DALLAS SECTION HOSTS ENGINEERING WORKSHOP FOR SCOUTS

Over 150 Girl Scouts from the North Texas Council of Girl Scouts recently earned their “Science In Action” badges by participating in the annual engineering workshop conducted by the Dallas SWE Section. The event was held by the University of Texas at Dallas on Saturday, October 16.

At the morning exhibits, girls learned how to program a computer-controlled knitting loom, creating the Girl Scout logo on a sweater. They experienced the glowing world of night vision as seen through a heat-sensing camera. A robotic arm demonstration was conducted by professor Eric Stomberg of DeVry University, and the scouts were instructed how to program and operate the arm to sort and drop marbles.

Women engineers from Texas Instruments and TU Electric spoke about their work. They explained how, by doing their homework and understanding math and science, girls can work in the fields of electronic, industrial, mechanical and civil engineering.

For the afternoon, troops split up into groups and worked their way through a series of workshops. In one room, engineers from GTE demonstrated how to create a telephone network and discussed the future of communications. In another room, civil and environmental engineers from local firms helped the scouts build a model bridge. Outside, members of the Richardson Fire Department conducted guided tours of a working fire engine and emergency vehicle.

Other local companies that contributed to the active day were BNR, Rockwell International, Brother Company, Southwest Electronics, and Alcatel.

Scout Tory Robinson, from Troop #1246 in Red Oak, Texas, said she was especially inspired by the experience. She said that she wanted to “thank the women engineers for showing me so many exciting things there are to learn and do. I believe I can grow up to do anything I want to.”

by Joel Roth

IN MEMORY

Friends of Ruby S. Langford of Jacksonville, Fl., will mourn her passing on December 14, 1993.

A charter and life member of the Society, Langford served in many offices of the New York Section and chaired the 1964 SWE National Convention, held in New York. She was also active in the SWE Western Carolina and Florida Sections. An industrial engineer, she graduated from Columbia University Engineering School. She also was a member of Tau Beta Pi and an associate member of the Institute of Industrial Engineers.

Lucie B. Kaufman, P.E., SWE fellow and member of the Phoenix Section, passed away December 3, 1993. She was born in Rock Island, Ill., and taught at the University of Colorado and Arizona State University.

SWE-SCV HONORED WITH CAREER GUIDANCE AV AWARD

The Santa Clara Valley (SCV) Section was awarded the Career Guidance Audio-Visual Award at the SWE Convention in Chicago for a video documenting their Higher Education Outreach Program (HEOP).

During the past four years, members of the section have devoted many hours of volunteer time to provide a very worthwhile program for a group of girls from the San Francisco Bay area.

While it would be impossible to capture the past four years in any type of media production, the video, “Who Are These Girls?” offers a glimpse of the astounding potential and results of the SCV Section’s efforts. The footage for this video was taken at the 1992 HEOP Summer Week Program held at Stanford University. The video is usable by sections not participating in HEOP or a similar program, since the primary focus of the video is the excitement of the girls in their exploration of engineering. The video can be used by any SWE section trying to educate children about careers in engineering by generating excitement about studying math and science. This video is of particular use to sections looking for audio-visual materials using under-represented students as role models.

The SCV Section believes that other sections will find this video useful as they reach out to young women, parents and teachers in their communities and educate them about engineering career opportunities for women.

by Toni Dolen SCV President ‘91-93 and past president ‘93-94, and Kathy Anderson, SCV President ‘93-94 and career guidance vp ‘91-93c

CORRECTION

The 1993 Region 1 Best Student Section was the Colorado School of Mines, not Colorado State University, as stated on page 43 of SWE, September/October issue.