



Winter, 2012

Vol. 5 – Issue 1



SWE ~ Charlotte - Metrolina

Chronicle

Expanding Our Influence

Inside this Issue

pg 1

Expanding Our Influence

pg 2

President's Corner
Engineers are Cool!

pg 3

Member Profile: Rebecca Turner
FY12 Leadership Team

pg 4

Upcoming Events
STEM Fairs: Getting the Word Out
SWE-CM Sets the Bar

The Charlotte-Metrolina (CM) section of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) has been busy busy! Over the past seven months, we have successfully been a part of thirteen events! These events have been on both personal and professional levels and have influenced residents of this region at all ages from elementary school children to retired professionals. It is with this influence that we plan to establish engineering as a highly desirable career choice for women. From making jewelry at “Creativity Night” at the Art Space Studio to talking with politicians regarding their views on the upcoming elections at the “Let’s Talk Politics!” event, the local members of SWE, both collegiate and professional, have become well rounded, professionally connected, and influential in the community. Over the next month, we have an amazing opportunity to expand our influence on the youth of Charlotte by participating in Engineer’s Week 2012 or the ever popular “Introduce a Girl to Engineering” Girl Scout event. Both of these events define what SWE – CM is all about. Whether your schedule allows free time during only your lunch hour or an entire Saturday, one of these events should easily squeeze in and your participation will not go unnoticed. The satisfaction you will feel at the end of a volunteer session is unmatched. If you are interested, please see the Upcoming Events section of this newsletter on Page 4. Thank you to all who have participated in these amazing events over the past year and may 2012 hold only the best for SWE – CM!



President's Corner

By: Jennifer Wagoner

Sitting around the table at our holiday event this past December, we each talked about what brought us to SWE and why we have continued to be members. The overwhelming response was outreach. Each of us joined and continues to be a member of SWE to work with the children in our area and encourage each of them to pursue an education in engineering and ultimately a career.

So many people don't understand all that engineers do. Part of that is because we do so much it is hard to explain in words. We may not save lives like a doctor but engineers create the tools and the medicines they use.

Engineers Week 2012 (February 19-25) is fast approaching and we have many great activities planned. The local schools are so excited to have us come into their classrooms and show their students how much fun engineering can be.

Please see the Upcoming Events section of this newsletter for specific dates, times, and locations!

[PRESIDENT continued on Page 3]

Engineers are Cool!

One of the most consistent events SWE - CM puts on each year is the "Introduce a Girl to Engineering!" Girl Scout event. This *highly* popular event brings 40-50 Junior Girl Scouts in the area together on a Saturday to work hands-on in the fields of Mechanical, Civil, Electrical, Chemical, and Structural Engineering via five fun and interactive activities. This event has always been an *extremely* successful event for us. We have had so much success that we are turning this biannual event into a triennial one! One key to the success of the overall activity is to have an experienced leader for each of the hands-on activities. Our volunteers are priceless! Another key to our success is that we have standard operating procedures for the whole event from invitations to evaluations. This event has been organized from beginning to end by Angela Berry who has managed and developed the day for several years. The evaluations from the girls are always fabulous. They love the whole day in general and write wonderful praises. Their Scout Leaders also write excellent reviews of the day. If you are interested in helping out with the two Girl Scout events we will be holding this spring, please see below for information!

February 25, 2012

8:00am to 2:30pm
 Girl Scouts Hornet's Nest Council
 7007 Idlewild Road
 Charlotte, NC
 RSVP to Angela.Berry @ swe.org by
 February 17 to be a session leader,
 February 23 to volunteer generally



March 31, 2012

8:00am to 2:30pm
 Girl Scouts Hornet's Nest Council
 7007 Idlewild Road
 Charlotte, NC



List of Session Activities:

Mechanical - Design a "Puff Mobile"
 Civil - Create Chocolate Asphalt
 Electrical - Build a Burglar Alarm
 Chemical - Create "Slime"
 Structural - Build a Suspension Bridge
 *Lunch is provided for all volunteers!



Expand your influence! Volunteer for a fun event with a great cause!

[PRESIDENT continued from Page 2]

The events planned for Engineers Week will give us the chance to show what great things engineers do for their communities. For the past eleven years, women engineers have introduced more than a million girls and young women to engineering. Let's take some time during this Engineer's Week to do our part to get to 2 million!



Member Profile: Rebecca Turner

The Charlotte-Metrolina section of SWE would like to welcome one of its newest members: Rebecca Turner. Rebecca is a born and raised Charlottean, even graduating from our very own University of North Carolina – Charlotte. She graduated in May 2011 with her Masters in Civil and Environmental Engineering and, impressively, her Engineering Intern certificate. Rebecca chose UNC-Charlotte's College of Engineering for its welcoming atmosphere and likable staff. She jumped right into the collegiate section of SWE after meeting the group at a student organization showcase on campus. The fact that the collegiate section of SWE offered her many "unique opportunities" kept her actively involved and after her first national convention, she became extremely passionate about the group as a whole. Rebecca held several positions within the collegiate section and upon graduation immediately became a member of our beloved SWE – Charlotte Metrolina professional section. Rebecca currently works at Energy Corp Fellow working towards reducing and conserving energy use on the Catawba College campus, but is seeking a more permanent position elsewhere. Her involvement in SWE-CM thus far has been incredible and the members who know her and have worked with her in the past expect great things from her in the future both within the Society of Women Engineers, the community, and, of course, professionally.

FY12 Leadership Team

President:

Jennifer Wagoner
Baldor Electric Company
JLWagoner @ baldor.com

Vice President:

Angela Berry
City of Charlotte
Angela.Berry @ swe.org

Secretary:

Yurania Jimenez
Yury793 @ windstream.net

Treasurer:

Kerrie Goforth
Clover School District
Kerrie.Goforth @ swe.org

Section Representative:

Rose Mary Seymour
CPCC
Rosemary.Seymour @ cpcc.edu

Alternate Section Rep:

Jennifer Lawrence
Jennifer.Lawrence @ swe.org

Membership Chair:

Susan Thomas Schlett
schlett @ yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor:

Mandi Giles
City of Charlotte
AGiles @ ci.charlotte.nc.us

Website Coordinator:

Kerrie Goforth
Clover School District
Webmaster@swe-cm.org

Upcoming Events

February 9, 2012

Executive Council Meeting – 6:00pm
Scherer Memorial Presbyterian Church
4800 Charlotte Hwy, Lake Wylie, SC

Feb 19-25, 2012

2012 Engineer's Week!
Work with Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Math/Science Coordinators and 4th-6th grade students to bring engineering to life via the puff mobile activity! The dates/times available for volunteers are as follows:

Wednesday, February 22

10:45am – 12:15pm
Druid Hills Academy (just north of Uptown) – 2801 Lucena Street

Thursday, February 23

11:00am – 12:30pm
Beverly Woods Elementary School (South Park area) – 6001 Quail Hollow

Friday, February 24

2:00pm – 3:30pm
Morehead Stem Academy (University area) – 7810 Neal Road

Sign Up Here: <http://www.doodle.com/zewvn85w9rgzb79k>

Questions? Email Mutsa Kemp at mchinodakemp@hotmail.com

February 25, 2012

"Introduce a Girl to Engineering!" Girl Scout Event
8:00am – 2:30pm
Girl Scouts Hornet's Nest Council
7007 Idlewild Road
More information on Page 2

March 2-4, 2012

Region D Conference – Charleston, SC
For more information, please visit: regiond.wordpress.com/2011/12/16/friday-region-message-2-2012-region-d-conference/

March 23, 2012

Professional Speaker Jim Morris,
Ameriprise Financial Advisor
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Location TBA

STEM Fairs: Getting the Word Out

A new type of career fair has emerged in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School system. The Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Education Coalition is an organization who supports STEM programs for teachers and students and is dedicated to ensuring quality STEM education at all levels. The newest of their efforts is in the form of what is called a STEM Fair. These fairs are designed to increase awareness and understanding of the exciting careers available in science, technology, engineering and math. STEM held an interactive fair for middle school students and their parents on both the CPCC campus and Morehead STEM Academy in the past few months. A variety of participants were there including Discovery Place, SPEED channel, Society of Women Engineers, National Society of Black Engineers, among many others. SWE – CM was represented at each encouraging girls (and boys) to not be afraid of their inner geek and to open their minds to the possibilities within engineering that would pique their interests. We believe the event was successful and look forward to more!

SWE-CM Sets the Bar

As of August 2011, the Charlotte-Metrolina section of SWE achieved an incredible 50 members! This membership milestone is extremely impressive considering the history of the section and is not without significant gratitude to our devoted Membership Chair, Susan Schlett. Her hard work and dedication has certainly not gone unnoticed these past few years, especially considering this exciting target. As most of you know, Susan Schlett has relocated and joined a sister professional section in SWE, but is keeping us posted on any SWE-CM membership items through June 2012. With this news comes an exciting opportunity for we are now in need of a Membership Chair for FY 2013! This position mainly entails reviewing the membership roster once per month and reporting any changes (new members, transfers out of the section, and dropped members) to the SWE - CM Executive Council. Also, Susan is happy to help transition with her replacement at a mutually convenient time. The Membership Chair position can be as simple or complex as the future chair would like it to be. There is great reward with this position and we hope that there is interest among many of our members for this executive office. We look forward to nominations in May and another great milestone in the near future!