feedback on the events, and thank all of you for taking time to support the conference as a speaker, recruiter, or for SWE business activities.

Jennifer Garner

#### SWE NEWS

#### **SWE Professional Development Seminar**

Managing Conflict: Critical for Successful Leadership

November 13<sup>th</sup> ~ Buffet Dinner 6pm; Workshop 7pm RSVP to <u>Chris Miller</u> by November 8<sup>th</sup> Free for SWE Members

Celia Joseph, Assistant General Counsel and Employment Law Manager for Rohm and Haas Company, will lead an interactive workshop with breakout groups to discuss conflict in the workplace including working through interpersonal challenges, how and when to address conflicts, taking proactive steps to a better workplace setting, and finding success as a leader and participant in the workplace.

#### Together they will discuss:

- How does one deal effectively with all individuals with whom we work?
- Can conflict bring positive change?
- Methods for resolving conflict
- Handling conflict with peers, managers and subordinates.
- Fostering a culture of teamwork and collaboration.

#### Vanguard Technology Day

November 2<sup>nd</sup> – 1pm – 5:15pm

#### **Attention Students & Professionals:**

Vanguard and the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (SHPE) are hosting this exciting event for college students and professionals at the start of their career who want to learn more about career opportunities in our world class IT division.

#### At the end of the day you will leave with:

- A broadened view of IT from Vanguard's Chief Technology Officer and IT division leaders
- Knowledge of full-time and internship opportunities
- An increased network of Vanguard professionals and peers
- An opportunity to tour Vanguard's state of the art Data Center\*
- A chance to win a door prize

#### FYI:

- Vanguard is located in Malvern, PA and is easily accessible by public transportation
- Light refreshments will be provided
- Business casual dress is appropriate for this event
- Please bring a copy of your resume

Seating is limited so please reserve your spot today by emailing a copy of your resume and a cover letter to <a href="mailto:vanguard.com">vanguard.com</a> events@vanguard.com

#### SECTION NEWS

## American Cancer Society - Making Strides Against Breast Cancer® Walk

Submitted by: Lisa Colosimo

Lisa Colosimo, Jen Garner, Rebecca Snelling, Diana Fernie and Rob Madden all made it out on Sunday October 14<sup>th</sup> for the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk in Philadelphia. It was a beautiful fall day for a walk - sunny and cool. We walked a total of 5 miles (well, probably more if you count the walking we had to do from where the cars were parked) starting at the Art Museum and walking 2.5 miles up MLK Blvd before turning around and walking 2.5 miles back. Although the goal was \$2,000, we still raised \$630

#### Pennsylvania Governor's Conference for Women

SWE-Philadelphia is in the process of becoming a supporting organization for the Pennsylvania Governor's Conference for Women. This conference will be held on Thursday, November 8th at the Convention Center in Philadelphia. The conference features keynote speakers Doris Kearns Goodwin, Evelyn Lauder, Indra Nooyi, and Judith Rodin. It also provide 3 seminar sessions as well as evening networking. 5,000 attendees are expected at this event sponsored by several corporations as well as Governor Rendell, as the conference name implies.



Please see <a href="www.pagovernorsconferenceforwomen.org">www.pagovernorsconferenceforwomen.org</a> for additional information, including registration forms. If you plan to attend, please contact Lisa Colosimo at <a href="lcolosimo@amerisourcebergen.com">lcolosimo@amerisourcebergen.com</a>. This will allow SWE to track attendance and possibly obtain a SWE table at the event.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Communications Committee**

Awards - no report at this time

<u>Membership</u> – The section and board email listservs have currently been updated and purged of previous years dropped members. New member packages are still under development, but recognition has been provided in the newsletter.

The membership chair will need help from the members to contact the 50 or so members that have no yet renewed before mid November as members get dropped December 1st.

<u>Newsletter</u> – The newsletter has undergone revamping to conform to the National awards guidelines as we plan to submit for the 2008 awards. These changes are not only visual, but based on content by providing more technical articles and focus on what's going on at the collegiate, section, region and national levels.

The newsletter editors are always looking to the membership to provide articles/content such as: National, Regional, Section and Committee News

Contributing Author Series – Professional Development, Technical and Book Reviews

Membership Announcements – Marriage, Engagement, Accomplishments

Comics and funnies

<u>Publicity</u> – One of the goals we set for the publicity chair was to create a banner for the section to utilize at events where we have a booth. The banner will be 3' X 5'. We originally were looking to purchase a custom banner, but thanks to Tessa Anodide, we should be able to have the banner made for free. We will need help from the members or a vote to determine a design so that we can get the banner made, before the beginning of the year which was the goal deadline.

<u>Webmaster</u> – The website needs help from the members to provide write-ups on yearly mentor/volunteer activities such as Mini-Camp, Future City, Certificate of Merit, etc. These write-ups will hopefully provide a better sense for those that a looking to volunteer but do not understand what each activity entails. The webmaster and corporate liaison will need to work together once the corporate package has been finalized to create a corporate webpage for the site.

#### **Outreach Committee**

#### Collegiate Update

The Villanova University Section kicked off the year with a new program, SWE Families. SWE members are grouped together to form a family. The goal of the families is a way for members from different class years to get to know others. Families are encouraged to attend SWE events together. Another on-going event is SWE Coffee breaks scheduled through out the year to give a change for SWE members and female faculty members to meet and mingle. The November meeting will feature a speaker from Gestalt, covering appropriate dress during interview and preparing for an internship. Planning has also begun for a networking dinner on Feb 26th, so mark your calendars as the section will be inviting professional members.

The University of Pennsylvania collegiate section kicked off the school year on September 18 with "Get to Know SWE S'more," featuring - you guessed it - s'mores! This year, they are planning several programs and events, including a mentoring program between upperclassmen and freshman, Educational Outreach activities for local schools, and the annual Corporate Dinner. Their next upcoming event is a High School Shadowing Day where local high school girls will follow SWE section members to classes.

On October 4<sup>th</sup>, the Drexel SWE Section held their 5<sup>th</sup> annual ice cream social. This social provides new freshman with insight regarding SWE's general goals as well as details about Drexel SWE. This year the Ice Cream Social was a huge success yet again with over 45 people in attendance, including 5 male students. Each year, presentations are giving on the ins and outs of Drexel SWE as well as surviving engineering. Not only does this social serve as an information session, it also serves as a recruiting event. Membership applications are passed out to all new comers and the membership fee is paid by company donation. This year, Rohm and Haas provided \$500 toward these memberships. As a publicity tactic, each year t-shirts are given away to all those that attend the social. The t-shirts are designed during the summer term by a contest open to the whole campus. The winner receives a gift certificate to Barnes and Noble.

This year Drexel SWE will be sending 18 girls and their counselor, Diana Fernie to national conference thanks to the Dean Guceri of the College of Engineering. The girls are only required to pay their \$80 registration fee.

For the rest of fall term, Drexel SWE has exciting events held on the even weeks of the term:

- Aspects of Consulting Jennifer VonDran
- Philly Cares Community Service
- Movie Night: The Twilight Zone.
- Advantages of Co-op: Becky Sichler
- Holiday Card Making for CHOPS

#### Opportunities to Get Involved

Girl Scouts Volunteer Opportunity – The Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania are looking for volunteers to assist with 2 upcoming events.

- The first is Nov 3 at Villanova University from 9-noon
- The second is Nov 10 at St. Joe's University from 9-noon

Volunteers will facilitate workshops which utilize the Alice educational software that teaches students about programing in a 3D environment. Refer to <a href="www.alice.org">www.alice.org</a> for more details. This is a great opportunity to educate girls about technology. There are 2 training dates for those unfamiliar with the software offered.

- St. Joe's Oct 21 (1-4)
- Villanova Oct 27th (10-1)

### **Professional Development Group**

The October section meeting was held last night (Oct 16) at Gestalt. Stacy Lustgarten presented on resume writing and interviewing.

The November section meeting is scheduled for Tues, Nov 13 at Rohm & Haas. The topic is Managing Conflict.

Jen and I had a conference call with SHPE and NSBE to plan a joint PD seminar during Engineers Week in February. A followup call is scheduled for Oct 24 to narrow down potential topics and speakers.

A draft of the corporate partnership/sponsorship request letter has been sent to the executive council for comments. We are targeting November 15 to send the letter out to corporate contacts.

SWE Phila was contacted earlier in the year by Chandra Ledford from PSE&G. They want to partner with SWE for recruitment and other outreach activities for their local sites. Currently Michelle Lore is in contact with Chandra regarding a joint meeting in January with the South Jersey ISA group; current planned topic is Energy Conservation/Alternatives.

PennDOT may be interested in speaking at one of our meetings. I need to contact them to discuss dates and topics.

#### CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR SERIES – PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

#### **Women Mentors Need Apply**

Article by Gregory G. Pawlowski, P.E.

It is 9:15 AM, April 21, 2007. I've just completed my traditional head count of women sitting for the FE exam that I am proctoring. In this session, there are 46 women out of a total 259 examinees: 18% of the exam population—assuming I round up.

The number of women sitting for both the FE and PE exams has left me curious ever since I began proctoring several years ago. I ask myself, why are there still so few women pursuing engineering as a career? Most of you will be thinking the answer is a no-brainer: simply, engineering is a predominantly male profession. The trick is that we are in the twenty-first century, and lines of traditional sexist occupations should no longer exist. There is also a qualifying assumption that an equal proportion of women taking the exams are also entering the engineering field as a whole.

I am particularly dismayed by this discrepancy because I do see females taking engineering courses in college. Since 1996, I have been teaching continuously at Delaware Technical & Community College as an adjunct; I

#### SWE Outlook

even did a six-year full-time stint. My instruction began in math and then moved onto civil engineering and construction management. Throughout my years teaching, one of my personal goals has been to push my female students to continue pursuing engineering as a profession. Many of my top students were women. Two in particular not only excelled in my more difficult design courses, they also voluntarily acted as TA's and assisted the male students.

It would give me great pleasure to report to you that they have all gone on to pursue a baccalaureate degree; unfortunately they have not. Both are employed at consulting firms as CAD technicians, and only one has expressed the desire to continue her education.

One of my other duties has been to judge the New Castle County Science Fair, held each year at Delaware Tech. Sixth graders up through high school seniors enter the competition, and the majority of the participants are female. Once again the paradox appears: If so many females are interested in science, why are there not more women entering and/or completing an engineering program?

Perhaps the discrepancy stems from the lack of mentors or encouragement from adult figures.

Heather Dorcey is here proctoring the test with me. I questioned her why she pursued civil engineering. Heather stated she was always good in math and science. But more importantly, she has an uncle who is also an engineer. In other words, an unofficial mentor played a key part in her career decision. I will also mention that her firm has been supportive by allowing her to work part-time from home over the last four years while she tends to a young daughter. I fully expect Heather will offer encouragement to her daughter when it comes time to inherit the engineering crown.

Meghan Lester is also proctoring today. Her grandfather was a union carpenter who worked primarily on heavy highway projects. Fascinated by concrete core samples her grandfather brought home from work and his carpentry skills, Meghan soon saw her interest in civil engineering was sparked. This anecdote shows that mentors do not necessarily have to be someone directly within the engineering community.

Although I have no hard, statistical evidence to show a relationship between mentors and women who pursue engineering, I have drawn a conclusion. Maybe you have too. So, with this in mind, my no-brainer solution is perhaps all employed engineers — male and female - ought to become unofficial mentors.

Even though this article focuses on women in engineering, there is an overwhelming need for engineers, period – men included. The Delaware Engineering Society is just one of many societies that sponsor programs like Math Counts, a means for promoting math with the hopeful pursuit of engineering. Your involvement in events such as Math Counts is one way to reach the minds of future engineers.

While we're on the subject, Delaware Tech is always in great need of engineers to judge the science fair, cited earlier. I strongly urge each professional engineer to help develop the next generation of problem solvers of our world.

#### **Response to: Women Mentors Need Apply**

Submitted by Andrea Morris

In Gregory Pawlowski's recent article in the Delaware Association of Professional Engineer's newsletter, "Women Mentors Need Apply", he calls for "female students to continue pursuing engineering as a profession." He situates his discussion as that of a proctor during one of the National Association's board exams, noting that participation by women is around 18%. It is the premise of the Associations that only licensed individuals may call themselves professional, and so Greg is trying to encourage more women to sit for their licensing board exam.

In counterpoint, I would like to caution women working in, or expecting to work in fields where licensing is not required, against pursuit of certification for two reasons: when unsupported by management, any individual's

license can become a liability, both criminal and financial, in the event of a failure, and, especially because they are women, licensing can be seen as threatening by potential colleagues, when times get tough and there's competition for work.

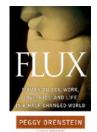
I base this caution on both personal employment experiences in both military customer and commercial sectors, and on some informal research I did ten years ago on women registered in the D.A.P.E. At that time, there were only about fifty women registered, about 10% of the total registrants. I managed to contact most of them, and discovered that after investing the considerable resources necessary to achieve certification, a full half of them had abandoned not only professional practice but the field in general citing the reasons above. This outcome is particularly disheartening since many of the survey participants offered that they pursued certification to gain credibility and acceptance, rather than as a requirement of employment, but also exemplary of my caution. Management support played a large role in the success of the remaining participants, reinforcing Greg's call for mentors. In fact, in our new team based working environment, the need for mentors, especially for women, persists throughout one's career.

#### CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR SERIES – BOOK REVIEW

# Flux: Women on Sex, Work, Love, Kids, and Life in a Half-Changed World

Review Submitted By: Melissa Thomas

I stumbled across *Flux* only recently at my local library, but it was almost as if the book had found me – as if it somehow knew I periodically re-examine the choices I have made. At the age of 32, I am a stay-at-home Mom with two young children. My days are filled with diaper changes, drooly smiles, temper tantrums and Richard Scarry. A seemingly endless supply



of toys threatens to take over my living room. But things weren't always this way. As I approached college graduation in 1998, I remember imagining where my career as an engineer would take me. I recall the pride that I felt, being a woman on the verge of earning a degree traditionally held by only men. My experiences as a co-op student had shown me that I enjoyed working in a manufacturing environment, and I saw my future self someday becoming plant manager of such a facility. At that point in my life, I was also engaged to my college boyfriend, with whom I foresaw myself building a home and a family. I did not have the foresight at the time to know that my two futures created somewhat of a paradox. My parents raised me with the notion that I could "be anything I wanted to be." (A phrase that is, interestingly enough, echoed within the pages of Flux.) Indeed, it never felt odd to me to pursue my interests in math and science, and to this day, I believe that engineering was a good direction for me to take. However, when I was consumed with the desire to have a baby at the age of 29, I knew that my career was going to take a back seat. The conflict I felt was between two options: work or stay at home. My parents, once of the "you can be anything you want to be" school of thought, felt very strongly that I should stay at home with my children. But the part of me that wanted a career, that liked the independence associated with it, not to mention the use of my degree and my brain, resisted. In the end, my husband and I decided that I would stay at home, since we would be able to make things work with only his salary coming in. I know that I will eventually go back to the working world, but I don't think the title of "plant manager" will ever grace my resume.

Reading *Flux* was somewhat of a revelation to me in that the choice of working or not is not so starkly black and white. I learned that a woman's identity evolves and needs attention that there's more to it than saying "I'll stop working for a while and then go back." The author places a lot of emphasis on the necessity for self-development, and the ability for a woman to maintain a sense of identity while fulfilling the roles of wife and mother. She suggests that women should continually ask "what do I want for myself now?" not only for their own well being, but also for the good of their relationships with husbands, children, employers, and friends.

Aside from being personally invested in the topic, I think that this book is extraordinarily well written. Its content is based on interviews with over 200 women across the country, ranging in age from 25 to 45. These included women who were single, divorced, married, and lesbian; women with and without children; working, stay-at-home, and single mothers as well as women trying to become pregnant on their own; women in elite, previously male-dominated professions as well as those in more conventionally feminine fields. There are

three parts to the book: The Promise, The Crunch, and Reconsiderations, comprised of interviews with women in their 20's, 30's, and 40's, respectively. It was very enlightening for me to see a glimpse into the worlds of other women in my situation, or in what could have been my situation had I chosen differently. I found the section of the book called Reconsiderations especially revealing: to learn about the lives of the women who represent me 10 or 12 years from now. Ms. Orenstein reports that these women "felt a push to recalculate priorities, to reckon with the consequences of their choices, to examine potential left unfulfilled, and reconsider what would bring a fuller sense of satisfaction." This really gives me something to focus on as I navigate my way through the rest of my 30's and figure out how to shape my future.

I wonder if I had been able to read this book when I was in college if I would have done anything differently. I'm sure my experiences have molded my views to a certain extent, but it might have been nice to have had a "being a professional woman" course thrown in there with all of those tech classes. One study of college seniors that Ms. Orenstein references shows that men consider work as a way to earn money, whereas women see work more as a vehicle of personal satisfaction. Would I have answered this way as a college senior? I can't say for sure, but after reading this book I definitely have a lot to think about regarding my future as an engineer, as well as a wife and mother. In her introduction to *Flux*, Ms. Orenstein's hope to her reader is that her book "will inspire you in the search for a more satisfied life." It definitely has for me, and I hope I can pass along her message.

Peggy Orenstein is a writer, editor and speaker about issues affecting girls and women.

#### CONTRIBUTING AUTHOR SERIES – ROTATIONAL PROGRAMS

Article Submitted By Danielle Dunn

The first few weeks of a new semester in college offer a buffet of academic options, a chance to sample several classes before deciding on a final course schedule. Intrigued by a sociology class on "Women and Gender in Renaissance Italy?" Check it out; you can drop it after the first week if it's a snooze. Can't decide between "Hydrology and Watershed Analysis" or "Tropical Field Biology?" Try them both!

Rarely does the workplace afford us this degree of flexibility to explore our interests. However, many employers do offer what may be the next best thing: Rotational Programs. They can vary widely in scope and duration, but the basic concept is to provide the employee with a breadth of work experience in different functional areas within the company in a relatively short period of time. For example, an engineer at a manufacturing company may spend a year each in planning and logistics, technical support, and quality control, or even sales and marketing. She could sample what it is like to work at a desk, in a lab, on a manufacturing floor, or out in the field. Some major employers use an established rotation program to develop the employees that show the highest potential to become future leaders.

Rotational assignments offer numerous benefits to both the employee and the employer. For a new hire, a series of short assignments (6 months to a year) in multiple departments will give her a broad overview of the company culture and business practices, and help her to decide what area may be the best fit for a longer term position. The abilities to see the "big picture" and to relate to colleagues in other roles are also valuable assets she can carry with her throughout her career.

Alternatively, if you have been in the same department for several years, you may be on the lookout for something new. After working for three years in the Merck Manufacturing Division, providing technical support for raw materials, I decided to take a two-year rotational assignment in the Merck Research Labs, where I am now working in Fermentation and Cell Culture. This has helped me to develop a very different skill set while pursuing an interest in bioprocessing. For my purposes, I am glad that the rotation is for two years, since this will allow me to gain a more in-depth knowledge of fermentation processes than I would on a shorter assignment.

By now, a seasoned employee may be asking, "Why not just look for a new 'permanent' position if I want a change?" The choice depends on what you hope to get out of the experience. For a rotation, a defined

endpoint is typically established, which can be helpful if you are curious about another department but unsure about remaining there for an extended period of time. Maybe you just want to gain first-hand knowledge of another functional role or a new technology, then take that knowledge back with you to your previous department or on to a different one. This behavior benefits the company as well, as employees become crosstrained and carry their valuable expertise and perspective with them to other areas of the organization. (These days, a new college grad is likely to change jobs six times or more before she retires. Employers can improve retention of employees by offering them new opportunities within the organization to keep them challenged and engaged.) Another potential advantage of rotations over 'permanent' assignments is that the employee often embarks on a rotation with a pre-defined set of goals and/or a specific project to be completed during that time. This structure can help lend focus and direction to her work.

If your employer does not offer a rotational program, ask management to start one! You can point them to the Strategic Employee Rotation article at careerbuilder.com for some encouragement (Google "Strategic Employee Rotation" to find it.) Good luck!

#### MEMBERSHIP ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### Welcome to the Philadelphia SWE Section!

**New Members** - Angela P. Ahmad, Anne Aunins, Rose-Ann Blenman, Kim Dezura, Hima Patel, Priscilla Robinson, Heather Watson

**Upgrade** - Drexel University: Nicole Urim Segal **Transfer** - Pacific Northwest: Jennifer Patterson

Do you have exciting news to share – it could be anything from graduations to birthdays, engagements to professional accomplishments. Email the <u>SWE Newsletter Editors</u> with your exciting news!

#### MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Tori Morgan has been a SWE member for ten years. Tori has degrees from the University of Pittsburgh (B.S. in Electrical Engineering), Penn State University (M.S. in Systems Engineering) and Villanova University (MBA). Thank you, Tori, for sharing with us this month!

I joined Lockheed Martin seven years ago as a systems engineer. I have had the opportunity to perform the various aspects to systems engineering, from requirements definition to verification of systems. I moved to the Philadelphia area from the Pittsburgh area after graduating from college. I enjoy traveling,

both within the US and overseas. I feel it provides the opportunity to learn about the diversity of ideas and ways to living. This year I am serving as the membership chair for the Philadelphia section. Help me out by updating your information on the national website at <a href="https://www.swe.org">www.swe.org</a>, Membership Services, Profile Update.

#### REMINDERS

#### **Membership Renewal**

Do not forget to renew your SWE Membership and pay your annual membership dues by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Members who have not renewed by this date will lose their membership. Membership dues are important to the vitality of our section. A small percentage of the total Philadelphia member dues are returned to our section to fund various programs and events. You can renew your membership online or mail in your renewal form. Online renewal is simple. Go to (<a href="www.swe.org/renew">www.swe.org/renew</a>) and follow the instructions. Note: your SWE Member ID and password are required for online renewal.

#### **Update Your SWE Profile**

Have you recently moved? Do you have a new personal e-mail address? Did you accept a great new job offer? Then don't forget to update your National **SWE Member Profile** and tell us about it! The information listed in your profile is essential to SWE communication. We don't want you to miss out on important announcements and events, so remember to update your profile.

Go to the National SWE website (www.swe.org) and log in using your Member ID and password. Next, click on Member Services in the left hand column. Finally, click on "Profile Update" in the first column and fill in all pertinent new information (i.e. mailing address, email, education record, employer, etc.)!

#### Newsletter Information

The Philadelphia SWE section has decided to compete for the Communications / Newsletter award and we need your help!! We're looking to you to help populate the newsletter with beneficial information. This is your chance to get published and help contribute to the section goals. We are looking for input to the following areas and are open to comments and suggestions for improving the format.

- ✓ National, Regional, Section and Committee News
- ✓ Contributing Author Series Professional Development, Technical and Book Reviews
- ✓ Membership Announcements Marriage, Engagement, Accomplishments
- ✓ Comics and funnies yes, this is part of the criteria ②

#### MEMBER CONTRIBUTION

#### Recipe of the Month - Pecan Crisp Cookies

Submitted by Jaclyn Levengood

The holiday season is quicly approaching! Here's a great family recipe for yummy holiday cookies.

1 ½ C. Sifted Flour1 egg, separated1 C. Sugar3 tbsp. Milk¾ tsp. Salt1 tsp. Vanilla

½ C. shortening 1 C. finely chopped pecans

Heat oven to 350°. Beat together sugar and shortening. Add egg yolk, milk and vanilla. Slowly mix the flour and salt into the mixture. Form the dough into small balls, approximately the size of walnuts. Place the balls on a cookie sheet, approximately two inches apart. Press the balls flat with a drinking glass – have the bottom greased and dipped in sugar. Brush the now circles with slightly beaten egg whites then sprinkle them with the pecans. Bake for 8-10 minutes. Remove from tray immediately.

#### **OPEN OFFICER POSITIONS**

<u>Swarthmore Counselor:</u> The counselor will serve as a connection between the Philadelphia professional section and the student section, with assistance from the Collegiate Section Liaison. She will also work closely with the Collegiate Section Liaison, student section officers and faculty advisors to ensure that information and events are kept up to date. Tasks may include attending student section meetings and helping to plan joint events. Estimated time commitment: 1-2 hours per month. Contact <u>Alexis Wallen</u> if you are interested.

# SOCIETY OF WOMEN ENGINEERS PHILADELPHIA SECTION, REGION E

215 South 16th Street, Suite 36 Philadelphia, PA 19102 www.philaswe.org

Address Correction Requested

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

November 2007	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Vanguard Tech Day
	1:00-5:15 pm
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Expand Your Horizons Mini-Conference
	Chestnut Hill College
	9:00am - 1:30pm
13 <sup>th</sup>	Section Meeting: Managing Conflict
	Rohm and Haas Bristol Engineering center, Croydon Pa.
	6pm - 8pm; RSVP: ChristineMiller@rohmhaas.com
December 2007	
8 <sup>th</sup>	Section Outing
January 2007	
26 <sup>th</sup>	Philadelphia Future City Competition
	8am - 3pm



Mission: Stimulate women to achieve full potential in careers as engineers and leaders, expand the image of the engineering profession as a positive force in improving the quality of life, demonstrate the value of diversity.

The Philadelphia Section was one of the original chartering sections of SWE, chartered on May 27, 1950.