

# **SWE Philadelphia Section**

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## ***Editor's Note:***

Next newsletter deadline is **August 24<sup>th</sup>**. Please send articles to: Heather Bernardin [habernardin@juno.com](mailto:habernardin@juno.com) or [hbernardin@fcg.com](mailto:hbernardin@fcg.com)

***Sub-section meetings  
this month.***

***Full Section meetings  
resume in the fall.***

***Have a great summer.***

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**SWE Philadelphia Section  
C/O Engineer's Club  
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Philadelphia, PA 19102**



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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



# **Society of Women Engineers Philadelphia Section June 1999**

## ***Letter from the President Sue Sciarratta***

Well, we're nearing the end of another SWE fiscal year. We had a very productive year! I especially want to thank all of the officers and committee chairs of SWE – Philadelphia for their hard work and dedication this year. I look forward to working with you in the future and further developing our friendships. I also want to wish good luck to the new SWE Delmar Peninsula Section – you are off to a fantastic start!

We will be having a planning meeting probably in late July, location to be determined. Here are some things that will be going on between now and then:

- Maryann Skehan graciously offered to help find a new meeting location for us next year. We are considering one place or alternating between two places. She is currently polling members for ideas of location, format, menu, frequency, etc. Also, if any of you have or know of available conference space at your workplace for future SWE meetings or seminars, please let me, Maryann, or Carole Stowell know.
- Since I put out the idea several months ago about a Fall Networking Night with other women's technical societies, I've received a lot of positive feedback from other organizations. Since then, we have learned that Drexel is planning a networking night on the Friday night of the SWE Regional Student Conference, November 5-7, 1999. The officers have decided that we would combine our efforts with Drexel in planning one Networking Night that should fulfill our mutual goals.
- Along the same vein, Drexel is seeking workshop presenters (technical or professional development) for its fall conference. Please contact Cindy Scott at [cindy.scott@drexel.edu](mailto:cindy.scott@drexel.edu) if you would like to help out.
- Vicki Land and I have submitted a joint proposal for DuPont (TX) to subsidize or sponsor a Fall Saturday Seminar on professional development. We should hear something after the June National Conference.
- Our recent election for Vice President may not have been quite as exciting as the Philadelphia Mayoral Primary, but I am happy to report that Lisa Colosimo, who lost in a very close VP race to Deena Grattan, has agreed to stay involved in our Section leadership in the capacity of overseeing Special Projects, such as the ones I mentioned above. Thanks Lisa!
- The National "Convention" is coming up in June in Phoenix. If you are planning to attend and haven't already informed me, please let me know.

Have a great summer, everyone!

# SWE Philadelphia Section

June 1999

## ***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED***

- **Certificate Of Merit Program**

As of 24 May 1999, 248 Certificates of Merit have been awarded to students from 84 high schools in the area.

Presenters are still needed for the schools listed below.

<u>School</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Middletown High School	Middletown, DE	Fri, June 4	9:00 am
Sussex Technical High School	Georgetown, DE	Wed, June 9	7:00 pm
Olney High School	Philadelphia, PA	Wed, June 16	9:00 am
Central Bucks High School West	Doylestown, PA	Thu, June 3	7:00pm
Sun Valley High School	Aston, PA	Mon, June 7	6:00 pm
- (school provides dinner)			

Please call Barb Faust (215) 257-6463 or e-mail Barbara.Faust@swe.org, if you are willing to present awards at one of these schools. It is a pleasure to see students recognized for doing good things.

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- **Region E Student Conference**

Drexel University Student Chapter of SWE is hosting the 1999 SWE Mid-Atlantic Regional Conference "Engineering the Millenium...the Sky's the Limit" from November 5-7 at Drexel University in Philadelphia. They are seeking volunteers to speak at the conference. See form for more information. They are also seeking companies to sponsor the conference or companies interested in having a booth at the Career Fair.

For more information contact:

Kathie Kennedy, President Drexel SWE, 215-245-8114 or  
Cindy Scott, Vice President Drexel SWE, 610-649-2634

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- **2004 National SWE Conference**

Planning is already in full swing for the 2004 National SWE Conference to be held in Philadelphia in June 2004. The Core Committee is looking for volunteers to help out with all aspects of planning the conference. Contact Susan Best, Conference Chair, at 610-444-6522 or susan.best@swe.org for more information.

*Editors Note:* A new newsletter editor and/or publisher is needed for next year. If you are interested or would like more information contact Heather Bernardin at 610-454-0146 or habernardin2juno.com.

# SWE Philadelphia Section

May 1999

## May Meeting Highlights

At the May meeting SWE member Stacy Dedin and her husband spoke on their recent trip to Africa. Stacy and her husband went to Africa for 3 weeks in December. The trip began with a five hour bus ride over 150 miles of dirt roads from Nairobi to Tanzania. The trip was extremely dusty, and Stacy recommends bringing a handkerchief to breathe through during the drive, if you ever go. They have begun to pave the roads which makes some portions of the ride easier. Crossing the border was also difficult because the two countries do not get along. In addition, there are a lot of peddlers at the border crossing trying to sell their goods.. Stacy showed slides of typical buildings for the region and explained that the structures are not built for permanence. The construction consists of thatch roofs and mud walls.

Stacy arrived at a self contained lodge at the bottom of the Mt Kilimanjaro. Before the main hike there was a practice hike with the 10 other people who would trek to the summit. The practice hike got everyone ready for the 9 day hike up and down the mountain, while allowing the tour guides time to assess the abilities of the hikers. The other people on the hike were mostly groups of two. The Kilimanjaro hike was 7days up 2 days down. Each of the hikers carried day packs and the porters carried the rest of the gear. There were 2 tour leaders, 2 guides and 2-3porters per person along with the 12 hikers. At the beginning of the hike, they saw slash and burn that was performed for development. This form of development caused lots of water run off down the mountain. The trail was not well defined and required the guides to lead. At the bottom of the mountain there was rainforest but as they climbed there was less and less. Eventually the vegetation disappeared then the large boulders turned to small rocks then dirt as they hiked upward. The hike was about 50 miles up 18 miles down. The difference in oxygen as they went up was noticeable. It caused them to lose their appetites so the guides had to make them eat. They also had to drink constantly or they would get headaches. They also had a one day hike at the same level to help acclimate to the oxygen level. The temperature also dropped below freezing as they went up. Stacy felt the hardest part of the hike was not the 7 days up the mountain but the 2 days down.

After the trek up Mt. Kilimanjaro Stacy and her husband went on a Safari. The Safari included the plains of Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro crater and Lake Manyara National Park. Lake Manyara was flooded from run-off caused by the slash and burn development. The Ngorongoro crater was 6-7 miles wide and was created by a volcano. The crater contains a wide variety of wildlife, which does not migrate from the crater, because of the ever present water supply. On the Serengeti the animals let people get close, except for the rhinos, which are shy; however everyone stayed inside the vehicles for safety. During the safari they saw a animals, including zebra, giraffe, ostrich, cape buffalo, elephant, lions, cheetah, leopard and a lot more. They also learned about East African tribes and culture. Their driver was from a tribe called the Missia. In his tribe the members all wear red. The red started as a protest of the missionaries who wanted them to wear white & convert.

Stacy is already planning her next trip to Africa. She says if you want to go to Africa you need a lot of planning (and shots) before hand.



# SWE Philadelphia Section

June 1998

## SUB-SECTION MEETINGS

### ***Bucks County***

TUESDAY,  
JUNE 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30 PM

Pizzeria Uno's  
in Langhorne  
(next to Sesame Place)

RSVP by noon on Monday 5/21  
to  
Susan Sciarratta  
609-273-1110 (w), 215-579-1377(h).

### ***Montgomery County***

TUESDAY,  
JUNE 15<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM

Bertucci's  
Germantown Pike  
Plymouth Meeting  
(Outside the  
Plymouth Meeting Mall)

RSVP to Jennifer Wetzel  
(610) 695-7432

### ***Lehigh Valley Section Banquet***

Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup>

#### **The Spice of Life Restaurant**

1259 S. Cedar Crest Blvd.,  
Allentown, PA

**Speaker:** Ms. Wendy Rothrock,  
Project Manager, Alvin Butz, Inc.

**Topic:** Lehigh Valley Hospital  
East Wing Expansion Project

5:30- 6:00 p.m. Networking (Cash Bar)  
6:00- 7:00 p.m. Dinner (\$23 members,  
\$26 nonmembers,  
\$20 unemployed)  
7:00- 7:15 p.m. Program  
7:15- 8:15 p.m. Tour of LVH Construction

RSVP by June 7, 1999  
to Kathy Kinsey at (610) 481-2702

### ***Delaware Section***

MONDAY,  
JULY 12<sup>th</sup>

6:00 PM

SWE social at the Wilmington  
Blue Rocks baseball game

\$10

(includes ticket to game and appetizers at the  
Kahuna, no drinks are included in this price)

For more information contact:  
Vicki Land (302) 369-1123 or  
Barbara Zubenko (302) 234-2050

The section's Chartering Reception will be in  
September