

Upcoming Events

Networking

Saturday, July 11
Air Zoo, Kalamazoo, 1p following tour

Professional Development Topics

November TBC- Joint meeting with WMU
Student SWE section – Panel Discussion

Tours

Saturday July 11, Air Zoo, Kalamazoo
12 noon, *Directions on page 2*

September TBC, Winery Tour with SWE
Southwest Michigan Section

October 2, Tour of Potato Packing Shed,
Joint meeting with American Society of
Agricultural and Biological Engineers

Outreach

Planning to couple with other local
Engineering Societies outreach activities

Business Meeting

Officer Meeting Wednesday, Aug 5, 2009
5:30p, Ruby Tuesdays, Battle Creek
All members are welcome to participate

National/Regional Events

National Convention, Long Beach
CA - October 15-17



President's Letter

Hello everyone, Happy New Year!

New Year??!?!? Yes! Our SWE fiscal year runs from July 1st - June 30th so we have just begun our new SWE fiscal year. And at the start of each year I typically sit back and reflect just a little, so here goes!

As life around me gets busier and busier I sometimes find myself looking around at others and comparing myself to them. Let's just call them superwomen. I look at the other mother's in the grocery store whose children are dressed in clothes that match, with hair brushed and clean faces. These children aren't arguing or pulling things off of shelves with the constant, "Mom I want this!" Women at work whose clothes are pressed and who are in the latest fashions, because they have time to read the magazines that help you stay knowledgeable about those kind of things. I also find myself thinking of women who have invited me over to their houses for a fantastic dinner party. The tables are set up so wonderful spotless glasses, great linens, dishes without chips, and a smorgasbord of delicious dishes to try.

What is it that they have that I don't?

One time at a SWE meeting we had a panel of female executives and I had an "ah-ha" moment that I would like to tell you about. Her name was Julie and she was an executive VP at a fortune 500 company. And I learned more from her in 5 minutes of that panel discussion than I have learned from anyone else in my life except my wonderful mother.

There is no such thing as a superwoman.

As we look around at others we see them at that one moment in time. We didn't see the fact that the mother with spotless children had to struggle to get them dressed and it took an extra 1/2 hour to get them herded toward the car. We don't know that the one woman in the office whose clothes are so neatly pressed sends her clothes to the cleaners because she doesn't have time to press them herself. And my sister, who has hosted Christmas faithfully for the last half dozen years rents all the tables, chairs, dishes, silverware and glassware!! She also knows a great deli where she gets 1/2 the food that she lays out every year. 1/4 of it she has everyone else bring and the final 1/4 is homemade by herself and her husband.

...And Julie? She has a laundry basket for each person of her family. Clothes get washed, dried and tossed clean into the respective basket. If someone wants something folded, or hung up she just laughs at them and points them to their basket. She doesn't fuss over her own house and doesn't have dinner parties...instead she gladly will come to anyone else's

house that is hosting and she will bring a fantastic bottle of wine or dish that she can pick up at the nearest store.

As for me, I am going to quit comparing myself to others, stop to smell the roses, and wait for the next SWE meeting to see what my next "ah-ha" moment will contain!!

How 'bout you?

-Karla-

It's that time again! Don't forget to renew your National SWE Membership! Visit www.swe.org/renew

Chartering Officers

President: Karla Romereim
Karla.Romereim@kellogg.com, 402-510-9782

Vice-President: Sylvia Schonauer
Sylvia.Schonauer@kellogg.com, 269-420-7397

Secretary: Tawnya Hatcher
Thatcher@rdseng.com, 269-598-1437

Treasurer: Molly Williams
Molly.Williams@wmich.edu

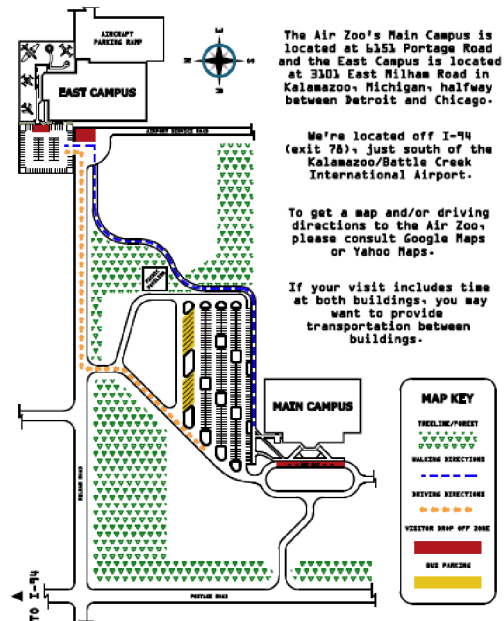
If you are interested in leading a committee, please contact an officer. All members are welcome to attend the monthly officer meetings.

Do you want to showcase your web skills? We have an opportunity for someone to develop and maintain our proposed section website! Please contact one of the officers if interested!

Family Fun Day and Tour of Air Zoo, Kalamazoo, Saturday, July 11, 12p

Purchase or bring lunch to enjoy after the tour

AIR ZOO CAMPUS DIRECTIONS



Chartering Progress

Our Charter Package is nearly complete! We plan to submit for chartering this month! Thank you for your continued support in building our membership.