President’s Corner

Hello Fellow SWE Space Coast members,

Welcome! I am coming to you as your new president for the 2011-2012 year. Lori has done a fantastic job of leading our group for the past year.

The Space Coast Community is going through major changes. Now, more than ever, our community should be strengthening our ties and supporting each other. You have access to a diverse network of women who are leading the fields of science and engineering. If you are going through career changes, please don’t miss out on the September meeting. We will have a panel of SWE members discussing career changes and how they dealt with them.

My mission for this year is to create a feeling of community within our SWE chapter. I would like for all of the members to know each other and engage each other on a regular basis. The book club is a great place to meet people. You have a perfect opportunity to join in for a fun night on August 14th. The book club will be going to see “The Help” at the Avenues in Viera and then enjoy some drinks at World of Beer. If movies aren’t your thing, then salsa over to the SWE’esta. That will be the kick-off to the 2011-2012 year. It will be on August 29th in Cape Canaveral. There will be great Mexican food, beer and margaritas, and a salsa lesson (perfect time to perfect your rhythm!)

Another initiative that I would like to embark on this year is to serve the professionals within our organization. Every year we do a great job of outreach to the community. Our annual IGEW and WOW events are mainstays that I believe teach girls that they are capable of achieving their dreams. But, I want to bring that message to all of you as well. You are capable of achieving great things. Please join in this year and introduce yourself if we haven’t had the chance to meet at the next meeting.

Kathy Whitcomb
SWE-SC President

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Calendar of Events

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August Event: A SWE’esta
Monday August 29, 2011

Say “hola” and meet your fellow SWE Members at this year’s SWE’esta on August 29th in Cape Canaveral! This social is not to be missed and includes Mexican Fare dinner (including vegetarian), Mexican beer and Margaritas. We will have a salsa lesson and introduce many of the exciting events planned for the upcoming year.

Cost includes $20 Members, $10 Student Members, $25 Non-Members. Bring a friend, if they decide to join SWE, you and the friend are free!

Further details can be found on our site www.swe-sc.org and Facebook. Register at http://swe-sc.org/meetings/2011/20110829Registration.html

August and September Book Club

For our next Book Club gathering we will be catching a movie on Sunday, August 14th for a 2ish matinee at The Avenue, Viera Movie Theater. Register at www.swe-sc.org

On June 26th a group of SWE-SC members met at Squidlips in Melbourne to review the book Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford. This book centered around the Japanese internment during WWII, but was not a dark or heavy book. We all enjoy it!

The book club is going to have an outing on the afternoon of August 14th to see the movie “The Help” which was one of our Book Club Selections last year. The group will be meeting for the showtime nearest to 2PM (final showtime will be available via our website and Facebook) at least 20 minutes earlier, outside the Rave Theater in Viera (2241 Town Centre Ave, Melbourne, FL 32940), followed by a social at “World of Beer.” To register: http://swe-sc.org/meetings/2011/20110814Registration.html

On Sunday, Sept. 11th the Book Club will meet at Murdock’s in Cocoa Village on the back porch at 2 pm. Our next book we will be discussing The Omnivore’s Dilemma by Michael Pollen. In the book, Pollan asks the seemingly straightforward question of what we should have for dinner. As omnivores – the most unselective eaters – we humans are faced with a wide variety of food choices, resulting in a dilemma. To learn more out about those choices, Pollan follows each of the food chains that sustain us – industrial food, organic food, and food we forage ourselves – from the source to a final meal, and in the process writes an account of the American way of eating. Date hasn’t been set, but feel free to start reading. This is an amazing book that you will not regret reading!

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!

You don’t have to read the book to come join the networking!
June Meeting in Review: Get Fired Up

We decided once again the best way to end our active year was to "Get Fired Up". On Friday, June 10th members of the SWE-SC met at Get Fired Up pottery. Get Fired Up is a paint it yourself pottery studio in Historic Downtown Melbourne, Florida. This was a chance for our members and guests to unwind, share some pizza, network and let their creative side go wild. There were some beautiful works of art created and some, well let's just say a good time was had by all!

Region D Leadership Retreat in Review

The SWE Region D Leadership Retreat was held Saturday, July 30th in Jacksonville, FL. Space Coast had 3 members in attendance: Kathy Whitcomb (Pres.), Kristin Freeman (V.Pres.), and Donna Ware (Section Rep). Based on developing a strong leadership team for the year, all attendees received the book ‘Strengths-Based Leadership’ by Tom Rath and Barry Conchie and completed the new leadership version of Gallup’s Strengths Finder program.

The event started with a networking event Friday evening allowing everyone to meet and catch-up in a casual environment. Saturday morning sessions were focused on understanding your individual top five strengths (identified in the online assessment completed beforehand) and how to develop these strengths. Next, we were divided up by section and worked on effectively pairing strengths with upcoming tasks to help identify what strengths were needed where for our leadership team to be most effective. The afternoon consisted of continuing to develop our annual and 5-year strategic goals, aligning with the Region and National, and a Region D Business overview/meeting of the upcoming year by AnnMarie Connor (Region D Governor). This productive day allowed us some additional insight into Region goals and cross-section support available, and understanding a new perspective on how we can all work better as a team to successfully complete our newly outlined Section goals & objectives!

Hi SWE Members! We are currently in the initial planning stages for WOW! That’s Engineering, which is our hands-on engineering focused workshop for girls in 7th-12th grade, held at Bayside High School. The planned date for the event is October 8th, and we are in need of workshop leaders. If you are able to help, please let Alene Heuser aheuser@harris.com or Susie Allen-Sierpinski susie.c.allen-sierpinski@usa-spaceops.com know right away.

We will provide lots of support in terms of workshop lesson outlines, super helpers, and you are invited to planning and practice meetings as needed. Please consider volunteering as a much needed workshop leader! The event was attended by over 225 girls last year, and it is always a very rewarding experience.

**Community News**

**NASA Family Education Night**

**Saturday, Sept. 10**

The KSC Education Office is hosting a free event on Saturday, Sept. 10, from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Astronaut Hall of Fame in Titusville. The event targets students in grades 5-8, and is intended to stimulate their interest in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) by offering various educational experiences, hands-on activities and gee-whiz demonstrations. The minimum age for attendance is nine. Guests will also have the opportunity to meet an astronaut and visit the "Science on a Sphere" exhibit. We will be running a SWE Table and are looking for volunteers. We will be doing the Puff-Mobile Challenge, the objective is to build a car with straws, lifesavers, paper, paper clips and tape.

This event is open to NASA employees and NASA contractors, as well as the general public. Tickets are not required for this event.

SWE-SC members would also like to pass on good wishes to Elizabeth Weis and Angela Lamb on their recent weddings.

**Members in the Community**

The Space Walkers Team is at it again with Susie Allen-Sierpinski as our team captain (for the 4th year) for the 2011 American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Event. The walk is a non-competitive 5k at The Avenue in Viera held on Saturday, October 22, 2011.

Last year we had about 15 team members signed up to walk on the team, about five of them were members of the SWE Space Coast section. We would like to see more SWE Space Coast members at the walk. We hope this year you will be able to support us again. If you are interested in joining our team or supporting us, visit our web site at [http://main.acsevents.org/goto/spacewalkers](http://main.acsevents.org/goto/spacewalkers) or contact Susie Allen-Sierpinski susie.c.allen-sierpinski@usa-spaceops.com or Adia Griffin adia.griffin@gmail.com, who are currently registered to walk.

We know that there are a lot of cancer events out there, but Making Strides speaks to us because funds raised enable the American Cancer Society to help people stay well and get well from breast cancer, find cures, and empower people to fight back today. With your help, we can save lives.

Join us September 12th from 5 – 8 pm at Chick-fil-a on Wickham Rd, Viera, tell them Space Walkers Sent you.
Plan now to attend the 2011 Annual Conference – ‘WE 11 - October 13-16th in Chicago! WE ‘11 is THE event for ALL SWE members! The website for the event is up, and can be found at:  [http://we11.swe.org/](http://we11.swe.org/)

This conference will be attended by more than 5,000 women engineers and technologists. Whether you are an experienced professional or a collegian looking to start your career, you will be able to: Participate in valuable professional development sessions, Network with other engineering professionals and students and Find your dream job at the Career Fair, featuring more than 200 companies, government agencies and universities.

Hurry, early registration ends September 16th! SWE-SC always has a great time at annual conference, and we’d love to have another large group attend WE ‘11 in Chicago. If you are considering attending, please let us know so we can keep the group informed on meet points for events (Keynote breakfast, happy hour, Celebrate SWE banquet and more).

Volunteers Wanted...

**Community/Special Requests**

**Boy Scout Engineering Badge**

Boy Scouts request an engineer to come speak with and work through requirements for the boy’s badge in engineering. Help either a small group or individual understand requirements and develop projects to satisfy learning skills. Time could be at once or over the course of a few weeks/months.

**STEM Education Events in Vero Beach area**

If any companies or other organizations are planning Outreach Activities please let us know and we will promote or pass information along to students interested in events for the ‘Treasure Coast.’

SWE-SC Outreach Committee

**Looking for 2012 Science Fair Chair**

Responsibilities include coordinating with local county schools and filing paperwork, judging, and awarding Scholarship awards to exemplary projects completed at the Junior and Senior levels. The fairs generally take place on Saturday mornings/early afternoon ranging from the end of January to early March.

If you are interested in or have information on any of the above opportunities, please contact Susie Allen-Sierpinski  @ outreach@swe-sc.org or 407-432-0781 or contact listed above. I look forward to hearing from you!! Thanks for your continued time & support!!

Something Fun

“**The success of what you are currently doing is based upon the foundation which immediately precedes it.”** – Anonymous

Thomas A. Edison was one of the most famous and hard-working inventors in history. He held 1,093 patents in his name when he died in 1931. How many inventions can you name? Here are a few tips from Thomas Edison. They are all about success. What kind of work and mind-set will it take for you to achieve such a thing? What may it require? Are you ready to make the unachievable happen?

“**Many of life’s failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up.”**

“I have not failed. I’ve just found 10,000 ways that won’t work.”

“The value of an idea lies in the using of it.”

“Being busy does not always mean real work. The object of all work is production or accomplishment and to either of these ends there must be forethought, system, planning, intelligence, and honest purpose, as well as perspiration. Seeming to do is not doing.”

“Genius is one percent inspiration and ninety-nine percent perspiration.”
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Robotics Coordinator: Judy Kersey
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Student Sections
FIT Student Counselor: DeAnn Davila
Embry Riddle Counselor: Kristin Freeman

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.