

# DragonPrints



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## Letter from the Editor

Hello,

I hope everyone is fully into the swing of fall term and that midterms and design projects are going well! It's finally cooling off in Philly, and we have some seasonally appropriate activities: we had a Haunted Scavenger Hunt on the day before Halloween, and our annual holiday event where we make cards for kids who have been admitted to the Children's Hospital over the holiday is coming up in December. Keep an eye out for our posters and our emails from SWE with more details.

Our normal every-other-week activity schedule will be put temporarily on hold for the beginning of November, due to the fact that most of our officers and several other members-at-large will be away at the National SWE Conference in Baltimore. Wish us luck as we talk to hundreds of employers about jobs and co-op positions. And if you've never attended a SWE conference before, keep it in mind for next year; it's a fantastic networking opportunity and a lot of fun too!

*-Caitlin Locey  
Newsletter Editor*

## Fall Calendar of Events

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**October 30th:**  
Haunted Scavenger Hunt

**November 4th:**  
SWE Volleyball Team Semi-Finals

**November 6-9th:**  
SWE National Conference in Baltimore

**November 23rd:**  
Volunteering at Philadelphia Marathon

**December 1st:**  
Holiday Card-Making for CHOP

**December 4th:**  
1-in-4 and SWE Co-Meeting



## Contact Us!

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## Engineering Field Day

On August 20<sup>th</sup>, SWE sponsored an Engineering Field Day in Korman Quad to take advantage of the last days of summer and to help students blow off steam before final exams began. A variety of carnival games were hosted by the different engineering organizations, including a football toss, hula-hooping competition, sponge relay race, and a fishing pond; all with prizes awarded to the winners. The field day also featured a dunk tank that was originally intended to be for engineering faculty. None were brave enough to volunteer, however, so the officers of participating organizations courageously stepped in! Water ice, cookies,

and lemonade provided by Sodexo, and various bake sale goodies also helped to draw in passerby. The whole afternoon was a blast; I hope everyone got a chance to stop by and join in the fun.

Thanks so much to our co-sponsors: IEEE, ASME, ASHRAE, and BMES. Thanks especially to the College of Engineering for their generous support!



Visit us at our webpage:

[www.pages.drexel.edu/~dsoswe](http://www.pages.drexel.edu/~dsoswe)

# Spotlight: Pocono Plateau Retreat

Last spring, SWE took its annual weekend-long trip to Pocono Plateau, a camp and retreat center located on 750 acres of woodlands in Pennsylvania's Pocono Mountains. A group of 25 male and female engineers (and a few non-



Our fantastic guest speaker for Saturday was Heidi Minich from an organization called InterPlay. InterPlay teaches creativity through movement, voice, and social interaction. Heidi quickly made us get over our awkwardness about dancing and singing in front both friends and strangers, and led us in kinetic exercises focusing on teamwork and leadership. It was great watching people getting to know one another

through such unconventional (but fun!) means.

On Saturday afternoon, the group participated in the zip line adventure activity. One by one, we climbed a tree using wet, slippery staples as hand-holds until we reached a 30-foot-high platform. There our harnesses were clipped onto the line and Jesse, the most calming man I've ever met (seriously, he should be

a trauma doctor or a disaster news anchor), patiently talked us to the edge. Once we got the go ahead from the group on the ground, we leaped off the platform and zipped down the 270-foot-long cable strung between the trees. It really was a fantastic experience, made all the more cool by the thick fog that hid the surrounding forest, the people on the ground, and the other end of the zip line from the jumpers; it felt like you were diving into the unknown!

Many props to Omar Kabeer, who bravely volunteered to be the first to make the jump, and to everyone who kept those of us freezing our extremities off on the ground amused with their superhero-style flying. I also wanted to note how impressed I was that every single one of our group members made the jump, even though some of us weren't initially too happy with the idea. Bravo to everyone for demonstrating your bravery, and thanks to everyone who voiced encouragement from the ground.

The next day of the retreat, Jesse led us in trust exercises including backward falls and working with a partner to spring

a mousetrap using only bare hands and without either person getting their fingers caught. We also had to save our "pirate" buddies from a sinking ship by balancing the entire group on a teeter-totter-like "raft"

without either end ever touching the ground. Finally, we worked together as a team on the low ropes course, walking across a cable suspended a couple of feet above the ground using only the persons in front of and behind you (and the occasional friendly tree) for balance. The latter two exercises really required the whole group to formulate and carry out a plan, and by the end we were talking to one another and cooperating on decisions like pros.

Our time wasn't all spent in organized activities; we spent our free time just hanging out, playing board games, hiking around the woods, and canoeing and rowing in the lake. I'm sure Pocono Plateau Lake will never again see such an awesome giant canoe raft!

I hope I've convinced you that you should come out and join us on our retreat at the same time next spring. Pocono Plateau is a great way to get to know fellow

SWE members, and have a blast while doing it. But keep in mind a tip from this insider: just say no to metal bunk beds.



## "10 Reasons to Date an Engineer"

t-shirts are always on sale! Shirts are available with or without the Drexel SWE logo. The cost is \$12 for one or \$20 for two, so make sure to drag along a friend to get the discount. Contact [swe@drexel.edu](mailto:swe@drexel.edu) or come to any of our meetings to get your very own.

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10. Free body diagrams.
9. We have significant figures.
8. Engineers do it to specification.
7. We know the Right Hand Rule.
6. No "couple" enjoys a better "moment".
5. Can go all night with no hint of fatigue.
4. We know how to handle stress and strain in a relationship.
3. The world does not revolve around us... we pick the coordinate system.
2. According to Newton, if two bodies interact, their forces are equal and opposite.
1. We know it's not the length of the vector that counts, but how you apply force.