



The Gear

December 2007

Serving the 203 Members of the Wisconsin Section, and Its Supporters!

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President's Corner – Special Dec. 2007 Issue

by Betty Leonhard

Welcome to our special conference edition of SWE-WI's newsletter. Just about all of you who attended this year's national conference in Nashville probably know that there were lots of SWE-WI members in attendance and many collegiate members from the universities in our area as well. Hopefully you took advantage of Rita and Susan's efforts in capturing the list of our area members who attended and had a chance to meet or get re-acquainted with some of them.

Of course, I found out many months back that I had a baby due first thing in November so I couldn't go to Nashville. I've come to really look forward to conference each year, so I was a little bummed out (good thing my baby is so cute he cheered me up once he finally decided to come out). Anyway, there are so many great SWE people I've gotten to know over the years, and many of them I only get to see at national conference. I also knew I'd miss a bunch of great sessions, and yes, I even was sad to miss some of the meetings. And I knew I'd miss the inspiring awards banquet and awesome Celebrate SWE banquet. I also missed a handy chance to go tour the Corvette museum which isn't too far from Nashville.

Luckily for me, and for many of you, the folks who came back from conference were so revved-up and had so many stories to tell and pictures to share that they decided to create this extra edition of *The Gear*. So now we all can re-live or live-vicariously through this newsletter.

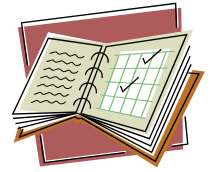
Furthermore, I'd like to draw your attention to our section's conference recap meeting on December 3rd. Several members are "re-presenting" a couple of their favorite sessions they attended at conference to share what they learned with us.

Still, there's nothing better than attending a national SWE conference. Hope to see you in Baltimore next year.

Article deadline for "The Gear" is the fifteenth of the preceding month.
Trial subscriptions are available to persons interested in membership.
Send articles to: Andrea Cole
Fyhrlund, Editor, 126 W. Chestnut
St., Port Washington, WI,
afyhrlund@ameritech.net.



Upcoming Events At A Glance



DATE:	EVENT:	LOCATION:	SEE NEWSLETTER PAGE:
Dec. 3, 2007 Monday	2007 SWE National Conference Recap Meeting	Milwaukee, WI	3
Dec. 4, 2007 Tuesday	Web Seminar – “Women’s Way of Leadership – Being a Leader and Leaving a Legacy”	Register at www.swe.org	*
Dec. 11, 2007 Tuesday	Meet and Greet – The Chancery Bar and Restaurant	Wauwatosa, WI	*
Dec. 13, 2007 Thursday	Web Seminar – “Women Leading the Diversity Advantage”	Register at www.swe.org	*
Jan. 19, 2008 Saturday	Future City Competition – Regional	Milwaukee, WI	*
Jan. 25-27, 2008 Friday - Sunday	2008 Region H Conference at Bradley University	Peoria, IL	*
Jan. 2008	BSSEF Mentoring Practice	Milwaukee, WI	*
Jan. 2008	Meet and Greet	Fox Valley, WI	*
Feb. 2008	Bucks Basketball Game	Milwaukee, WI	*
Feb. 2008	Bio Fuels Speaker	Milwaukee, WI	*
Feb. 2008	Meet and Greet	Madison, WI	*
Mar. 2008	Meet and Greet	Milwaukee, WI	*
Apr. 2008	Green Technologies Speaker	Milwaukee, WI	*

* Refer to our website at www.msn.fullfeed.com/~swewi as details become available.



SWE - Wisconsin Event Notice

What: **2007 SWE National Conference Recap Meeting**

Presentations: **Sarah Stepanski:** “Say More With Less”
“Giving & Receiving Feedback”
“Motivation, Procrastination & Inspiration”
Julia Spankowski: “Lessons From A Lean Transformation”
Rita Murino: “6 Sigma”
“Engineers As Creative Engines For Your Company”

Where: **Harley-Davidson University - Classroom 1 on the 6th floor**
3800 W Juneau Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53208

Rita Murino will meet you at the door to check in with Security.
You MUST bring a PHOTO ID.

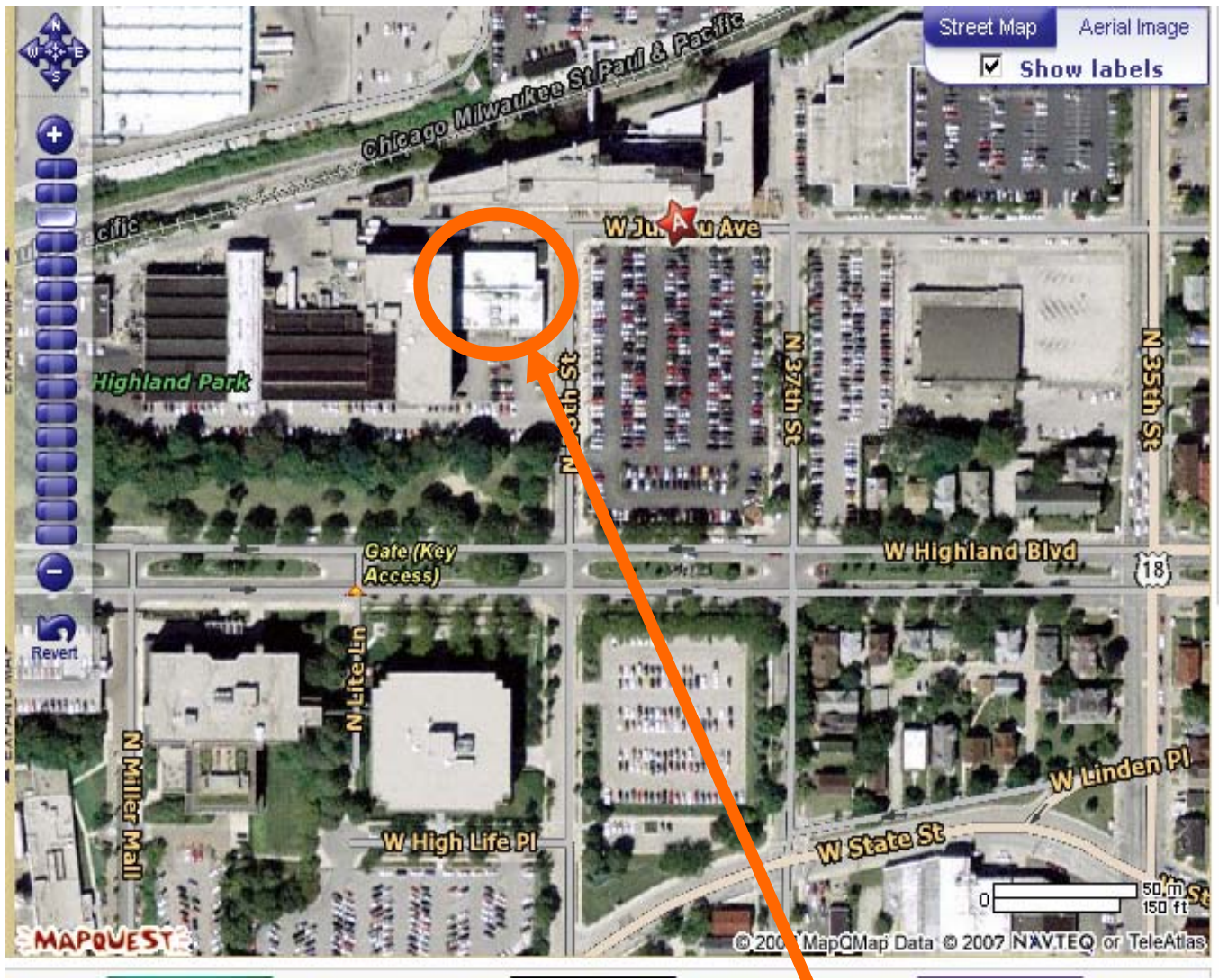
Date: **Monday, December 3, 2007**

Time: 5:30 PM – 6:00 PM Network
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM Presentations
7:00 PM – 7:30 PM Q & A, Wrap Up

Cost: \$5 for Sandwiches and drinks.
Cash or Checks made out to SWE - WI

Misc.: **Come hear what you might have missed at the 2007 SWE National Conference in Nashville.**
You MUST bring a PHOTO ID to get into Harley-Davidson University.

RSVP: By, **Wednesday, November 28, 2007** to Nancy Herzallah at nancy.herzallah@harley-davidson.com . **If you need directions or in case of an emergency call Rita Murino on December 3rd (the day of the event) on her cell at 414-380-1875.**



Coming from the North

Take 45 South
 Take I-94 East
 Take 35th Street exit, go LEFT (North)
 Turn LEFT on Highland Blvd (West)
 Turn RIGHT onto 38th Street
 Harley-Davidson University will be on the Left side

HD University (enter on South side)

Coming from the West

Take I-94 East
 Take 35th Street exit, go LEFT (North)
 Turn LEFT on Highland Blvd (West)
 Turn RIGHT onto 38th Street
 Harley-Davidson University will be on the Left side

PLEASE REMEMBER THE MARQUETTE INTERCHANGE IS UNDER HEAVY CONSTRUCTION. BE CAREFUL SOME EXITS MAY HAVE CHANGED.



COR Report From National Conference

By Julia Spankowski and Katie May

WHAT'S NEW WITH SWE?

At the COR (Council of Representatives) business meeting on October 27th at the SWE National Conference in Nashville, TN the COR voted to make several changes. For instance, it was voted on and determined that international members will now be separate from MALs (Members-at-Large) and the Society will establish a coordinator to support the international members. Previously, international members were considered part of the MAL. However, there has been an increase in the number of international members and the MAL organization did not feel they were adequately equipped to handle this influx of international members. With the passing of this bylaw change, international members will be separate from MALs and will have their own coordinator. This coordinator will act much like a committee chair and will be appointed by the president. This new group will have a line item in the budget approximately equal to the rebate amount paid for those international members to be used by the coordinator and the international members.

Additionally, it was determined at the conference that the Council quorum will now be a majority of the voting membership of the COR rather than two-thirds previously. This will allow the COR to conduct business with only a majority of the COR representatives present rather than two-thirds. In the past the COR has been able to meet the 2/3 quorum but in many instances it has been very close to not meeting quorum and pre-registration numbers have suggested that it in fact may not meet the necessary quorum to conduct business. As the Society continues to expand, the COR has also expanded. However, the number of COR attending business meetings has stayed the same. In other words, the number of COR necessary to meet quorum has risen while attendance has not. This new change in the bylaws will hopefully reduce the risk of not meeting quorum during COR business meetings.

Another update to the bylaws includes increasing the collegiate representation on COR. The collegiate representation on COR will now be based on the number of collegiate members rather than by region. Previously, each region elected one collegiate COR representative. Going forward a collegiate COR representative will be elected for each 1000 collegiate members or fraction thereof not to exceed two per region. Ultimately, the collegiate COR representation will go from one rep to two reps per region. This was passed to give collegiate members more representation on the COR. In 2007, the collegiate members represented 55% of the society membership and only 6% of the COR membership.

At Nationals the COR voted to give the Board of Directors (BOD) the ability to extend the joint membership offering with NSBE (National Society of Black Engineers) and SHPE (Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers) for three more years provided that the dues remitted to SWE are not less than 70% of the SWE dues. The BOD will also have the authority to renew for additional periods or terminate the agreement without a motion from the Council of Representatives. The motion was presented as a recruitment opportunity rather than a financial one by suggesting that the previous years of joint membership added 288 new members and potentially kept 506 current members. Furthermore,

the passing of the motion strengthens SWE's commitment to diversity. The COR also decided that the BOD can initiate a joint membership offering with NSBE and SHPE to collegiate members for a three-year trial period with the dues remitted to SWE to be not less than 75% of the SWE dues. As with the professional joint membership, the BOD has the authority to renew for additional periods or terminate the agreement without a motion to the COR. The benefits of the collegiate joint membership are the same as with the professional joint membership.

Finally, the COR voted to change the requirements around the Contingency Reserve Fund. This issue was by far the most controversial to be debated by the COR and the debate went on for hours getting a little heated at times. The COR determined that only 5% of conference excess shall be transferred to the Contingency Reserve Fund rather than 25% previously. Additionally, the COR asked the BOD to determine if more investigation into the health of the Contingency Reserve Fund and the financial health of the Society in the case of catastrophe or disaster was needed.

Overall, the COR business was extremely successful with almost all the motions being passed without amendment. The strategic plan was adopted as well as updates to COR procedures. There was good discussion and participation by those COR that attended and for those new to COR it was an extremely interesting and educational experience. If anyone has further questions on the changes to the bylaws or the motions that passed, please contact your COR representatives, Katherine May and Julia Spankowski.



Awards Presented At The SWE National Conference

The Wisconsin (Professional) Section of SWE as well as our 7 associated Collegiate SWE Sections made a strong showing at this years' SWE National Conference!

We had 78 SWE members attend (28 professional + 50 collegiate).

SWE-WI Professional Section	MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT PROGRAM AWARD (\$500) MEMBERSHIP UPGRADE AWARD (\$200) Region H - CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT (\$50) Region H - INNOVATION HONORABLE MENTION Region H - MEMBERSHIP RETENTION AWARD FOR A LARGE SECTION (83%) (\$50)
Talia Esser UW-Madison Senior	OUTSTANDING COLLEGIATE MEMBER - JUNIOR/SENIOR
Kayla Finnessy UW-Stout	GM SCHOLARSHIP - MANUFACTURING ENGINEERING SOPHOMORE
Sonja Golembiewski UW-Milwaukee	CATERPILLAR INC SCHOLARSHIP - ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING JUNIOR
Laura Anthony MSOE	MEREDITH THOMS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP - ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEERING JUNIOR
Lea Johnson Michigan Technological University	BOSTON SCIENTIFIC SCHOLARSHIP - ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING SENIOR
Kristen Seashore UW-Madison	POSTER COMPETITION FINALIST
Laura Valenstein (Team Lead) & Cassey Schuette, Alison Scott, Deborah Yagow, Sarah Steenblock, Megan Britson, Angie Blackburn, Kelley Gerschke, Rebecca Hager UW-Madison	BOEING TEAM TECH - 2ND PLACE
Sara Worzella UW-Madison	POSTER COMPETITION FINALIST
UW-Madison	OUTSTANDING COLLEGIATE MERIT AWARD FOR LEADERSHIP & DIVERSITY PROGRAMS INCLUDING DEV OF THEIR FEMALE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE
UW-Madison	UPGRADE AWARD
UW-Platteville	OUTSTANDING COLLEGIATE MERIT AWARD FOR OUTREACH PROGRAMS THAT INSPIRE THE YOUNGER GENERATION TO BECOME ENGINEERS



“Oh the People You Meet at the SWE National Conference!”

By Susan Thomas Schlett

There is something for everyone at the SWE National Conference, and the 2007 conference in Nashville, Tennessee was no exception! A record-breaking 5003 registrants hit the music city by storm! SWE-WI territory sent at least 78 SWE members to this conference and I am happy to report I met most of them. (I do apologize up-front to all the wonderful people I met who I was not able to include in this article. If you have additional photos from the conference that we can include in our next newsletter, please let us know.)



Some people attend SWE conferences for the professional development seminars, some to learn about new ideas for outreach programs, some for the overall experience. After careful thought, I have decided that my “something” is people. Whether it is seeing old friends, making new friends, or searching out members and contacts, “people” is my thing! Let me give you an idea of some of the people I had the pleasure of meeting at the conference.

On Wednesday morning I met new SWE-WI member Theresa Krack (lower left photo), one of my two roommates for the conference. We happened to be on the same flight from Milwaukee to Nashville, so once we got settled at our hotel we grabbed lunch at the Nashville Hard Rock Café.



At the ice cream social on Wednesday evening, I sat with Isabelle French. Isabelle, who is retired from Bell Labs, was the society's president from 1964-66 and has attended EVERY SWE National Conference since they began in 1951 (all 56 conferences!). I was impressed!



On Thursday morning I encountered a really nice couple who ran the gift shop in our Holiday Inn Express hotel: Amer and Sameena. Their two-year-old son, Umair, was smart as a whip and they were all very interested in me and SWE, so I just had to take their photo.

Later, I talked with SWE Coordinator of Administration and Membership Kristin Dube from SWE Headquarters about current membership issues.



That afternoon I met students from Michigan Tech; even their section president Haley Vingsness attended despite having a sprained ankle and getting crutches.

I got together with some friends from my original SWE section in Hartford, Connecticut Thursday evening. It was great to catch up with Sherisse Hughes, Jonna Gerken and Andrea Karalus. We had fun experiencing the hospitality suites and the Over-the-Hill suite with several of our senior SWE members!



On Friday morning some University of Wisconsin Stout members (our newly chartered SWE collegiate section) along with their faculty advisor Brenda Puck and I chatted while trying out some of the new vehicles at the Career Fair.

I met new SWE-WI members Kristen Anderson (see photo) at the Cummins booth, Jennifer Sims at the P&G booth, and Fran Scholl at the Affiliated Engineering booth, to name a few. I also got a chance to connect different parts of our social network: I made the acquaintance of a wonderful professor, Samhita Rhodes, Ph.D. from Grand Valley State University in Michigan whom I immediately hooked up with our collegiate membership coordinator Karen Bodach to further introduce her to SWE membership.





At the Career Fair that afternoon, a contingent of students from the University of Wisconsin Madison was accompanied by their FY'07 collegiate SWE Section president Talia Esser (see photo, bottom right), who received one of the new SWE Collegiate Member Awards!

I am always inspired by all the award recipients at the Awards Banquet, which was held Friday evening. I was so excited to see my good friend Cathy Krier (previous SWE-WI member) receive one of the Emerging Leader awards, (especially after I sat next to her at last years awards banquet and predicted she would be up on that stage soon to receive that award!). The Achievement Award (the highest award given by SWE) recipient, Pamela Strong (see photo), gave an amazing account of her life which included important people she knew such as her uncles Albert and Wernher (yes, Albert Einstein and Wernher von Braun!). She had been introduced to launching rockets during her pre-school years.



On Saturday afternoon I caught up with the Wisconsin coordinator for the NGCP (National Girls Collaborative Project) Denise Roseland at the Outreach Fair. I have been receiving lots of e-mail from Denise regarding this fantastic program, so I was really glad to finally meet her in person. Saturday evening was the Celebrate SWE event...it was great to see students from all seven collegiate SWE sections within our SWE-WI territory, such as Keena Spencer-Dobson from UofWI Platteville (see photo, bottom right) who accepted an award for their school's outreach programs.

However, the highlight of my day was being tapped to be in the Region H skit during the Celebrate SWE Banquet with all those pink and red clad members with their red heart deely-boppers on their heads! Our Region didn't receive the Spirit Award this year, but we were definitely in the running as I exclaimed, "We love Wisconsin, because happy cows do come from Wisconsin and we have the Green Bay Packers!" Go Region H!



Finally, even though Sunday was a travel day, I caught up with students from the Marquette collegiate SWE section in the Nashville airport for a quick chat and photo.

Won't you join me at the next SWE National Conference in Baltimore, November 2008?



*Dear Journal, What I Did At The 2007 National SWE Conference -
October 24 – 28, 2007 - By Rita Murino*

Wednesday, October 24, 2007 - Ice Cream Social



Wednesday at the Ice Cream Social.
Susan Thomas Schlett, Rita Murino, Vanessa
White and Theresa Krack



Yum Yum ice cream with a cherry on top, Vanessa
White, Rita Murino and Sonja Golembiewski

Thursday, October 25, 2007 - Region H Meeting – Regional Awards



Susan Thomas Schlett accepting Continuous
Improvement Award and Membership Retention
Award from SWE Region H Governor Alyse Stofer.



Rita Murino
accepting the
Innovation
Award -
Honorable
Mention for the
SWE-WI Harley-
Davidson Garage
Party events.

Thursday, October 25, 2007 - Hospitality Suites



Yay SWE! Vanessa White and Rita Murino



Theresa Krack won the Grand Prize at the hospitality suites. Look at that iPod and look at that smile!



UWM's Sonja Golembiewski shows Garth how it's done.

Friday, October 26, 2007 - Explore Nashville!



Who said the Parthenon was in Greece?
No, it is in Nashville at Centennial Park!



Even Dogs love music in the Music City!



Pictured: Rita Murino, Vanessa White, Maggie Teliska, Jill Nondorf, Talia Esser, Molly Johnson, Rachel Weber, Kelsey Kornaus, Tracy Grenfell, Kristen Seashore, Laura Valenstein, Sarah Steenblock, Lauren Elio, Julie Feld, Janelle Anderson, Lara Clark, Keena Spencer-Dobson

Friday, October 26, 2007 - Explore The Music City, Nashville!



Music is everywhere in the Music City. Rita Murino had to lay down, it was so overwhelming!



Vanessa White and Molly Johnson (UW-Madison SWE President) enjoy more Music at Tootsie's.



The Music City singers love Region H. See two UW-Madison collegiate SWE members Rachel Weber and Sarah Steenblock dance and sing into Nashville's Hearts.

Saturday, October 27, 2007 - Celebrate SWE!



L to R: Theresa Krack, Susan Thomas Schlett, Vanessa White, Rita Murino, Katie May.



Susan with our Membership Upgrade Award and Membership Recruitment Award



Region H gave its presentation for the Spirit Award!



Region H was one of the four finalists, but Region D won the Spirit Award.



Susan and Rita have SWE Spirit!



Look at all the Region H Hearts!

The End!



I knew SWE would be in Lights!
Bye Nashville, we will miss you!
See you in Baltimore 2008!



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Section Website: <http://www.msn.fullfeed.com/~swewi>

Check out the website for lots of useful SWE information! Do you have other ideas?
Let us know! We'd love to add even more material to the site! Send e-mail to swe-wi@swe.org.

Advertising Information

Newsletter ads, per issue: 1/2 page ad = \$25. Full page ad = \$50. For more information,
Contact Gina Janke (gina.janke@swe.org).

Webpage ads, per 1 month period: \$15 for text & simple graphic link. Graphic should be in one of the following
software formats: JPEG, GIF, BMP, TIFF, TGA, RAS, EPS, PCX, PNG, and PCD
For more information, contact Vanessa White (vanessa.white@swe.org).



Upcoming Events!

Dec. 3, 2007.....	2007 SWE National Conference Recap Meeting, Milwaukee, WI
Dec. 4, 2007.....	Web Seminar: “Women’s Way of Leadership – Being a Leader and Leaving a Legacy”
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Jan. 25-27, 2008.....	2008 Region H Conference at Bradley University, Peoria, IL
Jan. 2008.....	BSSEF Mentoring Practice, Milwaukee, WI
Feb. 2008.....	Bucks Basketball Game, Milwaukee, WI



Society of
Women Engineers

ASPIRE • ADVANCE • ACHIEVE

About The Society of Women Engineers...

The Society of Women Engineers (SWE), founded in 1950, is a not-for-profit educational and service organization. SWE is the driving force that establishes engineering as a highly desirable career aspiration for women. SWE empowers women to succeed and advance in those aspirations and be recognized for their life-changing contributions and achievements as engineers and leaders. For more information about the Society please call (312)596-5223.

Address changes to:

Wisconsin Section, Society of Women Engineers
N2626 Meadowbrook Lane
Campbellsport, WI 53010

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