



ION Saint Louis

SUMMER 2008



Spend a relaxing September afternoon at the Forest Park Boathouse as part of the IEEE Summer Social.

IEEE Summer Social 2008 is Planned

Date: Saturday, 06 September 2008

Time: Noon - 4:00pm

Location: Boathouse at Forest Park

This year's event will feature a hot food buffet, open bar, and paddleboat rides. Enjoy the zoo or museums in the morning and then bring the family to the Boathouse. Keep an eye on your email in the coming weeks for details.

Check your email this summer to make reservations. Please contact the Summer Social Coordinate, Heidi E Anderson at heidi@sandboxconcepts.com for more information.

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This year's social is to be held at the Boathouse in Forest Park. Like most of the facilities in Forest Park, the Boathouse has as a historical significance to St. Louis. From the official website, <http://www.boathouseforestpark.com> the following is just a taste of what you are in for at this year's Summer Social.

IEEE Sections Congress 2008

This year marks the triennial gathering in IEEE that is known as the Sections Congress. IEEE Sections Congress 2008, held every three years since 1984, provides IEEE Section leadership with an opportunity to impact the future of the IEEE. It is a triennial gathering of IEEE grassroots leadership to:

- network with other Section leaders
- attend training programs
- develop recommendations to guide the future of the IEEE

The event includes four days of working sessions and networking opportunities for hundreds of delegates from all ten Regions. Congress attendees learn how to utilize IEEE resources to maximize their effectiveness as IEEE volunteer leaders.

This year's Section delegate will be Bob Becnel. Please contact him at bob@becnel.com if you have any issues that need to be brought forth. More information available at <http://www.ieee.org/web/services/mps/sc08>.

Chair's Column

I hope all of you are having a great summer so far. IEEE section planning committee has met several times this year to discuss and plan various issues. Among various issues we have dealt include:

- Funding IEEE Student activities in Regional Robotic competition
- Funding MOCON workshop to be held October 22-24, 2008 (more info can be found elsewhere in this newsletter)

Other upcoming events are:

- Black Box competition will be held in mid November and hosted by last year's winner, Saint Louis University. (Contact gharabr@slu.edu for more info)
- Summer Social. Heidi Anderson reported that the date is set for September 6 at the Forest Park Boathouse for Noon-4 (more info can be found elsewhere in this newsletter)

The *ION Saint Louis* is the official publication of the Saint Louis Section of IEEE. It is published approximately once per quarter by the Officers of the Section and distributed electronically via the Section Listserv and posted to the Section website.

Any member may submit IEEE-related information to appear in the publication to Bob Becnel at bob@becnel.com.

We are looking for nominations for the Secretary position for IEEE Section Planning committee for next year 2009. Please forward your nominations to either me or Bob Becnel. In keeping with the tradition (alternating industry/academia) the planning committee is looking for a person from academia.

Bob Becnel is our section delegate to IEEE Sections Congress 2008 to be held in Quebec City, Canada on 19 - 22 September. He is active in collecting section issues and discussing them at the Congress this fall. (more info at <http://www.ieee.org/web/volunteers/sections-congress/2008/index.html>). Please forward your comments/suggestions to me or Bob Becnel for improving section activities.

Have a great summer and see you at the summer social.

Respectfully,

Dr. Mallik, 2008 Section Chair

ION Newsletter to be Sent by US Mail

Each year, IEEE requires each Section to distribute at least one hardcopy meeting notice to active members. This issue of ION will be sent by US Mail to serve that purpose. You will also receive it electronically through the IEEE e-Notice system. All Section correspondence and meeting information is distributed through the IEEE e-Notice system. If you find that your issue hasn't arrived either electronically or through the mail, please verify that your "myIEEE" account is reflective of your current status and you select to receive e-mail. You can login to your "myIEEE" account at <http://www.ieee.org/myieee>.

All Section meeting notices and dates are also posted on the Section website at <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r5/stlouis>. The next Section Meeting will be the election of Secretary at our Summer Social on September 6.

IEEE Swarm Intelligence Symposium in St. Louis

Date: September 21-23, 2008
Location: Sheraton Westport
Host: IEEE Computational Intelligence Society

More information at <http://www.computelligence.org/sis/2008/>.

SOCIAL NIGHT

Night at the ballpark

Gateway Grizzlies vs Windy City Thunderbolts

Monday July 28, 7:05 pm

Maximum ticket price is \$10.50 per person.

(Cards vs. Cubs on a budget ☺)

RSVP with \$10.50 per person by 10pm Monday July 14th, no exceptions. Money accepted via paypal or by mailing a check to social coordinator. If interested, please send an e-mail to ieeesocials@yahoo.com

Sorry, IEEE is not covering any costs. Cancellations are after July 14th are non-refundable. Tickets will be purchased Tuesday, July 15



Gateway Grizzlies is a minor league team that plays in the Frontier League.

Nominations Sought for Section Secretary

We are looking for nomination for the Secretary position for IEEE Section Planning committee for next year 2009. Please forward your nominations to either me or Bob Becnel. In keeping with the tradition (alternating industry/academia) the planning committee is looking for a person from industry.

Christmas Social Planned

It is not too early to plan on attending the IEEE St. Louis Christmas Social. The date of the event will be Saturday, December 20 at the Lake St. Louis Clubhouse. More details will follow.



IEEE Power Engineering Awards Outstanding Engineer

Congratulations to Ann Lazarski, 2008 recipient of PES - St. Louis Chapter Most Outstanding Engineer. Ann has been the Chairperson of the St. Louis Chapter for 2+ years during which she has initiated many new ideas (even winning an award for best chapter web site) and orchestrated tremendous chapter growth.



2008 PES Outstanding Engineer, Ann Lazarski (right).

FIRST Robotics Competition

Some of you may not be familiar with a wonderful organization, US FIRST (Foundation for the Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology), which sponsors various robotics competitions for secondary students throughout the world. Founded by Dean Kamen, who among many other inventions is the inventor of the Segway® Human Transporter, US FIRST has as its mission "to inspire young people to be science and technology leaders, by engaging them in exciting mentor-based programs that build science, engineering and technology skills, that inspire innovation, and that foster well-rounded life capabilities including self-confidence, communication, and leadership." A tall order, but one that is partially accomplished by the First Robotics Competition. FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) is a unique varsity sport of the mind designed to help high-school-aged young people discover how interesting and rewarding the life of engineers and researchers can be.

The FIRST Robotics Competition challenges teams of young people and their mentors to solve a common problem in a six-week timeframe using a standard "kit of parts" and a common set of rules. Teams build robots from the parts and enter them in competitions designed by Dean Kamen, Dr. Woodie Flowers, and a committee of engineers and other professionals. Each year, the "game" is designed anew, working with balls, blocks, pyramids, donuts, etc. These games involve several scoring strategies, using both autonomous and remote controlled modes, and in the competition, must work with two other randomly assigned robots against an opponent team of robots. The game is cooperative and task oriented and not about destroying other robots. In these six weeks, teams must design, build, and compete with a robot of significant complexity and function. During the rest of the year, teams must organize themselves, find places to build and test the robot, find ways to fabricate the necessary parts and raise money (typically tens of thousands of dollars), and find adult mentors. Each team does this differently. To most engineers, this process sounds very familiar... indeed, the entire competition is based on using as many of the same constraints as any realistic engineering job requires – money, talent, schedule, safety, teamwork, and, of course, results.

Continued on page 5.

FIRST Robotics Competition

Continued from page 4.

The St. Louis Science Center hosts a regional competition (one of 40 or so throughout the world) at the Family Arena in St. Charles in the February-March timeframe, where more than 40 teams from across the country compete for a chance to go to the finals in Atlanta. This event is an audio-visual spectacular 3-day affair with the teams competing, not only to win the competition, but for recognition at many levels by a panel of judges, a group on which I have served for several years. Audience attendance is free, and most schools have cheering sections.

Why am I bringing this up here? Because this whole operation requires the involvement of many volunteer engineers and scientists as Mentors to individual teams, as organizers, as Judges, and to do all sorts of other tasks necessary for this to happen. I invite you to become involved at any of these levels, and now is the right time to look into it for the 2009. You can contact me, (jseeser@aol.com) and or you can go to the web site, <http://www.usfirst.org> to become more familiar with the organization and what you can do.

Often you are asked to help with organizations which are focused on solving problems in our society. This is an opportunity to work with the best and brightest of our students, and I guarantee you will have more fun and personal reward doing this than your day job! Especially if your day job is being retired.

The author, Jim Seeser, is an active member of the Saint Louis Section of IEEE and past Globecom 2005 Executive Committee Member.



Communications Society has a New Exam

A new certification program in Wireless Communication Engineering Technologies (WCET) has been launched by the IEEE Communications Society (ComSoc). The IEEE WCET Certification Program has been specifically designed to address the worldwide wireless industry's growing need for communications professionals with practical problem-solving skills in real-world situations. I hope you enjoy browsing our site to learn more about it.

WCET stands for Wireless Communication Engineering Technologies. With the IEEE WCET certification, professionals will be able to clearly demonstrate their knowledge of wireless communication technologies to employers or change engineering fields as new opportunities arise in the wireless industry.

Vendor-neutral and trans-national in scope, the IEEE WCET certification program's focus is explicitly on the knowledge and on-the-job experience that a practicing wireless communications professional needs to possess in order to pass the WCET exam. Nothing testifies more to the international nature of the program than the breadth of industry participation at all stages of the development process.

Global industry experts representing countries such as Australia, Canada, Egypt, India, Japan, Malaysia, the United States, and Uruguay, shared their expertise to create and subsequently refine the draft delineation outlining the areas of responsibility and specific tasks and knowledge that might be expected of a candidate for WCET certification. Over 1,300 individuals representing over 65 countries from around the world participated in an industry survey which provided strong validation that the tasks and knowledge defined by the delineation represented what they as industry practitioners experienced as part of their job responsibilities. More information available at <http://www.ieee-wcet.org>.

2008 IEEE WCET Testing Window and Application Deadline

Testing Window: 22 September - 10 October 2008

Application Period: 21 June - 01 August 2008

Application Deadline: 01 August 2008 by 23:59 p.m. UTC

COMSOC Chapter Event Planned

Thursday, September 18th will be a free luncheon as part of the Distinguished Lecture Series at Savvis Communications, so please mark your calendars. For more information, please contact Mr. Ken Owens at Ken.owens@ieee.org.



WCET Certification logo.



COMSOC logo.

MU CIS Chapter

On the western edge of the geographical boundaries of the Section, Dr. Guilherme (Gui) DeSouza and the rest of the Computational Intelligence Society (CIS) Chapter have been busy. Now, just in case you were scratching your head, this CIS Chapter is not to be confused with the "other" CIS Chapter, Chaired by Dr. G K Venayagamoorthy in Rolla (MS&T). Our Section is fortunate to have two active Chapters representing the same Society. For more information in future meetings or events for the Columbia (MU) Chapter of CIS, please contact Gui at desouzag@missouri.edu.

Oct/2006 - Short Course:

Graphical Processor Units and Applications by Bob Luke and Derek Anderson

Nov/2006 - Seminar by distinguished lecturer:

Data Projection and Visualization Using Self-Organizing Neural Networks by Dr. Pablo Estevez, Universidad de Chile, Sponsors: IEEE CIS DLP; MU CIRL lab.

Nov/2006 - Student Activity

First MU-CIS Student Poster Competition, Sponsors: MU College of Engineering; MU CIRL lab; MU ViGIR Lab

Aug/2007 - Article in IEEE CI Magazine

Family Corner: Mizzou Chapter by Guilherme DeSouza

Nov/2007 - Seminar by distinguished lecturer:

Conservation of Information in Evolutionary Search Algorithms:

Measuring the Cost of Success by Dr. Robert J. Marks II, Sponsors: IEEE CIS DLP; MU CIRL lab; MU ViGIR Lab

Nov/2007 - Student Activity

Second MU-CIS Student Poster Competition, Sponsors: MU College of Engineering; MU CIRL lab; MU ViGIR Lab

Feb/2008 - Invited Speaker Seminar

An Introduction to Type-2 Fuzzy Sets and Systems by Dr Simon Coupland, De Montfort University, Leicester, UK

Feb/2008 - Invited Speaker Seminar

Some Applications of Type-2 Fuzzy Logic by Dr Bob John, De Montfort University, Leicester, UK

Apr/2008 - Invited Speaker Seminar

Spatial and Multiresolution Constraints for Fuzzy C-means by Dr Adel Hafiane, University of Missouri, USA

2008 FALL MISSOURI CONFERENCE (MOCON) WORKSHOP

WEDNESDAY, 22 October 2008

1. Electrical OverCurrent Protection by Mr. Paul Friemel, PE (Bussmann)
2. High Frequency Circuit Design by Dr. Jim Hahn (UMSL Campus)
3. Routing & Data Mgt in Secure Sensor Networks by Dr. Sanjay Madria (LSL)

THURSDAY, 23 October 2008

4. Arc Flash Analysis (1/2 Day) by Mr Edwin Scherry, PE (LSL)
5. Wireless Ad Hoc and Sensor Networks: Protocols, Performance and Control (1/2 Day) by Dr. Jagannathan (Jag) Sarangapani (LSL)
6. Signal Integrity by Dr. Jim Hahn (UMSL Campus)

FRIDAY, 24 October 2008

7. Advanced Electrical OverCurrent Protection by Mr. Paul Friemel, PE (Bussmann)
8. Intro to TCP/IP Networking and Appl (1/2 Day) by Mr. Ken Owens (Savvis Com)
9. Advanced Network Implementations (1/2 Day) by Mr. Ken Owens (Savvis Com)
10. Digital Signal Processing by Dr. Jim Hahn (UMSL Campus)

See Website for Maps and Location <http://www.moconstl.com>.

MOCON Registration

Advanced registration for the 2008 Spring Missouri Conference (MoCon) Workshop is now open. The advanced registration Web site is in preparation and will be open soon. Advanced registration fees are \$500.00 for a full day tutorial and \$250 for a ½ day tutorial. Advanced registration will close on 10 October 2008. After that, the fees will be \$550 for a full day tutorial (except for Advanced Electrical Overcurrent Protection, which will remain at \$500.00) and the fees for a ½ day tutorial will be \$275.00. You may use this form to register or you may register online at the MoCon Workshop web site: www.moconstl.com. Classes start at 8:30 am and end at 5:30 pm. Lunch is provided 12:30-1:30 pm. Lunch is also provided for those taking two ½ day tutorials on the same day. IEEE Members receive a 20% discount. PDHs and CEUs will be awarded.

Name _____ Tutorial # _____ Amt Enclosed \$ _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Email address _____ Tel No. _____ IEEE Member # _____

Remit check (no credit cards, POs OK) To Jerry Herman, MoCon Workshop Treasurer, 2112 McGregor Circle, O'Fallon, MO 63368, payable to "2008 Fall MoCon"

More information, call MR. BOB MENZEL 314-545-6712.

2008 Chapter Contacts

Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AESS)	robert.k.menzel@boeing.com
Communications Society (COMSC)	ken.owens@ieee.org
Computer Society (CS)	jdumaine@stlcc.edu
Engineering in Medicine and Biology (EMBS)	dmoran@biomed.wustl.edu
Industry Applications Society (IAS)	ganeshv@mst.edu
Power Engineering Society (PES)	alazarski@ameren.com
Computational Intelligence Society (CIS)	ganeshv@mst.edu
Computational Intelligence Society (Columbia)	desouzag@missouri.edu
Education Society Chapter	fran@engr.siu.edu
Rolla Subsection	waleed@mst.edu

JULY 2008						
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

2008 Affinity Group Contacts

Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD)	anil@siu.edu
Women In Engineering (WIE)	j.k.stroble@ieee.org

AUGUST 2008						
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31						

2008 Student Branch Contacts

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University of Missouri - Columbia	KellerJ@missouri.edu
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Saint Louis University - Parks College	gharabr@slu.edu
Southern Illinois University - Carbondale	fran@engr.siu.edu
Southern Illinois University – Edwardsville	gengel@siue.edu

SEPTEMBER 2008						
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28	29	30				

Winter 2008 Upcoming Events

Social at Grizzlies Ball Game	July 28
Summer Social	September 6
COMSOC Luncheon at SAVVIS	September 18
IEEE Sections Congress 2008	September 19 - 22
SWARM Intelligence Symposium	September 21 – 23
Section Planning Meeting	September 25
Fall MoCON	October 22 – 24
Section Planning Meeting	October 30
Black Box Competition	Mid November
Christmas Social	December 20

Engineers Club of St. Louis
ATTN: IEEE Saint Louis Section
4359 Lindell Blvd
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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