

SWE-SCMI

Website! <http://southcentralmichigan.swe.org/>

Also join our FB group! [SWE South Central Michigan](https://www.facebook.com/SWESouthCentralMichigan)

And we have a new Linked In page!! <https://www.linkedin.com/grp/home?gid=8393404>

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SWE Air Zoo Corporate Engineering Challenge!

On February 20th, SWE and the Air Zoo, along with 17 area companies, partnered to introduce 160 girls to STEM principles and a variety of products women engineers in the Kalamazoo /Battle Creek area have helped create. After a morning of visiting

company stations filled with

fun STEM activities, the girls participated in a panel where all of their questions about engineering were answered by females in engineering and academia.



Then, it was

time for the main event - the engineering challenge! Teams of 8 girls worked together to create 4 vehicles that had to descend a 190ft. zip line while meeting certain design criteria. Over 1,200 members of the community joined in on the fun and watched the girls show off their designs in



the race! Thank you to all who contributed to this event. Together, we gave 160 girls the opportunity to explore engineering and learn from women from the field!

Quick Notes:

- ◆ Make sure to add our admin email to your safe senders' list so you don't miss out on any new/activities!
scmi.swe@gmail.com
- ◆ Check out our Calendar of Upcoming Events (page 6) and make plans to join us!
- ◆ Get more out of your SWE membership by volunteering for one of the many opportunities to get involved!



January Murder Mystery Dinner at Henderson Castle!

SWE SCMI held an interactive Dinner Theatre event on January 18, 2016, at the Henderson Castle in Kalamazoo, MI. The event started at 6:00 PM with a guided tour of the castle. On our tour, we learned that in 1895, Frank Henderson built this Queen Anne style castle as his opulent private home. The exterior is Lake Superior sandstone and brick, and the interior rooms feature mahogany, bird's eye maple,



quartered oak, birch, and American sycamore. Some of the furnishings include marble and hardwood floors, crystal chandeliers, and leaded and stained glass windows of the period. Master Chef Francois Moyet purchased the castle in 2011. It is a public restaurant now, as well as a Bed and Breakfast, with a wonderful view of downtown Kalamazoo.

When we arrived at the castle, it was a dark and stormy night! However, inside, all was merry and bright; or was it? Someone had murderous designs for the evening! The Murder by Design plot unfolded as seventeen SWE members and seven guests ate dinner in character. At the end of the seven-course meal, we were shockingly entertained to learn our very own Tonya Killick did the deed; but she had noble intentions!



By the time we finished our truffles, we all agreed the evening was a great way to kick off SCMI SWE 2016!



Region H Conference Update



The 2016 Region H SWE Conference was hosted by the University of Wisconsin-Platteville February 26th through 28th. The conference sold out with 900 attendees. During the conference, members attended development seminars, keynote speeches and great evening entertainment. One of the highlights was a keynote speech by Alliant Energy CEO, Patricia Kampling. Mrs. Kampling spoke on being passionate at work and at home and to take on challenging opportunities. A degreed electrical engineer, Mrs. Kampling took a job in finance early in her career as a new opportunity. This opened doors for her to become the CFO of Alliant Energy and eventually the Chairman, President and CEO. The members also heard from SWE President Colleen Layman about the governance planning and changes that are happening in SWE with much more to be discussed. Visit SWE.org for ongoing updates. The professionals attended a seminar discussing executive presence. Everyone was asked to try out a “power pose” and practice answering questions for an audience. The final evening was capped off with a great dinner and a dueling piano performance.

The icing on the cake was when the South Central Michigan section was selected for a Governor’s Choice Award for the “Lead Like a Girl” panel in January 2015! The Region H Governor was impressed with the creativity and diversity of the event. Congratulations SCMI! Overall, the conference provided great opportunities for continued learning, networking and a lot of fun. Mark your calendars for next year’s conference at University of Michigan in Ann Arbor March 10-12, 2017. Hope to see you there!



Call for Event Sponsors!!

SWE SCMI has had so many fantastic professional development, social and networking opportunities and events so far in FY16, and there is still a whole half of the year to go! There are some awesome events coming up in the SWE SCMI calendar, and we need your leadership to make these events a success by being an event sponsor!

The event sponsor is responsible for organizing their event and following a checklist laid out by the leadership team to make sure we capture all of the amazing events that we do. The events that still need sponsors for this year are the Speed Networking event in May, a community service event in June, and a family-fun event at Zingerman’s Creamery in July!

Please consider becoming an event sponsor, as it gives a wonderful opportunity to expand your leadership and networking skills!

If you are interested in becoming an event sponsor, please email our SWE SCMI gmail account: scmi.swe@gmail.com!

November and January Socials!

In November we met at Tavern on McGillen and in January we met at Andrea's Café and Pizza in Mattawan. Both were great networking and social events that let us get to know each other better! We look forward to seeing you at the social in March!



Call for Volunteers: Youth Symposium!

The Youth Symposium is a joint effort between SWE SCMI and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority to promote the pursuit of STEM careers to adolescent girls (grades 3-12) in the Kalamazoo Community! The event consists of several hands-on science projects that are led by local scientists and engineers. The event will be held on March 12 from 10 am—11:45 am at the WMU Adrian Trimpe Building in Kalamazoo.



Volunteers are needed for this fun and exciting event! There are 4 total sessions, and your enthusiasm for the STEM fields and encouragement for these young minds is needed! If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Sylvia Schonauer at Sylvia.Schonauer@kellogg.com or RSVP on the Sign Up Genius link below!

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c094aaeaa22abfc1-scmi>

Looking Forward—SWE Women's Panel!

The 3rd Annual SWE Women's Panel will be held in the Learning Center at Eaton Galesburg on April 19th at 5:30 pm! Leaders from major engineering firms in the Battle Creek/Kalamazoo area will be on site to discuss questions around the theme: "Changing the Workplace for a Changing Workforce." This event is open to the entire community. Don't miss the opportunity to hear success stories from your field and from your community!



Letter from the President

SCMI-SWE,

We all have a story of how we became an engineer. It may include a family member's hobby or career, liking math and science, or something even more exciting like sibling rivalry over "I can do it too."

If you were at the Air Zoo on February 20th, I'm sure you will be part of a handful of stories-in-the-making of some young Kalamazoo-area girls when they *become that engineer*. This was SCMI SWE's 3rd Annual Corporate Engineering Challenge and it filled the Air Zoo with fun, learning, and lots of energy! This remarkable event could not have been possible without many, *many* people. Each of our corporate sponsors gave time and resources for their booths, the Air Zoo staff handled many aspects of the event and logistics, and SCMI SWE's own Corrine Kupstas and Jessika Yankovic were the main event sponsors. What a success this event was!!!

If you missed this party-of-an-event, SCMI SWE is sponsoring the Youth Symposium (email Sylvia.Schonauer@kellogg.com), which will also be an amazing opportunity to be a role model for future engineers!

Thank you for being part of stories-in-the-making for our future female engineers!

Elizabeth Fuhrman



SWENext Outreach Opportunity

SWENext is a way to become a part of the Society of Women Engineers as a student up to the age of 18! Any girl age 13 or older can join SWENext, and girls ages 13 or younger just need a parent to be the primary contact. Parents are also encouraged to join, regardless of the age of their daughter! For more information about this program, please visit swenext.swe.org.

SWE SCMI will be giving a presentation about SWENext to a Girl Scouts Council in the area on March 4th. If you are interested in being a part of this excellent outreach opportunity, please email scmi.swe@gmail.com!



FY16 Planning Calendar—Look for emails and flyers for details!

March 2016

- SWENext Opportunity: **March 4th**
- Youth Symposium Outreach: **March 12th**
- Monthly Social Event: Moonraker in Battle Creek, MI: **March 21st**



April 2016

- Monthly Social Event: Lawton Barn Brewers in Lawton, MI: **April 6th**
- Women's Panel at Eaton Corporation: **April 19th**



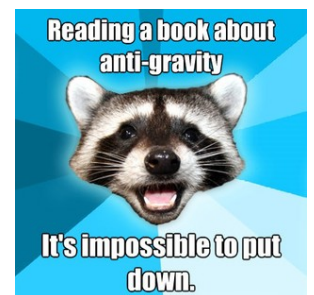
May 2016

- Speed Networking Event



June 2016

- Monthly Social Event: Dark Horse Brewing Company in Marshall, MI
- Book Club and Discussion



July 2016

- Zingerman's Creamery Tour (Family Fun Event)



Please note that all of these events (with the exception of those that have dates already specified) do not yet have dates and are subject to change. Keep an eye out for emails and calendar invites for final event dates, times and details!

SWE-SCMI



Society of Women Engineers
South Central Michigan Section

[http://
southcentralmichigan.swe.org/](http://southcentralmichigan.swe.org/)
Headquarters: <http://swe.org>



We're on Facebook!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/swe.scmi/>



And Linked In!

[https://www.linkedin.com/grp/home?
gid=8393404](https://www.linkedin.com/grp/home?gid=8393404)

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Call for Volunteers—SWE SCMI Communications Committee!

We have a very active and engaging SWE SCMI Communications Committee—and we are looking to do even more!

The communications committee is responsible for maintaining and updating our social media sites (including Facebook, Linked In, and Twitter), managing our SWE SCMI website, all communications with our SWE SCMI membership and maintaining our distribution lists, and compiling and creating our quarterly newsletter.

If you have a passion for communicating all of the great things that SWE SCMI is doing and would like to be a part of it, we would love to have your help!

We also have five other committees, including Awards/Nominations, Networking/Membership, Outreach, Programming, and Fundraising/Support, that could also use committee members!

Please email scmi.swe@gmail.com if you are interested in participating in any of these committees!

This newsletter has been sent to you on behalf of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE) South Central Michigan Section, based on your interest in SWE. If you prefer not to receive email messages from SWE-SCMI, please send a message to: scmi.swe@gmail.com Please allow 5-7 days for removal. To change the email address that this type of message is sent to, please send a message to scmi.swe@gmail.com Note: Please send messages from the email address or list the addresses you may have provided originally for messages.