

The Rocky Mountain Section of The Society of Women Engineers

ANNUALLY AWARDS



Lottye Miner at Miner and Miner

The Lottye Miner Scholarship

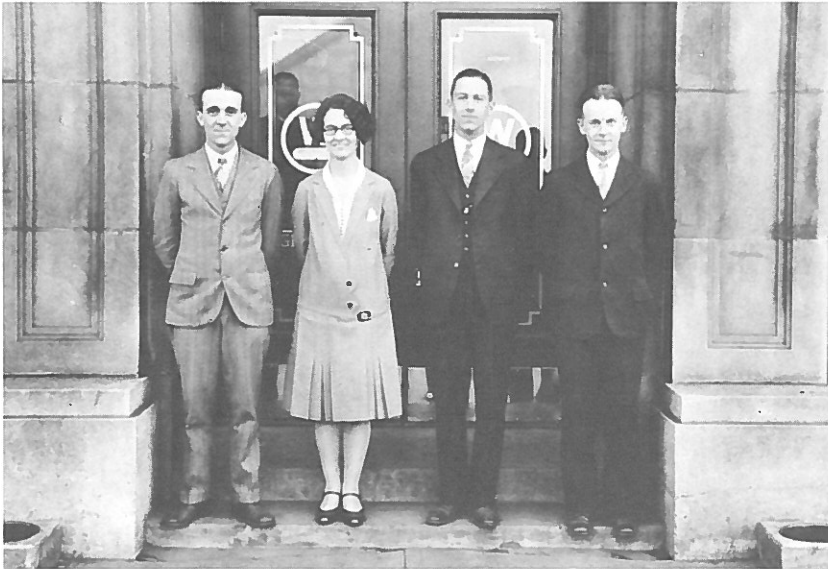


*Lottye
Miner*

Lottye Miner joined the Society of Women Engineers in 1956, six years after its founding. She became one of the early Life Members - the first from the Rocky Mountain Section. Lottye was active in the organization following her retirement in 1969. In 1981 she was elected a Fellow Member of SWE in recognition for "rendering outstanding service to the advancement of public awareness of engineering as a profession for women."

Lottie E. Miner (1904-1989) was born August 4, 1904, in Wichita, Kansas, the daughter of Howard and Minnie E. (Webb) Young. She grew up on the family homestead near Burns, Wyoming, and her early education was in a one-room schoolhouse. When her older brother enrolled at Colorado State University, she followed to attend high school in Fort Collins, Colorado, where a teacher encouraged her to study math and science.

Lottie enrolled at Colorado College in Colorado Springs. During her second year, one of her professors referred her to Dorolyn Lines, a young woman engineer who had worked in Colorado Springs prior to her marriage. Through her friendship with Dorolyn, she decided to study engineering and enrolled at the University of Kansas.



Westinghouse, 1928

Lottie graduated in 1927 from the University of Kansas with a B.S. in electrical engineering. For the next two years, she worked for Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company in Mansfield, Ohio, where she was the first woman appointed to the Student Training Course. At Westinghouse, she designed and developed electric appliances in the research and development laboratory. In 1929, Lottie returned to Wichita, Kansas, to design household appliances for Coleman Lamp and Stove Company.

While in Wichita, she became reacquainted with Roland R. Miner, a fellow electrical engineering student at the University of Kansas who had taken time out from school to work for Kansas Gas and Electric Company. Both Lottie and Roland received B.S. degrees in electrical engineering from KU. After Roland's graduation in 1930, they were married and from that point until 1946, Lottie was a helpmate. They had three children, a son and two daughters.



Lottie making waffles to test thermostats in new Coleman waffle-makers

Lottie Miner and her family



In 1946, Roland and Lottie Miner established Miner and Miner Consulting Engineers in Greeley, Colorado. Lottie served as partner of Miner and Miner from 1946-1951 and as secretary-treasurer for the period 1951-1957. After Roland died in 1957, Lottie took over his responsibilities as president; she became Chairman of the Board of Directors in 1959 and remained the principal shareholder until her retirement in 1969.

Miner and Miner contracted to design and construct many projects throughout the western United States including runway lighting and control systems at the Cheyenne, Wyoming airport and at Stapleton International Airport in Denver. Lottie led Miner and Miner in electrification projects in Lebanon, Pakistan and Brazil. These projects were especially satisfying to her as she explained: "What a thrill it was to see a single overhead bulb, with a chain switch, the light in a hut miles from anywhere."

During her entire career Lottie was an outstanding representative of successful women engineers in the professional arena as well as in the community. In 1936, Lottie and Roland were instrumental in the organizing of the Wichita Section of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers (later the IEEE) of which they were both Life Members. She was a Member of the National Society of Professional Engineers and a registered professional engineer in Colorado, Kansas, Montana and Wyoming. After her children were no longer in the school system, she served on the Greeley School Board. In 1976, the Colorado Engineering Council gave Lottie its Certificate of Honor for distinguished service in consulting engineering and for her support and activities in professional engineering organizations.



Lottie was elected a Fellow Member of SWE in 1981

Lottie was very active in counseling students through professional guidance activities for SWE and for other professional and educational groups. She was always available to anyone seeking individual guidance, and encouraged others to be active in counseling. Lottie spoke for and about the Society of Women Engineers and was instrumental in introducing the newly-established organization throughout the region.

The Society of Women Engineers

The Society of Women Engineers is a non-profit educational organization established in 1949-50 with the following goals and objectives:

- Inform young women, their parents, counselors and the general public of the qualifications and achievements of women engineers and the opportunities open to them.
- Assist women engineers in readying themselves for a return to active work after temporary retirement.
- Serve as a center of information on women in engineering.
- Encourage women engineers to attain high levels of education and professional achievement.

The Society's mission statement is to:

- Stimulate women to achieve full potential in careers as engineers and leaders,
- Expand the image of the engineering profession as a positive force in improving the quality of life, and
- Demonstrate the value of diversity.

The Rocky Mountain Section

The Rocky Mountain Section of the Society of Women Engineers was established as the Denver Section in 1954 and renamed in 1986. The Section began collecting funds for the Endowed Scholarship Fund in 1984. The Lottye Miner Scholarship was established in 1990.

Candidates for the Lottye Miner Scholarship are rising junior and senior female engineering students at the engineering colleges in Colorado and Wyoming. They are selected on the basis of: engineering achievement; leadership of organizations, societies, and activities; essay; academic skills; two letters of reference; and financial need. Engineering achievement includes papers, projects, research, and relevant work experience. Academic skills include curricula, grades, and scholastic achievement.

For more information, please contact:

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Information on the scholarship programs of the Society of Women Engineers may be obtained from Society Headquarters:

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