

# SWE Philadelphia Section

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

Next newsletter deadline is **January 23<sup>rd</sup>**. Please send articles to: Heather Bernardin  
habernardin@juno.com

## ***Planning Meeting Gaslight Restaurant January 21<sup>st</sup>, 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 \$25.00 (Students \$10.00)  
RSVP to Carole Stowell  
(610) 531-5320  
by January 19<sup>th</sup>.**

This newsletter's mailing is funded through a grant from Lockheed Martin Management and Data Systems. *Thank you!*

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**SWE Philadelphia Section  
C/O Engineer's Club  
Suite 36  
215 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102**



ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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



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

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

I am honored to have been asked by Janet to assume the duties of President of the SWE Philadelphia Section for the remainder of this fiscal year. As you know, until now I have served as Vice-President of our Section. Prior to that, I chaired the Scholarship and Programs Committees. I thought I would take this opportunity to introduce myself a bit further and tell you what to expect for the rest of this year.

I have been active in SWE since my student days at Tufts University in Boston, where I was Vice-President of the Student Section. In 1991, I moved to Philadelphia to work at the US Environmental Protection Agency. Since then, I have become increasingly active in our SWE Section – the purchase of my first car last February helped my mobility quite a bit! Last year, I got married and bought a house in Newtown, PA. In May, I started a new job at Golder Associates in Mt Laurel, NJ, where I am a process and environmental engineer. I continually seek to make a strong contribution to the small, but effective, female engineering presence here.

With this abrupt change in SWE responsibilities, I will be looking to all of you for your support, patience, and initiative. Our tri-section bid for the National Convention in 2004 has excellent prospects for acceptance, thanks to Susan Best and the rest of the committee. We hope to have a Saturday Seminar in March for our Section, the planning of which requires quick and constant attention. We will have a special election to fill the Vice President vacancy; now is your chance to try out being an officer! We also have the Scholarship Competition and Banquet coming up in the Spring.

If you ever wanted to volunteer for anything, now is the right time. There are lots of opportunities to become immediately active, both in SWE and other engineering outreach, such as Engineers Week, Future Cities Competition, and local science fairs.

Thank you in advance for all your support. I hope to serve you well as interim President.

-Susan Sciarratta, P.E.

# **SWE Philadelphia Section**

**January 1999**

## ***VOLUNTEERS NEEDED***

- **1999 PHILADELPHIA REGIONAL FUTURE CITY COMPETITION**

For the fourth year in a row, the Delaware Valley Engineers Week Council will host the **National Engineers Week™** Philadelphia Regional Future City Competition. This program offers 7th and 8th grade students an excellent learning opportunity to work with a practicing engineer in the design of a city of the future. The regional competition date is Saturday, January 30, 1999. Volunteers are needed to assist with all aspects of the competition process. Contact Jennifer Wetzel 610-695-7432 (Phone) [Jennifer.Wetzel@mgind.com](mailto:Jennifer.Wetzel@mgind.com) (e-mail). Flier enclosed.

- **Delaware Valley Science Fair**

Volunteers are needed for the Delaware Valley Science Fair (DVSF) at the Fort Washington Expo Center on March 31, 1999 and the 50<sup>th</sup> International Science & Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Philadelphia. The ISEF will be a grand event, and an important milestone for the DVSF. Philadelphia was the site of the first National Science Engineering Fair in 1950, from which the current ISEF grew. One need is for judges. ISEF judging is different from DVSF judging: different procedures; different prerequisites. The major requirement is simply current or recent involvement in research or research administration. Use the enclosed application or visit or the web site, [www.isef1999.org](http://www.isef1999.org) and register online. There is also a need for people who will act as lead volunteers in pursuing the myriad of tasks needed to put on a conference of this scale.

- **Scholarship Time!**

It's time to start thinking about the SWE-Philadelphia student scholarship awards. The first step is to form a panel of judges. We're looking for 5-6 volunteers to judge scholarships during the last two weeks of March. Last year's panel reviewed fifteen applications and awarded five scholarships. There should be no need to meet, unless the panel wants to. The interaction required can be handled by mail and e-mail. Please contact Danette Ernst by e-mail at [Dernst@SWE.ORG](mailto:Dernst@SWE.ORG) or at 215-569-0400 (day) if you would like to participate.

Scholarships are awarded to SWE members who are students majoring in engineering at one of our affiliate schools: University of Delaware, Villanova University, Swarthmore College, Rowan College, Widener University, University of Pennsylvania, or Temple University. Judging is on the basis of participation in activities related to science/engineering, a demonstrated ability to work both as a team member and as a leader, an expressed interest in engineering, a letter of recommendation from a professor or TA, grades and course work. Applications will be sent to the Student Section Presidents, Faculty Advisors, and Counselors near the end of January.

- **Still in need of filling KEY POSITION in the section**

Elections will be held to fill the position of Vice President, which is empty now that Susan has taken on the responsibility of President.

The section **still** needs a chair for Career Guidance. This position can simply be one of coordination, relaying requests to the appropriate section program Chair, and take only a few hours a month. Or, if you are so inclined, you can make it as big as you like and develop new programs and activities! This position makes it easier for the "public" to access our pre-college programs -- they call one person to connect with any of our various activities. If you have questions, feel free to contact Susan Sciarratta Work:(609)273-1110 or Barbara Zubenko (302-234-2050), our previous Career Guidance Chair.

# **SWE Philadelphia Section**

**January 1999**

## **CALL FOR NOMINATIONS**

- **Vice President**

Nominations are requested for SWE Vice President to serve the rest of this fiscal year (end of June). Nominations self or of others should go to the Secretary, Pam Zucaro (302) 454-4934 or Pamela.Zucaro@connectiv.com

- **Fellow Grade Selection**

The Fellow Grade is an honor conferred on a Society member "in recognition of her/his continuous service to the advancement of woman in the engineering profession". The elements of this continuous service are providing outstanding services to the Society and to the advancement of public awareness of engineering as a profession for women and being recognized for personal contributions to the fields of engineering and/or engineering management. The selection of Fellows will be limited annually to 1 per 1000 voting members. Nominations may be made by sections or members-at-large and are not limited to a member of the nominating group. Nominations must be signed by two section members with at least one signature being the President or Section Representative. Nominations for a MAL must be signed by at least one MAL Representative.

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## **CALL FOR PAPERS**

- **1999 Ironmasters Conference April 23-25, 1999**

The 1999 Ironmasters conference will be held on the campus of West Virginia University. The paper selection committee is actively seeking paper proposals related to historic iron making, iron mining, and steel related topics. Proposals are due by December 31, 1998. Contact Lee Maddex (304)293-3829, [Lmaddex@wvu.edu](mailto:Lmaddex@wvu.edu) for information.

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## **MEETING UPDATES**

- **Inter-Society Meeting**

Frann Shore attended the Inter-Society Dinner Meeting at the new location of the Engineers' Club at the Racquet Club in Philadelphia. 21 different societies were represented and brief presentations were made by everyone on their best ideas and meeting innovations. All groups have similar problems. Typically meeting attendance is 5-10% of membership at a meeting. Some of the highlights of the meeting:

1. Offer CEU credits for attendance at meetings,
2. 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting free if 2 meetings attended in a row,
3. Have chat rooms on the Web in addition to meetings,
4. Have social hour with Hors D'oevers instead of dinner to make the evening shorter and cheaper,
5. This year's ASCE, Civil Engineers, will have all women speakers at their meetings,
6. Ask student chapters to maintain the Web page to get them involved with the professional society,
7. Have an "Institution Night" (i.e. university night) and invite alumni.

Contact Frann Shore (610)591-9641 for more information.