The holidays are now a distant memory, and spring is in the air. There’s still another five months of the SWE-SC year, and there’s still plenty on our calendar. We work hard to create a balance between technical meetings, community outreach, and just-for-fun member events – and we hope you’ve found activities that interest you. February started off with a bang with our Art Walk in the Eau Gallie Art District (2/4), followed by IGEW (2/12) – still our signature event for community outreach to young girls. If you’ve never volunteered for IGEW, you have missed seeing a truly great event. Great classes, incredible co-ordination, and over 600 young girls excited about Engineering. March 1st we have our Annual Awards Banquet. This is a truly inspiring event to meet and hear about all the incredible accomplishments of all our wonderful nominees. Next up on the calendar is the Book Club, reviewing “The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo” on March 13th at Dixie Crossroads in Titusville.

It’s also that time of the year to start thinking about whether you are interested in becoming more involved with operation of our Section. We are looking for new people with fresh ideas to be part of the Executive Council – the group of officers that work together to plan the year’s events. There are many positions available such as officers, event chairs, region representatives. We’d be happy to discuss the many different possibilities to see which might be a fit for you. Feel free to contact myself or any of our other officers for more information. Our nominating committee will start trying to fill the slate for next year very soon!

We hope to see you at one of upcoming events!

Lori McPherson
SWE-SC President

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**Calendar of Events**

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<th>DATE</th>
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<td>March 1, 2011</td>
<td>Annual Awards Banquet</td>
<td>Rockledge Country Club</td>
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<td>March 4-6, 2011</td>
<td>Region D Conference</td>
<td>Knoxville, TN</td>
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<td>March 13, 2011</td>
<td>March Book club</td>
<td>Dixie Crossroads, Titusville</td>
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<td>April 9, 2011</td>
<td>Cocoa Beach Relay for Life</td>
<td>Cocoa Beach High School</td>
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March Meeting: Awards Banquet
Tuesday, March 1, 2011

This year’s Awards Banquet, held on Tuesday, March 1, 2011, is not to be missed! Join us for a special evening celebrating the incredible accomplishments of outstanding women engineers from our community. We are also pleased to introduce our keynote speaker for this year, Paula Stenzler, Director of Engineering and Quality Control, Technical Services for NBC Universal, of the Orlando, FL location.

The menu options include: Choice of Macadamia Nut Chicken with a Pineapple Mango Sauce, Sliced Sirloin of Beef with a Mushroom Bordelaise Sauce, or Butternut Squash Ravioli with an Almond and Brown Butter Sauce (Vegetarian)

For questions contact our Awards Banquet Chair, DeAnn Sperber at 321-223-6329

Region D Conference

Registration is open for the 2011 Region D Conference to be held March 4-6, 2011, at the Holiday Inn, World’s Fair Park, Knoxville, TN. The conference is hosted by University of Tennessee, Knoxville Society of Women Engineers. The goal of this conference is to give women in engineering the tools to succeed at both the academic and professional level. Be sure to register and reserve your hotel room- don’t miss out, late registration ends February 19th. The conference website is http://www.swe.org/regiond/regiondconference.

Attendees will be treated to an opening ice cream social, SWE Boutique, workshops, a Keynote Luncheon, a career fair, Region D meetings, an Awards Dinner and more! Additionally, professionals can register for the annual professional development workshop on Saturday afternoon.

For questions contact the Region D Governor at governor-d@swe.org or RegionDConference@swe.org
Check out the Region D blog at http://regiond.wordpress.com/
Facebook: SWE Region D Conference 2011 / Twitter: SWE Region D Conference 2011 SWE Region D

March Book Club

Our next Book Club meeting will be on Sunday, March 13th at 2 pm at Dixie Crossroads, Titusville. Register at www.swe-sc.org

The SWE-SC Book Club met before the December Holiday Party to review Elizabeth Gilbert’s Eat, Pray, Love. It was a lively discussion, and many of us were envious of the author’s ability to take the time and the expense of such a wonderful life experience. Some had read the book, others saw the movie, but most admitted they had enjoyed it.

Next up for the Book Club is The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo by Stieg Larson. This is the first in a three book series that has been on the bestseller list for a long time. It’s available on DVD as a foreign language film (soon to be made here as well). Although the primary story is an engrossing mystery, there is an underlying theme of female abuse that is sure to provide interesting discussion. The Book Club will meet in Titusville at the Dixie Crossroads Restaurant on Sunday March 13th at 2 pm. Be sure to pick up your book and start reading today!

As always, Book Club is a great opportunity to spend the afternoon in interesting conversation with interesting women – even if you haven’t read the book! RSVP on our homepage if you are planning to attend!
**Holiday's Around the World Party**

On December 5th, after a lively discussion on Elizabeth Gilbert’s *Eat, Pray, Love* during our December book club, the SWE-SC section celebrated the holidays with the annual “Holidays Around the World” Party at Lori McPherson’s Home. It was a great opportunity to taste different foods from many different cultures. There was plenty to go around and everyone had fun sharing their family traditions. A nice group of toys were collected and donated to Toys for Tots.

**January Meeting in Review: Woods Hole**

On January 14th, Allison Heater from the Woods Hole Ocean Exploration Ship Atlantis gave a fascinating presentation on life aboard the World’s most sophisticated scientific research vessel. Atlantis deploys and retrieves the “Alvin” human submersible, a hands-on, humans-in-the-water operation helping to attach cables etc. (one of Allison’s key jobs!). Atlantis is part of group of 25 research vessels scheduled by UNOLS (University National Oceanographic Laboratory System). Visiting scientists are selected based on their research needs, and rotated nearly every week or two. Allison showed many pictures of the ship including the laboratories, lodging, and deck – along with pictures taken undersea with explanations of the research being done. A recent trip to the gulf will be used for analyzing damage done to the sea floor and sea life from the BP oil spill.

In addition to the excellent presentation, the attendees also enjoyed a delicious dinner at the Hilton Rialto, and a fun “Who am I” Famous Women’s icebreaker before the meeting.

**February Meeting in Review: Eau Gallie Art-Walk**

On Friday evening, February 4, 2011, a group from SWE-SC strolled through the Eau Gallie Arts District during its monthly First Friday Art Walk. All of the studios, galleries, museums, shops and restaurants in the Eau Gallie Arts District remain open late featuring exhibition openings, demonstrations, refreshments and live music. The central green Eau Square included area artists’ booths and live music in the band shell.

We followed up with dinner at Squid Lips. It was a beautiful night and lots of fun conversation. We hope to see you at our next social event!
Introduce Girls to Engineering (IGEW) was held on Saturday, February 12th at Merritt Island HS. In attendance were 603 girls, 107 parents, 20 teachers and about 150 volunteers. The girls in grades 3-6 enjoyed hands-on Engineering in five out of sixteen different modules, including two brand new modules “Duct tape creations” and “Kick-Stick and Simple Circuits”. The girls’ excitement was evident by the noise level that followed them everywhere! A new record of efficiency enabled us to feed everyone lunch in only 11 minutes! IGEW Chair Amanda Gayle along with several key assistants including Kristin Lucas, Kara Floyd and Judy Kersey deserve a huge round of applause for this incredibly successful event. Thanks to all who volunteered their time and energy, we couldn’t have done it without you!

“Thank you, thank you and thank you again. My daughter had a fabulous time. She can’t quit talking about how much fun it was. (Especially all the neat stuff she got to do while all mommy got to do was make duct tape wallets all day. :) ) Thank you for bringing the thousand megawatt smile back to her face. Please feel free to forward this to anyone who needs to know how much their efforts were appreciated at least by one small girl.”

Sincerely,
Anita Moore

“The workshops that were offered this year:
- Roller Coasters
- Chocolate Asphalt
- Corn Husk Dolls
- Tie Dye Bandanas & Candy
- Chromatography
- Bridges
- Tool Time
- Making Blush
- Bottle Rockets
- Programming Robots
- Design a Lunar Lander
- Design a Dessert
- Egg Bungee Jump
- Reverse Engineering a Yo-Yo
- Duct Tape Creations *new*
- Kick Stick and Simple Circuits *new*

“Thanks for a FABULOUS and FUN day! It was a great experience and I could tell all the work everyone put in so that the girls and teachers would have an incredible experience! :)”
Jodi Freun
Riviera Elementary School

“Saturday was fun. I heard a ton of positive feedback from girls that I know that attended.”
Janet Barr
Literacy Coach
FLL Coach
Roosevelt/Gemini

“Just wanted to thank you for the goody bag I found on my desk this morning! These are items always useful in a Media Center, and it was a thoughtful surprise for us.

We were happy to have you use the MIHS Media Center and appreciate what you do to encourage girls to go into engineering. My cousin has many tales of her being the only or one of the only female engineers in various all-male environments from Ford to Kodak to space industry( she now works at the Pentagon), and it sounds like there is a great need for more women in the field.

Thank you again for your thoughtfulness!”

Dorothy Musillo
Media Specialist
Merritt Island High
Member News

Ivette Aponte was been selected to be featured as the “Professional Role Model of the Week” for the Great Minds in STEM homepage at: [www.greatmindsinstem.org](http://www.greatmindsinstem.org)!

The purpose of this feature is to showcase STEM professionals to the high school and college students that routinely visit our website. Ivette’s feature began on Monday, January 24, 2011.

Ivette was recently awarded the HENAAC Luminary Award at the 2010 HENAAC Conference in Lake Buena Vista, Florida.

SWE-SC members would also like to congratulate Adia and husband D Griffin on their new bundle of joy, Tanay Richard D’Avalon. Tanay was born on January 12, 2011 at 8:14 pm; he was 7lbs 10oz and 19in long. Enjoy your sweet baby boy!

Volunteers Wanted…

**FIRST LEGO League Judging** -- We are once again assisting Florida FIRST LEGO League in judging the Regional and State LEGO robotics competitions. These events are for teams of up to ten 9-14 year old students that have been working since September on robots and research projects. We will be judging in three different areas -- research, technical (robot HW/SW) and Core Values/Teamwork. The competitions are being held on **Jan 29 - Viera HS, Feb 5 - Cocoa Beach HS and Sunday, Feb 27 - Florida Tech, Melbourne.** If you are available to assist on any of these dates, please register as a volunteer on the web at [http://flrobotics.org/Judging.htm](http://flrobotics.org/Judging.htm) Please contact Judy Kersey for further information at mailto:judy.kersey@swe.org

**BREvard COUNTY SCIENCE FAIR JUDGING** -- Brevard County is in need of some volunteers to judge science fair projects for the special awards category at this year’s Brevard County Science and Engineering Fair. We will be judging the young women’s entries, giving them encouragement and recognition in the form of a few monetary awards.

It won’t take much of your time, just 3 to 4 hours of your Saturday morning. We need at least 2 volunteers for each weekend listed below; you do not have to come to all of them, but you may come to more than one if you like. We would meet around 8:30am, discuss our plan of attack, and then go out and listen and evaluate the projects that best fall into the category of what SWE stands for. We will be done by lunch time, and Brevard County Schools will usually comp our lunch if we eat at one of the mall’s designated restaurants. It is a lot of fun and you will most often be amazed at what these young women can do. If you are interested, please contact us at mindyleeritz@yahoo.com.

Saturday, February 5, 2011 at the Melbourne Square Mall for the Brevard South Competition

Saturday, February 12, 2011 at the Merritt Island Square Mall for the Brevard Intracoastal Competition

Saturday, February 19, 2011 at the Merritt Island Square Mall for the Brevard Mainland Competition
Space Coast Section Buisness

The time of year has come again for Space Coast SWE to host elections for the section’s officers. Space Coast SWE is an excellent group to engage in a leadership role - we have a terrific group of hardworking women and are well-known throughout the nation for our professional development and STEM outreach. If you would like to be more involved or find out more about officer responsibilities, please contact our current Secretary, Andrea Wesser at andrea.wesser@swe.org.

Typical responsibilities for the following elected officers include:

PRESIDENT
The President acts as an officer contact for the entire executive board. She will also propose a strategic vision for the year of her term and execute executive board meetings.

VICE PRESIDENT
The Vice-President succeeds to the office of President if there is a vacancy in that office, and often supplements the efforts of the Professional Development Chair.

SECRETARY
The Secretary takes minutes at all executive board meetings and assists with outward correspondence.

TREASURER
The Treasurer is responsible for the collection, safekeeping, and distribution of all Section funds. In addition, the Treasurer maintains and reports on the budget.

SECTION REPRESENTATIVES
The Section Representative acts as the official contact between SWE National and the Region D bodies by preparing and submitting quarterly reports on our section’s activities, as well as acts as a liaison for the section during National/Regional meetings.

CAREER GUIDANCE
The Career Guidance Committee Chair provides information and counseling on engineering careers for grade, junior, and high school girls, their counselors, and parents, maintains and disseminates information on available engineering scholarships, coordinates the Certificate of Merit and/or achievement program, provides counseling and, when possible, financial assistance to women engineering students, and conducts any other activities approved by the Section membership in furtherance of the Society’s career guidance goals.

The Career Guidance Chair oversees and acts as a resource contact for the following programs, including appointing coordinators to lead each program, soliciting volunteers to join committee and/or each program, and coordinating funding for any programs not financially supported.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
The Professional Development Committee Chair encourages and assists Section members to establish goals for and to attain high levels of educational and professional achievement, encourages and assists women engineers in readying themselves for a return to active work after a period of absence, and conducts any other any other activities approved by the Section membership in furtherance of the professional development of its members.

In addition, the Professional Development Chair plans and organizes monthly and general Section meetings.

Something Fun

You scientific types will especially appreciate this one. This is pretty heavy scientific stuff....converting units:

1. Ratio of an igloo’s circumference to its diameter = Eskimo Pi
2. 2000 pounds of Chinese soup = Won ton
3. 1 millionth of a mouthwash = 1 microscope
4. Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement = 1 bananosecond
5. Weight an evangelist carries with God = 1 billigram
6. Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour = Knotfurlong
7. 16.5 feet in the Twilight Zone = 1 Rod Serling
8. Half of a large intestine = 1 semicolon
9. 1,000,000 aches = 1 megahurtz
10. Basic unit of laryngitis = 1 horsepower
11. Shortest distance between two jokes = A straight line
12. 453.6 graham crackers = 1 pound cake
13. 1 million-million microphones = 1 megaphone
14. 2 million bicycles = 2 megacycles
15. 365.25 days = 1 unicycle
16. 2000 mockingbirds = 2 kilomockingbirds
17. 52 cards = 1 decacards
18. 1 kilogram of falling figs = 1 FigNewton
19. 1000 milliliters of wet socks = 1 literhosen
20. 1 millionth of a fish = 1 microfiche
21. 1 trillion pins = 1 terrapin
22. 10 rations = 1 decoration
23. 100 rations = 1 C-ration
24. 2 monograms = 1 diagram
25. 4 nickels = 2 paradigms
26. 2.4 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital = 1 IV League
27. 100 Senators = Not 1 decision
Mission Statement
Our mission is to inform the community of opportunities open to women in engineering and to encourage women to enter and grow in engineering and the sciences.

Section Objectives
- **Continuing Development**
  Conduct programs that provide leadership and management skills to enhance professional, personal and SWE growth.
- **Network Support System**
  Provide a network to support professional, personal and family needs.
- **Promote Engineering/Science**
  Conduct programs to encourage and sustain increased female and minority participation in engineering and the sciences.
- **Visibility**
  Increase visibility in order to boost membership and increase members with more opportunities to serve their communities.