

### SWE-SCMI

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

Also join our FB group! [SWE South Central Michigan](#)

July 2015

Volume FY16, Issue 1

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### Welcome to the SWE SCMI Officers for FY16!

The results are in, and the new officers have been elected for FY16! Thank you to the outgoing officers from FY15, and we look forward to a brand new year!



#### President—Elizabeth Fuhrman

**Current company:** Stryker

**Current job role:** Associate Manager of the Advance Quality team in R&D

**Why do you love SWE?** I love getting to know other technical women in the Kalamazoo area

**What are you most excited about for SWE**

**SCMI for FY16?** I am most excited to see how SCMI furthers our impact of STEM activities in the Community!

#### Vice President—Carrie Baracka

**Current company:** Kellogg Company

**Current job role:** Senior Cost Optimization Manager

**Why do you love SWE?** I love SWE because it is a great opportunity to get to know other women that have a passion for many of the same things I do. This includes inspiring an interest in STEM careers in young women girls and showing them that they can be successful engineers and help shape the world we live in everyday!

**What are you most excited about for SWE SCMI for FY16?** I am most excited about our proposed monthly informal get-togethers. I think these will be a fabulous chance to get out to some different places within our SCMI section coverage area, get acquainted with more people, and just have fun.



#### 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](mailto:scmi.swe@gmail.com)
- ◆ Check out our Calendar of Upcoming Events (back page) and make plans to join us!
- ◆ Get more out of your SWE membership by volunteering for one of the many opportunities to get involved!

## **FY16 Officer Introductions, cont.**

### **Secretary—Cheryl Fritz**

**Current company:** Kellogg Company

**Current job role:** Food Technologist for Snacking Research & Technology

**Why do you love SWE?** I love the opportunities SWE provides for networking with other professionals in the community, and the outreach opportunities SWE SCMI provides to show young girls how awesome the STEM fields are!



**What are you most excited about for SWE SCMI for FY16?** I'm very excited for all of the social and outreach events coming up! We had fantastic events in FY15 and I know FY16 is going to be even better!



### **Treasurer—Megan James**

**Current company:** Stryker

**Current job role:** Principle Design Engineer

**Why do you love SWE?** Great people who are excited about engineering!

**What are you most excited about for SWE SCMI for FY16?**

Continuing the growth of our section. We are really starting

to gain momentum, more people involved in our activities, and more people connecting because of SWE.

### **Section Representative—Heather Ivey**

**Current company:** Post Consumer Brands

**Current job role:** Network Project Engineer

**Why do you love SWE?** I love SWE because of the camaraderie within the organization.

**What are you most excited about for SWE SCMI for FY16?** I'm excited about getting to know more people in the SCMI section.



## Officer Introductions, cont.



### Alternative Section Representative—Kristin Sanburn

**Current company:** Kellogg's

**Current job role:** Packaging Equipment Engineer

**Why do you love SWE?** I love SWE for the simple reason that it brings women engineers together – both socially and professionally. It's a support group for all generations and can provide a smooth transition from the collegiate level into the professional world. SWE also offers endless educational

opportunities to help women engineers be successful in the work place at every different level, which I take advantage of as often as possible.

**What are you most excited about for SWE SCMI for FY16?** Personally, I am excited to learn more about how SWE is run both regionally and nationally. I'm fairly new to the organization, and I can't wait to meet more women engineers at social events while also being involved on the SCMI board.

## SWE has switched gears...

SWE has launched a new, modernized logo and brand! Look for this logo and brand on all of the new SWE communications!





## Dark Horse Brewery Tour

On June 4, we had a great tour of Dark Horse Brewery with more than 30 SWE members and friends. It was a beautiful evening for happy hour in their newly renovated beer garden before touring the production facility, capped by a private tasting in their VIP Loft! Dark Horse is a Michigan brewery in Marshall with distribution throughout the Midwest. We had a great time walking through their facility with the friendly, knowledgeable, (and slightly snarky!) tour guide. It was a fun and successful networking event with many new and old faces!



## Membership Renewal Reminder!!

If you have not yet renewed your membership for FY16, please remember to do so! You can renew your membership or join SWE at the following website: <http://societyofwomenengineers.swe.org/membership>. Click on the Join tab (it's on the left hand side in the banner), and our section is H014.

## Letter from the President

It feels good when you reach your goal, right? We should all feel a sense of accomplishment because, as a group, we reached our goal to plan out the year's events at our planning meeting! Thank you to those who attended our first 2016 SCMI SWE meeting! While reaching our goal, we had many laughs and some good pizza. Here are some highlights to share:

- Review of the new leadership panel
- Creation of 'event sponsor' role, which took the place of the Personal Development/Social/Tour committees
- Monthly socials will occur throughout the area on a monthly basis. These will be informal events with no RSVP required.
- Leadership team is working to further define the goals and responsibilities of the committees. However, for the most part, the committees are not responsible for section events.

At our planning meeting, Corrine Kupstas mentioned that her manager recently asked how she incorporates her representation within SWE into her work accomplishments. This points out one of the great benefits of being in SWE: We get to represent our companies while participating in an organization that strives to develop us as professionals, facilitates sharing our passion for engineering with young girls, and promotes diversity and inclusion. Communicating the accomplishments you achieve within SWE can supplement your accomplishments within the workplace.

On the flip side, SWE also wants to celebrate your work accomplishments! Let me introduce our "Member Highlights" program. This program is aimed to have the section celebrate our work-place wins. This is how it will work: The section member list will be divided into 4 groups and each quarter a different group of members will be asked to submit a short submission describing a recent work-place win you want to celebrate. For those who share a submission, there will be a drawing for a prize. The first "Member Highlights" edition will come at the end of September and in the future will be shared within our newsletter.

So this is a challenge for our SCMI-SWE members: What can you do within SWE to make a win? For opportunities, look in our newsletter or ask one of our officers. I hope everyone enjoys the remaining summer months and see you at our next event at the Cheese Lady!

Elizabeth Fuhrman

SCMI-SWE President



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

### August 2015

Monthly Social Event:

When? Wednesday, August 12, 2015



Time? 5:30 pm (Cheese Lady) and 6:00 pm (Fletcher's Pub)



Where? Cheese Lady (7035 West Q Ave., Kalamazoo) and Fletcher's Pub (7177 West Q Ave., Kalamazoo)

The monthly socials are an opportunity for SWE SCMI members to socialize, network and catch up! No RSVP is necessary, but you can contact Elizabeth at [elizabeth.fuhrman@stryker.com](mailto:elizabeth.fuhrman@stryker.com) if you have questions.

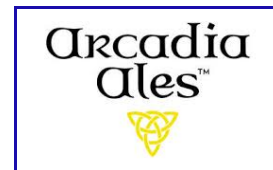
### September 2015

- Monthly Social Event: Old Mill Brewpub & Grill, Plainwell, MI
- Tour of Eaton Proving Grounds
- WMU Resume Night
- The Region H "Heartland Annual Round Table" (HART) Leadership Summit will be held in Milwaukee, WI on Sept 25-26. For more information, please visit the Region H website: <http://regionh.swe.org/hart-leadership-summit.html>



### October 2015

- Monthly Social Event: Arcadia Brewing Company, Battle Creek, MI
- Women's Panel, hosted by Eaton
- The SWE National Conference will be held in Nashville, TN on Oct 22-24. For more information, please visit the website: <http://we15.swe.org/>

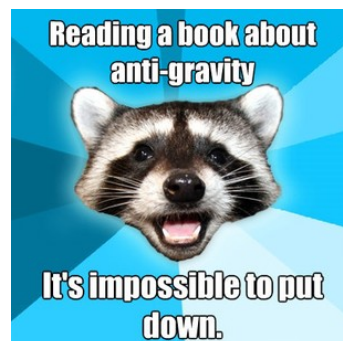


### November 2015

- Monthly Social Event: Java Joint, Mattawan, MI
- Book Club and Discussion

### December 2015

- Community and/or Holiday Service Project





## FY16 Planning Calendar, cont

### January 2016

- Monthly Social Event: Koffee Klutch, Galesburg, MI
- Murder Mystery Event

### February 2016

- Monthly Social Event: One Well Brewing Company, Kalamazoo, MI
- Professional Development Webinar and Discussion
- Regional Conference



### March 2016

- Monthly Social Event: Battle Creek Moonraker, Battle Creek, MI
- Zingerman's Creamery Tour

### April 2016

- Monthly Social Event: Lawton Barn Brewers, Lawton, MI
- AirZoo Engineering Challenge



### May 2016

- Speed Networking Event



### June 2016

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



### July 2016

- Family Fun Event



Please note that all of these events (with the exception of those that have dates already specified, like the August Social Event, HART conference, and SWE National Conference) 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



## FY16 OFFICERS

**Elizabeth Fuhrman, President**  
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**Carrie Baracka, Vice President**  
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**Megan James, Treasurer**  
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**Cheryl Fritz, Secretary**  
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**Heather Ivey, Section Rep**  
[Heather.ivey@postfoods.com](mailto:Heather.ivey@postfoods.com)

**Kristin Sanburn, Alternate Section Rep**  
[kristin.sanburn@kellogg.com](mailto:kristin.sanburn@kellogg.com)



## Call for Event Sponsors!

One of the big changes that is occurring within our section for FY16 is that there is a new opportunity for member involvement in the creation of a new role: **The Event Sponsor!** Instead of having a single committee that plans all of the events for the year (Professional Development Committee or Social/Tour committee), each event would have an event sponsor, and the work and time required of an event sponsor would reflect the size of the event. For example, being the event sponsor for a tour of a brewery would take less time than being the event sponsor of the Air Zoo event. The creation of this role allows members opportunities to get involved in the section without a huge long-term commitment. The event sponsor would be responsible for organizing their event and following a checklist laid out by the leadership team to make sure we capture all of the awesome events that we do!

**The planning calendar for FY16 is on pages 6 and 7! If you are interested in becoming an event sponsor for any of these events, please email our SWE SCMI gmail account: [scmi.swe@gmail.com](mailto:scmi.swe@gmail.com)!**

## Member Career Highlights!

Starting with a mini-newsletter in September, this section will be reserved for highlighting when members are achieving successes in the workplace! You will be getting an email from SWE Admin sometime in the next year to ask for a career success that SWE could help you celebrate. If you submit a career success, you will be entered into a drawing for an awesome prize! Keep posted for more details!