Professional Engineers Wives Association

1940 - 1990
Celebrating Our 50th

By: Mary-Ann Dickson

FIFTY YEARS...A long time indeed for a group to stay strong together; and the Professional Engineers' Wives Association has done just that. For what began as a purely social group (the first of its kind linked to professional engineering associations in Canada), which saw its inception at a luncheon held at the Hudson Bay Company May 7, 1940, the Engineers' Wives Club (as it was known then), has grown not only in size over the years, but has also matured to the point where it can truly stand firm and strong in the community.



Soon after its formation, the members knew that something more than just purely social functions was needed in order for the group to survive. That "something" came very quickly in the form of World War II. Throughout the war years, "groups" such as sewing and knitting groups were formed within the Association, where clothing, afghans and quilts were made and sent to the European and British peoples who were in great need. In fact, borne from the war need "the inventive genius of a member brought a new pattern to the Canadian Red Cross society work rooms...the quilt design known as the Engineer's Wives design" (Free Press, 1940's). Money was also donated to the "Aid to Russia" Blanket in 1945; Victory Bonds were purchased; plus radios for the Deer Lodge hospital patients were supplied by the Association. "Through a sense of urgency that our work was so desperately needed, we formed an enduring friendship that has continued as a firm foundation for this Association."

When the frenzied urgency of war aid had subsided, the Association unanimously decided to continue with service work. Thus began the many fulfilling and rewarding years of aid to the tuberculin patients of the Ninette, St. Boniface and King George Sanitoriums in the form of Christmas and Easter parcels made up by the women of the Association. The Association is also proud to have been associated with the Big and Little Sisters Association for approximately ten years (1970's - 1980's) in the form of a "fun night" for the big and little sisters. Monies were also donated to such causes as the Manitoba Flood Relief Fund (1950) and the European Flood Relief (1953).

In April, 1950, a committee was chosen to discuss the possibility of donating money to an engineering scholarship at the University of Manitoba. It was decided that a trust fund would be set up for the purpose of making an annual award to a student in the Faculty of Engineering. Over the years, the idea of scholarships and bursaries has grown to the point where now the Engineers' Wives Association annually awards the Dean Featherstonhaugh Bursary, the Dean McDonald Bursary and the Engineers' Wives Association Bursary to three deserving students in the Faculty of Engineering.

However, the social aspect of the Engineers' Wives Association has not been lost amid these many projects. Six times each year, the Engineers' Wives hold monthly luncheons, followed by either a yearly fashion show, guest speakers, or tours (i.e., St. Boniface Research Centre, Winnipeg Art Gallery). Also over the years, special "fun nights", such as an evening at the races (Assiniboia Downs), and the Roaring 20's Frolic Dinner and Dance, to name just a couple, were huge successes.

As we enter our 50th Anniversary Year, we find our future to be bright with many new and exciting events and projects. □

A Special Year of Celebration – The Year for You to Join

Wine & Cheese Reception And Fashion Show
In Honour Of Our Present And Perspective New Members

DATE: Tuesday, Oct. 23, 1990
R.S.V.P., by October 18, 1990

TIME: 1:00 - 3:30 p.m.
Mary-Ann Dickson
18 Clearwater Road
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2J 2T2
256-6197

PLACE: Winnipeg Winter Club
Carol Klein
39 Malmsbury Avenue
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R2N 2V2
253-1459

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Babysitting: Required: Yes ☐ No ☐

Transportation: Required: Yes ☐ No ☐

STAN is Here to Assist

By: J.A.E. Belagus, P. Eng.

A new non-profit network is assisting groups which increase science and technology awareness in Manitoba.

The network, called STAN (Science and Technology Awareness Network), has been operating from its Winnipeg office at the Canadian Institute of Industrial Technology building, 435 Ellice Avenue, since April 2nd, 1990. Through STAN, it is expected that Manitoba's industrial economy will become more internationally competitive.

STAN assists groups from industry, labour, education, and government which increase community awareness of existing and evolving advanced technologies. These groups are eligible to receive organizational, promotional, and financial assistance from STAN. For example, STAN will assist groups in organizing breakfast and luncheon seminars which feature speakers from all areas of science and technology.

STAN is jointly funded by the Winnipeg Business Development Corporation ($25,000), Industry, Science and Technology Canada ($50,000), and the National Research Council's Canadian Institute of Industrial Technology ($25,000).

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Science and Technology Minister William C. Winegard officially announced the formation of STAN at the May 9th Electronic Industry Association of Manitoba's "President's Night."

STAN is currently planning events for National Science and Technology Week, to be held in Winnipeg, October 12th - 21st. National S & T Week is designed to encourage young people to consider careers in science, technology, and engineering. Suggested topics to be covered that week and ideas for future events would be appreciated!

Let STAN Know:

- If you or your group would like to get involved.
- If you have any specific awareness needs of science and technology.
- If you have any suggestions for seminars or events that would assist in increasing the awareness of science and technology.
- If you would like to be on STAN's mailing list for seminars and events co-sponsored by STAN.

For further information, please contact STAN at:

Science and Technology Awareness Network, Room 413, Canadian Institute of Industrial Technology Building, 435 Ellice Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba R3B 1Y6 Fax: 943-9206 or Telephone:

Natalie Tarkpea, STAN Program Co-ordinator at 943-8482 □