

SWE Philadelphia Section

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Editor's Note:

Next newsletter deadline is **May 24th**. Please send articles to: Heather Bernardin
habernardin@juno.com

African Trek Gaslight Restaurant May 18th, 6-9pm

Exit 8 off I-95
Turn onto Stewart Ave
(Right from I-95S, Left from I-95N)
Right onto Rt. 13 (Chester Pike)
Left onto Sellers Ave.
Right Turn just after stop sign

**Cost is \$22.00 (Students \$10.00)
RSVP to Carole Stowell
(610) 531-5320
by May 14th.**

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
May 1999**

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

I'm sitting here with complete writer's block, probably due to the fact that I've just returned from a wonderful two-week vacation in London and Ireland, and haven't quite accepted the reality of returning to my normal routine.

Here's a brief recap of the events of last month. On April 21, we hosted the Scholarship Banquet which I'm sure went well despite my absence. We also held elections for next fiscal year. See inside for the results. Congratulations to our newly elected officers. We are still filling positions for various committee chairs, so don't be shy and try something new! I'm especially seeking 2-3 people to work on the Newsletter for next year, preferably folks from the same company or who live near each other who can corroborate or rotate responsibilities for each month's issue. Also, don't forget to check inside for details of our May members meeting.

The really big news is that the Board has approved the petition for the new Delmar Peninsula Section! This is great news because it means that by dividing the current Philadelphia Section, we will each grow stronger in the long term, focus our efforts in a smaller geographic area, and better serve our constituencies. As President and Bucks County resident, I expect to move next year's meetings northward. If the location of this year's meetings has impacted your attendance rate, I highly suggest that you voice your opinion to your new Officers on preferred location(s) for next year's meetings.

Finally, I am looking into the concept of awarding Continuing Education Units for members' attendance at meetings and/or conferences. I will let you know what I find out. If anyone else has information on this or is interested in spearheading this effort, please contact me.

-Susan Sciarratta

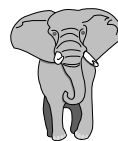
SWE Philadelphia Section

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MEETINGS

- **May Philadelphia Section Meeting**

SWE member Stacy Dedin will speak on her recent trip to Africa. Stacy's trip included trekking to the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro, safari in the plains of Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro crater and Lake Manyara National Park, where she saw a wide variety of flora and fauna, including zebra, giraffe, ostrich, cape buffalo, elephant, lions, cheetah, leopard and a lot more! She learned about the East African tribes and their culture, and learned to speak some Swahili, the primary language in East Africa.



The May meeting will be held May 18th or 19th at the Gaslight Restaurant in Ridley Park. Contact Carole Stowell at (610) 531-5320 to RSVP.

DELAWARE SECTION

- **Delaware Section – May Planning Meeting**

There will be meeting for the potential Delmar Peninsula section on Tuesday, May 18th, 6PM at Conectiv, Rt. 273 & I-95, subs and sodas will be served. Please RSVP to Vicki Land by May 15th.

To attend or to obtain more information, please contact Vicki Land.
e-mail: vland@delanet.com or phone at (302) 369-1123.

- **Charter Petition Approved !!!**

The Delaware Group's petition to charter the new Delmar Peninsula Section was approved at the Board of Director's meeting on April 24th.

- **Election Results**

President - Sue Sciaratta
VP - Deena Grattan
Secretary - Heather Bernardin
Treasurer - Barb Faust
CSR - Maggie Schwartz and Susan Best

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Bronze Sponsors:

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Lockheed Martin, Management and
Data Systems
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Member Sponsors:

Susan Best
Heather Bernardin
Vicki Brown
Christine El-Beyrouy
Barbara Faust
Patricia Henry
Kay Rainford
Susan Sciaratta
Marlene Wolf
Lucia Chan

Call for Program Development Proposals

The Program Development Resource Committee is pleased to announce the call for proposals for new projects from subgroups of SWE for projects or programs that support the goals of the Society and meet the necessary requirements. The due date for submission is June 1 (5pm PST). Decisions will be announced in July with funding anticipated to be available in September.

The fund was established in FY98 and provides the Society with a long needed cohesive funding vehicle to financially support activities at the local level. The proposals should be for programs that are dedicated to:

Encouraging women and girls of all ages to pursue engineering studies,
Engaging practicing women engineers in professional development activities, or
Providing a positive forum for Diversity Issues and Training.

Proposals should be for new programs that are oriented toward women or girls and have not been conducted by your section previously unless significant enhancements are being proposed. The Fund is currently supporting 21 projects with a total budget of \$104,290, with projects varying from an Engineering Awareness Day to developing "Engineering Exploration Kits" and developing an "Engineering Road Show", a set of skits to be presented at junior high and high schools.

If any one has ideas for this proposal contact Susan Sciaratta (609) 273-1110 or susan_sciaratta@golder.com

On behalf of the Council of local engineering societies, the Engineers Club has awarded SWE Philadelphia a \$60 award for its efforts in maintaining a liaisonship with local engineering students.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

- **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. Volunteers are needed to organize sections of the program, local arrangements, and student activities. Whether you have past convention

experience or not your opinion and experience are needed. An expression of interest is not an ironclad commitment - we can only guess how much our lives will change in the next five years. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Susan Best, Conference Chair, at 610-444-6522 or susan.best@swe.org.

- **Certificate Of Merit Program**

As of 26 April, Certificates of Merit have been awarded to 173 students from 58 schools in the Philadelphia Section area. The following schools have requested a SWE member to make the award presentation:

Upper Darby High School, Upper Darby, PA	Tues, 1 June 1999, 7:00 pm
Kennett High School, Kennett Square, PA	Wed, 19 May 1999, 7:00 pm
Pottstown Senior High School, Pottstown, PA	Mon, 10 May 1999, 7:00 pm
Villa Joseph Marie High School, Holland, PA	Fri, 28 May 1999, 9:00 am
Germantown High School, Philadelphia, PA	TBD, probably June, evening
Olney High School, Philadelphia, PA	Wed, 16 June 1999, 9:00 am

Please call Barbara Faust (215) 257-6463 or e-mail Barbara.Faust@swe.org for more information if you are able to make any of these award presentations.

- **Region E Student Regional 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

- **Math Options Career Day**

Penn State, Abington is hosting its 9th annual Math Options Career Day for 7th grade girls on Friday 5/21 from 8-2:30. They are seeking women to conduct hands-on workshops to inspire the girls to pursue math or science careers, or participate in the Career Fair or Panel Discussion. Contact Marsha Fisher at Penn State at 215-881-7546, and notify Vicki Brown, SWE Speakers Bureau, at 610-499-4607 if you decide to attend.

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1998-1999 Scholarships Awarded

The Philadelphia Section of SWE awarded eight \$1000 scholarships at our annual awards banquet on Wednesday, April 21, 1999. The banquet was held at the Radnor Hotel in St. Davids. Ronna Robertson, Region E Director of SWE, gave an inspiring talk about the benefits and opportunities for members at all levels of the organization.

The Scholarship Committee comprised of Barb Faust, Julie Gadsby, Maggie Schwartz, Susan Sciaratta, and chaired by Danette Ernst reviewed 16 applications. Each student submitted a description of extracurricular activities including the students involvement, an essay about why she is studying and engineering discipline, a copy of her transcript, and a letter of recommendation from a Professor or TA with whom she has worked. Susan Best headed the scholarship fundraising campaign again this year.

Congratulations to the following Scholarship Winners:

Shahin Y. Merchant – Bell Atlantic Mobile Scholarship.
Shahin is a Sophomore majoring in Computer Science and Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania.

Alyssa J. Koch – Day and Zimmerman Scholarship.
Alyssa is a Junior majoring in Civil Engineering at Drexel University.

Denise L. Welsh – Kling Linquist Scholarship.
Denise is a Junior at Drexel University majoring in Civil Engineering.

Joie Marhefka – Merck Scholarship.
Joie is a Junior at Villanova University majoring in Chemical Engineering.

Sonia S. Stewart – Merck Scholarship.
Sonia is a Junior majoring in Chemical Engineering at Widener University.

Jianhong Ren – Raytheon Scholarship.
Jianhong is a graduate student at Drexel University. She is studying for a PhD in Civil and Environmental Engineering with an emphasis in hydrology.

Hemali B. Patel – Rohm and Haas Scholarship.
Hemali is a Sophomore at Drexel University, majoring in Biomedical Engineering.

The Delaware Valley Science Fair Scholarship Award was awarded to Marisa Adelman of the Abington Friends School for her project involving artificial limbs.