



IEEE Region 3 Newsletter

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Fall 1998

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dale Caston

The focus of many Americans today is on the political crisis in the Clinton White House. No matter which side of this issue that you are aligned, you are probably like me and wish that the issue would be resolved quickly to permit our government to go on to other critical issues that face our country and the economic crisis in other parts of the world. However, being a realistic, our Congress will more than likely drag this out to next year and leave other work undone. Sometimes in our personal lives if we fail to act quickly in crisis, it too, will cause our attention to be diverted from other important tasks. Engineers as a whole usually think logically (unless it concerns the opposite sex) and are able to make good, rational decisions in face of unusual pressures. This is one value of our engineering training.

At our last meeting in Orlando, Bill Harrison and his Membership and Development Committee had a training session that many section officers were in attendance. Good reports came from this meeting with the comment that the training session should be repeated in the future. Positive comments from other committees were also heard concerning the Orlando meeting. Speaking of membership, the 30 September 1998 report from IEEE shows Region 3 having a grand total of 29,116 members, an increase of 1231 (549 [+2.2%] higher grade members and 682 [+23.9%] students) from the prior year. That is a total of 4.4% increase from 1997 and is a good indication of renewed interest in

IEEE. Region 3 had the second largest percentage increase in the U.S. with only Region 6 with 4.6% topping us [average increase was 3.3%]. Our M&D and Student Activities Committees are commended for their help in achieving these excellent results.

At the Labor Day weekend PACE meeting in Phoenix there were 42 members of Region 3 present and about a dozen of these were Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD). The theme for this conference was "Preparing for the New Millennium," and this is the 25th year anniversary for IEEE-USA (when combined with the former USAB). This was my first PACE meeting experience and I was impressed with the quality and amount of varied programs and workshops that were available. It was a busy yet very informative and helpful conference. There were good Plenary presentations, Tracks on Careers, Career Skills, Personal Skills, Professional Activities, (GOLD) Careers and (GOLD) Skills. George McClure and Lee Stogner did excellent jobs in leading their workshops and Don Hill had two Region 3 meetings of the delegates. If some sections need meeting topics or ideas, they could get some good suggestions from the PACE Conference program or call George, Lee, or Don. We should encourage the sections to have at least one PACE type program a year. Next year the conference will be in the Dallas area and let us strive to have more sections send delegates.

Work is progressing on the next Southeastcon which will be in Lexington, Kentucky on 24-25 March 1999. Chair Don Hill and his committee have issued an invitation to the sections in nearby regions to take part in our section officer training. Some of the other regions do not have the intensive training and materials that we in Region 3 have developed. Of

course, the ones coming from other regions will be expected to pay for the printing costs of the materials that are given out at the meeting. Since the 1999 Southeastcon will be earlier than the one this year, hopefully, there will be increased attendance and more technical papers presented.

As 1998 draws to a close, each Executive Committee Member should analyze this year's results and start making plans for new goals and objectives for 1999. Thanks are expressed to each of you for your work and dedication in making

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this a good IEEE year.

DIRECTOR-ELECT

Dick Riddle

Win Some, Lose Some

Our efforts to discovery and develop future Region 3 leaders continues. One of our Goals for 1998-1999 is to "develop strong Vice Chairs for each Regional Committee to facilitate continuity of Region leadership through a systematic succession program." Recently, Perry Wheless, Chair of the Educational Activities Committee announced the appointment of Dr. Atef Elsherbeni as Vice Chair of EAC. On behalf of the Region, I would like to welcome Dr. Elsherbeni and look forward to his contributions to the EAC and the Region.

It is with much sorrow that we bid farewell to Dave Hulett, an outstanding leader who has contributed many years of service his section, council and region. Dave is being transferred to Brownsville, TX as part of his employers downsizing and restructuring. Good luck Dave, we will miss you. Dave was Chair of the South Carolina Council and Vice Chair of the PAOC.

The Region 3 Standing Committees that have appointed Vice Chairs are: Educational Activities - Chair: W. Perry Wheless, Jr., Vice Chair: Atef Elsherbeni; Professional Activities - Chair: Donald W. Hill, Vice Chair: Dave Hulett (now vacant); Membership Development - Chair: William (Bill) Harrison, Vice Chair: Marvin Neiditz; and Student Activities - Chair: J. Patrick (Pat) Donohoe, Vice Chair: Bruce Walcott. I have no record of the following Region 3 Standing Committees appointing a Vice Chair: Awards & Recognition - Chair: John R. Twitchell, Conference - Chair: James M. Howard; Communications - Chair: Lee Stogner; and Strategic Planning - Chair: Robert S. Duggan, Jr.

I encourage each Region 3 Committee Chair that does not have a Vice Chair to do it now. Our 1998 year is rapidly ending. The appointment process is simple. After you have found a candidate that is willing to accept the Vice Chair position and is willing to serve as Chair when your term of office is completed, you

notify the Director and request his concurrence. Lack of prior experience is no excuse. Region 3 provides an excellent leadership training program under the Leadership Development Committee, Chaired by Reed Thompson. One of the most important attribute of a leader is to plan for the future. Please help our region continue to be a premier by finding future leaders and getting in them into the pipeline now.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

David Green

One of the never ending challenges for IEEE (as well as other organizations) is tracking the addresses of its members. Be sure to keep IEEE informed of your address so that the services to you can continue uninterrupted. You can use the web as discussed below; send e-mail to address-change@ieee.org, call 1-800-678-IEEE, or by postal mail. Remember to tell them of any telephone area code changes or e-mail addresses that have occurred. Section leaders should make sure that IEEE Section/Chapter Support is kept up to date on your officer roster.

IEEE is continuing the expansion of its web presence. You may now join IEEE on the web and (in Region 3) renew your membership on the web. Region 3 and Region 8 are the trial regions for web renewal so try it out and let me what you thought of the experience. Additionally, you may update your address information through a web interface.

You can also access the Region 3 Web Site for current Region officer information as well as Regional events such as Southeastcon '99. Volunteers may find the information from Regional Activities at <http://www.ieee.org/ra> to be useful.



TREASURER'S REPORT

Charles Hickman

Region 3 began 1998 with total assets of \$219,570. A summary of Region 3 financial operations for 1998 through September 1 (shown elsewhere in this Newsletter) shows an income of \$89,304 and disbursements of \$90,500, leaving a balance of \$218,374. Funds are held in the following accounts.

IEEE Long Term Investment Account	\$102,624
IEEE Concentration Account	101,841
First American FAIR Account	<u>13,909</u>
TOTAL	\$218,374

All of these accounts produce interest.

Adequate funds are available to support the projects budgeted for 1998. Committee and project leaders are encouraged to review the status of their activities to ensure that planned projects for our members are implemented in a timely manner.

AREA 3 - GEORGIA

Bill Ratcliff

The individual sections in Georgia (Atlanta, Central Georgia and Savannah) continue to make progress in providing value to the members in their geographical areas. In order to bridge the physical distance between the sections, an increased emphasis on electronic communications including video conferencing is being pursued. The possibility of a jointly developed newsletter is also in the discussion stages. The following are the individual Section Reports:

Atlanta Section

The Atlanta Section has joined forces with Magnolia Communications to develop an expanded and enhanced Circuit (monthly newsletter) to match the explosion of technical growth in the Atlanta area. The tour of the Lucent Fiber Optic Manufacturing Facility in Norcross is one of the many activities being planned to keep the members current with the state-of-the-art capabilities in Georgia.

The Atlanta Section in coordination with the Region 3 Membership Development Committee is actively involved with the pilot project for the Corporate Relations Program. (see the Membership Development Committee report for details)

Mark your calendars for Southcon, April 13-15 1999, Gwinnett County Convention Center, Atlanta, Georgia.

Central Georgia

Greg Taylor, Vice Chairman for Central Georgia Section of IEEE, has been investigating the possibility of supporting Future Scientist and Engineers of

America (FSEA). Future Scientists and Engineers of America (FSEA) is a non-profit organization that promotes science and engineering among American youth. One of the important objectives of FSEA is to motivate youth from grade 4 - 12 to choose engineering or science careers. Of special interest is attracting females and children from minority ethnic groups who traditionally have not been encouraged to study science and engineering. The organization is based upon learning through hands-on experience, similar to Scouts or Future Farmers of America. We are committing to a trial for the Russell Elementary School Warner Robins, GA.

Our technical sessions to date have covered the following topics: Vibration Analysis, High Definition TV and an overview of the Future Scientist and Engineers of America program.

Our membership now stands at 297 members which includes 25 student members. We had a 13% decrease in membership.

Savannah Section

The Savannah Section of IEEE has been busy during the 1997/98 year. We have been fortunate to enjoy presentations regarding Digital Wireless Telecommunications, Fire Alarm Logic Controls, Pulsed Laser Controllers, Electrical Utility Deregulation, and IEEE Electronic Communications. A tour of the Hunter AAF Control Tower and Black-Hawk Helicopter Simulator was also interesting.

The section has continued to improve our Web site (MACROBUTTON HtmlResAnchor <http://ewh.ieee.org/r3/savannah>). We believe the Web page is a cost saving tool that actually helps us reach more members – both inside and outside the section. Although we don't see our section, or IEEE HQ, becoming totally paperless in the near future, we believe the Web will push us in that direction.

This has been an exciting year in the IEEE and I hope to see everyone at the next Region 03 meeting - Southeastcon 1999.

FLORIDA COUNCIL

Butch Shadwell

Dale Caston, the current Region 3 chairman, has set an ambitious set of goals for the region. To support his objectives I hope all of you are examining your sections and especially your friends and acquaintances to see if you can locate candidates for Senior Member status. It has gotten easier than ever to send an application and you can now do letters of recommendation by e-mail too.

If your section does not have a GOLD (Graduates Of the Last Decade) chair, I would encourage you to find one. Certainly the highest attrition is among the recent graduates. In the way of membership, I always discuss IEEE membership with my consulting clients. I have been able to get some firms to agree to support their engineers' membership. Try to associate expertise and professionalism with the IEEE in your regular business activities.

In the last 6 months there have been a number of instances when I could not make contact with current section officers. It is imperative that when section

1998 Region 3 Financial Operations Through September 1, 1998

RECEIPTS	BUDGET	YTD ACTUAL
Conference Income	\$10,000	\$(9,653)
Professional Activity – Programs	14,005	14,005
Rebate from IEEE Headquarters	66,200	66,200
Interest Income	18,500	12,752
Life Member Fund for Student Awards	1,000	1,000
RAB for ETI Database	6,000	5,000
RAB for Needy Section Support	1,000	0
RAB for Other Projects	1,000	0
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$117,705	\$89,304
DISBURSEMENTS		
Meeting Expenses	5,500	9,221
Newsletter Expense	12,000	7,715
Other Publications	4,100	3,298
Conference Expense	3,000	0
Educational Expense	4,450	1,117
Professional Activities	38,700	14,077
Student Activities	21,300	11,647
Grants and Awards	5,000	1,694
RAB Project – Unspecified	1,000	0
RAB – Needy Section Support	1,000	0
Travel Expense – non-student	40,000	39,003
Committee Support and Office Expenses	9,100	2,728
Loans & Advances to Others	5,000	0
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	\$150,150	\$90,500

officers change that I and/or Carolyn Smith are notified immediately. You can submit that data to the national office by e-mail and you should copy us too. Also, if you receive a message that is intended for your section chair and you are no longer in that role, please forward it immediately and copy me and Carolyn so we can see who the recipient should have been. The region and the council will try to make sure that sections are kept informed and that reminders are sent for important activities, like reports that are due, but that assistance depends on our having up to date leadership data.

This has been a busy summer for me professionally. I hope it has been the same for you all as well. Since our last meeting I have done programs for the Jacksonville and Gainesville Sections. I am also scheduled to do a program for the PE/IA Chapter in Tampa on October 22nd. I have done my introduction to robot design for the students at UNF and will be doing it again for USF while in Tampa. We need to encourage our Student Branches to participate in the regional robot competition. It is not only an invaluable educational opportunity but it also builds esprit de corps and a heightened enthusiasm for the field. A Florida team ought to be winning this event every year. For faculty advisors: don't hesitate to call on section members to act as resource persons for practical solutions with design problems. Obviously we can not have practicing engineers designing things for the students, but we can act as subject matter experts to offer general information. I am continually

impressed with the amazing collection of exceptional engineering talent in all of our Florida sections.

We need to discuss elections at this meeting. We could have one more meeting before the end of the year, but my term is near an end. We have managed to keep our council travel costs to zero so far this year. The September meeting will be our first expenditure for a meeting. I must admit, the e-mail dialog I had hoped to maintain this summer was rather sparse, but I hope it was because sections did not feel the need to bring issues to the Council's attention. Finally, at the first region meeting this year, it was suggested that Council officer elections synchronize with the region so that the region leadership could depend on a consistent team through their administration. Region elections are once every two years.

AREA 9 JAMAICA

Dennis Hartley

The Annual General Meeting was held in July and the EXCOM is now eleven members, including Student Activities, PACE, Membership Development, Bylaws/Awards, Educational Activities, Publications, among the others.

Senior Member applications are being prepared and will exceed the 10% objective. There is also a member who is eligible for Life Member and so this is being pursued vigorously. A Petition to launch a Communications Society Chapter is completed and awaiting supporting letter from the Section. A Power Engineering Society Chapter is to be pursued later.

Leadership Training Workshop was conducted by Past Region 3 Director James Beall, at the Le Meridien Jamaica Pegasus in June. This has generated substantial interest in the Section and an aggressive

set of objectives has been placed.

The Section will host a public forum entitled Deregulations of Telecommunications and its Implications on October 1 and it is expected that more than one hundred persons are to attend. This forum is being held during Engineer's Week in Jamaica. The Section will seek to project its public image, by distributing the IEEE's Code of Ethics, apart from attempting to sign up new members. All media houses in the island have been invited to cover this event.

Area 9 Chair has access to the Web, as of May this year. The Student Activities Committee will meet students at the start of the school term in October. The SAMIEEE database is now being used by Section Officers and this has created a wide range of benefits, for example, up-to-date information regarding members, identifying membership in Societies and monthly updates of membership information by downloading from the Web.

COMMUNICATIONS

Lee Stogner

Communications within IEEE-USA was a major topic at the recent PACE Conference in Phoenix. In fact it has been a topic for several years as the organization has struggled with how to improve the way in which we connect and share information. One thing for sure is that as an organization, IEEE-USA is behind other groups in delivering a message throughout the membership. One new way that we are trying to deliver current news quickly is through a new Web paper called:

www.ieeeusathisweek.org

This is a new Web based publication that is published every two weeks with the help of several volunteers and the Washington office. We have tried to make the publication "the place" that the US based IEEE member can go to find timely

Important Addresses and Phone Numbers to Know.....

R3 Web Site:

<http://sandbox.ieee.org/r03/>

ETI Web Site:

<http://sandbox.ieee.org/r03/eti/eti.html>

ETI Authorization:

eti-info@eng.uab.edu

Region 3 BBS:

1-770-446-0740

articles that will be old by the time you read about it in Spectrum or any other paper based publication. For example, if we needed to pass along information about a pending vote in Congress, by the time that you read about it in a traditional paper publication, it will be too late. The Web paper can print the news quickly or even print a special edition. This publication is also meant to be a two way street. The top IEEE-USA leaders can talk to the members and the members can talk to the rest of IEEE-USA through this common channel. For example, in a earlier issue of the paper, we printed an article about the recent Region 3 awards. Bottom line we now have a fast way of sharing timely information throughout IEEE-USA. We also need your help. If you have an opinion, a special event or an electrical engineering news item, please write an article and forward it to:

editor@ieeausathisweek.org

Region 3 needs to communicate as well. We have a growing infrastructure of local Web pages and E-mail based information. We have a number of the Region 3 pages identified and posted on the IEEE-USA Web site but not all. If you have a site and want to get it listed, please contact myself or Brian Swail. If there is anything else missing on the IEEE-USA site, please let us know about it as well. If you still have people within your section that haven't made the jump to E-mail or the Web, please tell them that 80 million Americans are there and it could be embarrassing for them to admit to the neighbors that they are not connected.

Lastly, we need to connect better to local news organizations about the good work that electrical engineers are doing. Please write an article about your special project and get the local paper or TV station to carry it. While you're at it, send me a copy and I'll publish it in IEEE-USA THIS WEEK. If we don't tell the world about electrical engineering, they won't know and won't care.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

John Twitchell

Region 3 is calling for nominations

CALL FOR PETITION CANDIDATES

The 1999 IEEE ballot will contain the names of either two or three candidates submitted by the Region 3 committee for election to the position of 2000-2001 Region 3 Delegate/Director-Elect. Individual voting members may propose, by petition, names to be added to the ballot. Petitions must satisfy the constraints articulated in IEEE Bylaw 314.10. Petitions are due no later than June 15, 1999. Contact Debbie Powers, Region 3 Nominations Chair, for more information.

for several awards to recognize Region 3 members for their contributions to our profession. Nominations are due in by December 1, 1998 for consideration for this year's awards.

The Outstanding Engineer Award is for a member who has made an outstanding contribution to the electro-technology profession.

The Outstanding Service Award recognizes a member who as made an outstanding contribution to the electro-technology profession through service to the Region.

The Joseph M. Biedenbach Outstanding Engineering Educator Award recognizes a member who's contribution to the profession comes from a sharing of knowledge through teaching (not necessarily at university).

Please do not miss this opportunity to recognize someone from your Council or Section who has made significant contributions to our profession.

CONFERENCES

Jim Howard

The next conference committee meeting will be held at the Region 3 Executive Committee Meeting in Jackson, Mississippi on October 24, 1998. At that meeting we will be discussing the results from both the Southeastcon 98 and Southcon/98 conferences. Additionally, we will be looking into future Southeastcon's and Southcon's and other conferences that will be held in the Region. Section interested in bidding on Southeastcon 2002 and beyond should be contacting the Conference Committee regarding the schedule for bid processing, as well as assistance if needed. Please check out the following web pages for our upcoming Southeastcon and Southcon conferences.

<http://www.southcon.com>

<http://www.engr.uky.edu/student.orgs/IEEE/secon/index.html>

Southeastcon '99

Southeastcon '99 will be held at the Lexington, Kentucky, Hyatt Hotel on Thursday through Sunday, March 25 through 29. The hosts for this conference are the Lexington Kentucky Section and the University of Kentucky Student Branch. The conference will follow the model of placing all three components (Region 3 meetings, technical conference, and the student conference), in parallel.

Southcon/99

Southcon/99 will be held in Atlanta, Georgia on Tuesday, April 13, 1999 through Thursday, April 15, 1999 at the Gwinnett Convention Center. For the first time ever, the show will be co-locating with the SMTA (Surface Mount Technology Association) Atlanta Chapter. This is the Southeast's largest Electro-Technology show and is normally held once a year in Region 3. The sponsors, IEEE Region 3, IEEE Florida Council, and the Electronic Representatives Association (ERA) are planning a special event for this shows return to Atlanta, so be sure to plan to attend and support the show.

Other Items

If your Section has a conference planned, please send information about it to the Region 3 Conference Committee at j.howard@iee.org. We would like to create a list of all conferences planned in the Region and to list it in this newsletter.

EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

Perry Wheless

The Region 3 EAC has increased in "peoplepower" since the last Newsletter issue. Dr. Atef Elsherbeni of the Electrical Engineering Department at Ole Miss has joined the committee as Vice-Chair and has already been hard at work on the Region 3 Employer Professional Development Award. Other committee members at this time include Tom Bellarmine (Florida), Andrew Hargrove (Virginia), Dan Jackson (Mentor, Virginia), Charles Lord (North Carolina), Deb Powers (Georgia), Bill Ratcliff (Area 3), Butch Shadwell (Area 4), John Liegeois (Area 5), Darrell Piatt (Area 6), departing David Hulett (Area 7), John Parr (Area 8), and Dennis Hartley (Area 9).

EAC was pleased to support and endorse the nomination of Dr. Demetrius Paris of Georgia Tech for the "Meritorious Achievement Award in Accreditation Activities." Vernon Powers expertly prepared the nomination package. More recently, EAC relayed by e-mail to all the Region 3 Sections a call for volunteers for ABET accreditation reviewer duty. Program reviewers from industry are especially in demand, and more Region 3 volunteers from the industrial sector would be a positive development for us.

A listing of holdings in the Region 3 Lending Library is now available on the Web. From <http://sandbox.ieee.org/r03/>, there is a link to the "Lending Library." It is intended that several new acquisitions will be added to the library between now and the end of the year. Items which could be used by Sections to provide workshops and short courses, perhaps even carrying Continuing Education Units (CEU) credit, will have priority in this round of new acquisitions. Perry Wheless traveled to Atlanta for a weekend working meeting with the Membership Development (MD) Committee in September, and there will be an active attempt to coordinate EAC and MD efforts, particularly in partnering with employers - an area of considerable overlap of EAC/MD interests and missions.

A negative note is that one of EAC's Goals and Objectives for 1998 included

getting the Region 3 Sections to have a special, education-oriented meeting (apart from their regular meetings) once a year. Because local needs vary, the definition of what constitutes an educational activity was left to the discretion of the Section. Two publicity broadcasts about this to the Region 3 e-mail distribution list only netted two replies, just one of which was positive. You might say the idea was greeted with considerable apathy. If you have any comments on what this concept needs in order to gain acceptance at the Section level, please give your input to Perry Wheless (p.wheless@ieee.org) at your earliest convenience. Without a new twist to "sell" this idea, it is questionable if it should be rolled over onto the 1999 objectives list.

Finally, a word of public thanks to Dan Jackson for continuing to work with this committee as its Mentor. Dan is an outstanding source of information, ideas, and enthusiasm for IEEE, and we are grateful for his ongoing assistance.

GOLD

Lea Callahan

Check out the GOLD web site at <http://www.ieee.org/ra/gold> !! This great site lends valuable information for GOLD committees across all of IEEE. Available to Region 3 members at this site are facts concerning Products & Services, Programs, and Awards for GOLD participants. You can view The GOLD Rush publication containing up-to-date material on GOLD in Region 3. A discussion group, resource guide, and GOLD contacts are also located at this web site.

Anyone interested in starting a new GOLD committee in their Section should

visit the web site for details on the GOLD Quick Start Incentive Funding Program (QSIF). QSIF was developed to facilitate new GOLD committees by offering funds to form a GOLD committee and to initiate GOLD activities. The budget is set to support 40 new GOLD programs. If there is not a GOLD committee in your Section, get to the site and find out how you can be one of the forty this year! If you are uncertain of the status of GOLD in your area, go to the contacts section of the site and get in touch with the GOLD leadership in IEEE for direction.

GOLD is providing support to and aiding in the retention of recent graduates across Region 3 and all of IEEE.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Reed Thompson

A training workshop for Region 3 Standing and Ad Hoc Committee Chairs was conducted on January 16, 1998 in Savannah just prior to the first Executive Committee meeting for this year. There was an excellent attendance and response.

A LEADERSHIP TRAINING WORKSHOP for SECTION OFFICERS was held in conjunction with the Region 3 Committee meeting and SoutheastCon '98 on Saturday morning April 25, 1998 in Orlando, Florida. A large number of various Section officers attended and took copies of the comprehensive training manual back to their respective Sections for reference and for local training of other Section Chairs.

A Section Officers training workshop was conducted in Jamaica by past director Jim Beall in May where there was

SoutheastCon Schedule

<u>Conference</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Host Section/Branch</u>	<u>Conf Chair</u>
SoutheastCon '99	3/25-3/29	Lexington/Univ. of KY	Donald Hill
SoutheastCon '2000		Nashville Section	Saleh Zein-Sabatto
SoutheastCon '2001			

SoutheastCon E-mail Contacts

<u>Conference</u>	<u>General Chair</u>	<u>Student Conference</u>
SoutheastCon '99	d.w.hill@ieee.org	sb.uky@ieee.org
SoutheastCon '2000	Sabatto@harpo.tnstate.edu	
SoutheastCon '2001		

good participation and high interest in furthering the goals of IEEE and Region 3.

There has been a high interest in the Leadership Development program of Region 3 and a copy of our Leadership Development Manual has been requested and provided to the Vice President of RAB, the President of IEEE-USA and to Region 5. This is well deserved recognition for the many Region 3 persons who have participated in developing our training manual and in presenting previous workshops.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Bill Harrison

The Region 3 Membership Development Committee's Corporate Relations Project is underway. This is the project proposed at the Region 3 Winter ExCom and by Working Group #2 at the MD Retreat in Baltimore earlier this year. Region 3 agreed to pilot the Corporate Relations initiative and approved funds for the project at its Spring EXCOM meeting. The IEEE national MD Policy Subcommittee met in June and approved the Region's Corporate Relations Pilot Project Proposal. It also agreed to assist with funding in 1998 and 1999. The CPMT Society is participating in the project and has approved funds to prepare an executive presentation to be used to promote the value of supporting their employees membership in CPMT. Several other IEEE entities have expressed interest in becoming involved as the project progresses.

The Corporate Relations Pilot Project is a major IEEE initiative to establish and maintain relationships between local IEEE sections/technical society chapters and the organizations, executives and managers who employ IEEE members and prospective IEEE members.

The initial work of the Region 3 MD Committee is to plan the Corporate Relations Project in more detail, to develop and refine presentation materials, to begin to develop a database of employers/executives, and make contact with executives at local, regional and national levels to determine their interest and support for partnering with IEEE entities.

A sub-group of the Region 3 Mem-

bership Development Committee met in on Saturday/Sunday, September 19-20, 1998. We were pleased with the progress of the working group and with what we were able to accomplish. We realize what we have undertaken is an awesome task, but lots of IEEE people seem to be interested and ready to help. If we can get enough of the right people involved, we can make good things happen for the benefit of employers and members of the IEEE.

The MD sub-group consisted of five people: John Conrad, Florida; Kathy Drevik, Tennessee; Bill Harrison, Georgia; Ralph Russell, Virginia; Perry Wheless, Alabama. Perry represents the Region 3 Educational Activities Committee, which is collaborating with the Region 3 Membership Development on the pilot project.

We will present and discuss the Corporate Relations Project Plan and Budget at the Fall Region 3 EXCOM meeting. We are building lots of enthusiasm and excitement. We anticipate investing lots of time, energy (and money) into the Corporate Relations effort. Our plan includes presenting to and participating in Sections Congress 99. Lots of help will be needed — we want to get as many Region 3 people involved with the pilot project as soon as practically possible. We will need the area/council chairs to help communicate with the sections. We foresee having MD committee members going to local sections and making corporate calls with them during the pilot project.

Details will be posted on the web for review and feedback. Don't wait for us to ask for your help.... call or e-mail your ideas, contacts, visits to employers, publicity, examples of successful corporate relations activities.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Don Hill

Your Professional Activities Operating Committee has been moving ahead on several fronts this year. We found and lost our vice chair, Dave Hulett, to a job opportunity in another IEEE Region; our loss is their gain.

George McClure, as our Professional

Activities Committee for Engineers chair, has moved on more fronts than space allows to list here. George provided leadership and training at the annual PACE conference attended by many of you. George is our expert on pensions, benefits, and workforce issues that come before Congress and serves on several national committees for the benefit of all IEEE members. George prepared a list of excellent PACE programs for you to execute in your section, area, or society. E-mail George (g.mcclure@ieee.org) or myself (d.w.hill@ieee.org) to get another copy of the programs or more information on presenting these programs to your members.

A competition that appeals to students from middle school on up is based on Sim City 2000, a city simulator from Maxis that combines gaming interest with decision-making. It has been used successfully in some other U.S. regions for outreach between the local sections and students. The intent is to focus on the role of technology in modern life, and to underscore the importance of math and science in secondary education. At the same time, it provides a venue to bring together section members with the youth of their communities. Prizes for high-scoring contestants are put up by the section to heighten interest. Promotion of the event through distribution of flyers in schools helps attract students to the weekend event. Surveys have shown that many people have never met an engineer and know little about engineering, a career that the media are calling the "stealth" profession.

Funding proposals for these and other PACE projects will gain support to enable the local section to expand its programs, both for members' benefit and for community outreach. Vernon Powers continues his energetic activities to benefit all IEEE members, even those outside our Region. Vernon has refreshed the Electro-Technology Industrial (ETI) database. Please continue to spread the word about this membership benefit. Anyone planning on a job change, across town, your state, the Region, or the country should consult the database for potential employers. David Green has guided the technical execution of the database throughout the year and received an IEEE-USA award for his efforts.

Charles Lord has successfully planned and held a member professional

Student Activities awards presented at Southeastcon '98

Larry K. Wilson Regional Student Activities Award
Stuart Thompson (University of Alabama at Birmingham)

Region 3 Membership Growth Award
University of Florida

Student Paper Competition

- 1st Place - Ramraj Soundararajan
(Mississippi State University)
- 2nd Place - Emily Thurman, Mark Gollini, Alfred Estepa
(Old Dominion University)
- 3rd Place - Michael Colwell
(Clemson University)

Student Hardware Competition

- 1st Place - University of Alabama at Birmingham
- 2nd Place - University of Alabama at Huntsville
- 3rd Place - Mississippi State University

Student Educational Website Competition

- 1st Place - University of Central Florida
- 2nd Place - Georgia Tech
- 3rd Place - University of Kentucky
- Most Creative Design - University of Louisville

Southeastcon '97 Participation Award
Mississippi State University

Exemplary Student Branch Award
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Georgia Tech
Mississippi State University
Tennessee Tech

Region 3 Outstanding Student Branch
Mississippi State University

Region 3 Finalists for the IEEE World Wide Student Branch Contest
Georgia Tech
University of Alabama at Huntsville
University of Tennessee

awareness conference (M- PAC) in North Carolina. Charles is ready to share his plan with any member entity that wishes to have such a conference in your area. Kathy Dryvik has joined our committee to support pre-college education. Kathy will use her experiences in TN to train more of us about pre-college education and how to enhance it in our areas of responsibilities.

Guy Meador hit the ground running with our PAOC Awards program and hasn't looked back. Guy wants your input and will be calling on each of you to help recognize the individuals in your area that deserve a 'pat on the back' from the Region or IEEE-USA.

Lee Stogner and his committee members prepared and executed an excellent PACE conference this year. The conference format changed this year; the conference is not just a training meeting for PACE chairs, but a full fledged conference to benefit any technically minded individual. As you know, IEEE-United States of America was born this year. We now have our national professional organization under the IEEE umbrella. The PACE conference will become a self-supporting professional career conference and draw many interested individuals beyond the PACE network. The expanded focus was evident in this year's PACE Conference, which featured increased attendance by young GOLD (Graduates Of the Last Decade) engineers and a hard-cover conference record that can be ordered by those unable to attend.

Dale Caston, our Director, recommends and I encourage each Regional IEEE organization to review George McClure's PACE projects list, pick one for immediate implementation, and then find a good project to sink your teeth into for spring 1999. I will be asking about your success stories in the near future.

SPECIAL REVIEW

Roy H. Harris

In accordance with the Region 3 Operations Manual, each standing committee will be reviewed every four years in order to determine the administrative and management effectiveness of committee operations. This process is important to assist the Regional Director and the

EXCOM to make needed changes to our committee charters and structures to meet the changing nature of our membership needs.

In order for this review process to work, the current committee chair must submit documentation on the committee activity over the period of the review. This documentation should include meeting minutes, annual goals & objectives including results and other pertinent data deemed important by the Chair.

The 1998 schedule for these reviews is as follows:

Educational Activities - Final Report to EXCOM 1/98 Complete; Student Activities - Reed Thompson was assigned this review in 1997 to be completed in 1998. Status: Reed is waiting for the data package from Pat Donohoe to start.

Conference - Committee Assigned as follows: W.L. (Sully) Sullivan, Chair; Dan Jackson; Status: Jim Howard has promised to get the data package to the committee as soon as possible.

Membership Development - Committee Assigned as follows: Dave Green, Chair; Vernon Powers, Lea Brothers; Status: In progress

The schedule was to have these reviews complete and submitted to the Fall ExCom for acceptance in 1998.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Bob Duggan

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) is composed of past Region 3 Directors. We thus provide the Region 3 Director with a wealth of experience to assist in carrying out his programs.

The Institute, IEEE-USA, and RAB have now completed their respective Strategic Plans. In 1998 your SPC has essentially completed the Region 3 Strategic Plan, which also includes Goals and Objectives with assigned responsibilities. As much as possible, our Region 3 Plan supports and complements the larger umbrella plans.

Specific areas addressed include membership development, Section leadership, services to members, education, engineer careers, public relations, Region

organization, and the Sections Congress.

The Strategic Planning Committee will seek ExCom approval of the Region 3 Strategic Plan at our 24-25 October meeting in Jackson, MS.

As we review 1998 and look forward to 1999, your SPC appreciates your support and suggestions in helping Region 3 continue to lead the Institute in planning, in new initiatives, and above all in meeting the professional and career needs and aspirations of our members.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Joey Duvall

Numerous student-related activities are underway at this time around Region 3, and throughout other facets of the institute. Among some to watch for are: Branch Leadership Training Workshops, preparations for the upcoming Region 3 Student Conference (at Southeastcon '99) in Lexington, Kentucky, and a completely-refurbished Student Activities website. Further details regarding Training Workshops this Fall may be obtained from the Region 3 Student Activities Chair (RSAC), Dr. Pat Donohoe.

As always, Southeastcon '99 promises to deliver an exciting and worthwhile experience to all. Mark your calendars for 26-29 March and plan to take part! Members of the Student Branch and faculty at the University of Kentucky (and the Lexington Section) are busy planning the Student/Professional Conference program, which will include: paper presentations, software and web page contests, exhibits, tutorials, and of course, the immensely-popular Student Hardware Competition. This year's competition is entitled "A Grand Tour of Kentucky." Participants must design and implement a self-propelled model vehicle through a "tour" of the Bluegrass State's countryside. Readers may find additional details via the Southeastcon '99 website: http://www.engr.uky.edu/student.orgs/IEEE/SouthEastCON_99/ (also check out references throughout this edition of the Region Newsletter). Please encourage student members in

your area to submit papers (deadline for submission of (undergraduate) student papers is 15 February 1999), or to become involved in any of the other opportunities available during this fun and informative conference.

Members of the Student Activities Committee, in a collaborative effort with IEEE Student Services, have begun efforts to render a major "facelift" and overhaul to the existing student website. When completed, the improved website will offer services that more closely meet the needs of the diverse IEEE student population. Watch for updates in the near future. Don't hesitate to submit suggestions and comments - your input is important!

The 1998 IEEE-USA Professional Activities Conference (PACE) was held over Labor Day weekend in Phoenix, Arizona. The conference's theme was *Preparing for the New Millennium*. The program was divided among 6 focus areas, or "tracks:" 2 tracks were designated as GOLD-specific, targeted toward engineers with fewer than 10 years of experience.

Still not sure what "GOLD" is?

As many of you may be aware, a major concern of IEEE membership development is *retention* of student members once they transition into the workforce. This may be due, in part, to the fluctuation and/or decline of students enrolling in engineering programs over the last decade; maybe in part due to the fact that many of the existing programs may not currently appeal to students and younger engineers. In an effort to pro-actively address this issue, the IEEE has introduced a program for Graduates Of the Last Decade (GOLD), specifically targeted at engineers that have recently entered the work force or will soon graduate. There are new programs geared to highlight typical needs of this group. Many local sections in Region 3 have formed GOLD programs. The purpose of local GOLD programs is to encourage membership and participation at the section level, especially for students and "Young Professionals (YPs)." Examples of meeting topics might include: *Career Transitions*, *Developing Leadership*

Skills, Changing Professional Environments, Developing a Proactive Career, and Mentor-Protégé Relationships. In addition, student members may benefit from such events as: having a Human Resources Manager do a resume or interviewing clinic, mock interviews, or setting up an IEEE Mentor Program at the Section level. In general, students have a very hectic lifestyle and not much free time; it is imperative that the events and efforts are targeted to the group's needs. The best way to make sure that happens is to become involved and help drive the programs. These programs are structured to be run by students and YPs for the benefit of *all* members. Your involvement will help ensure this goal is met! For additional information, check with your local sections, explore the **GOLD** homepage: <http://www.ieee.org/ra/gold/>, or contact the Region 3 GOLD Chair, Lea (Brothers) Callahan.

Nominations for the **Larry K. Wilson award** – which serves to recognize a deserving student who has made extraordinary contributions to the IEEE in the interest of Student Activities

– are due by **31 January**. If you know of a student member who has made significant achievements in this area, please take the time to consider them for this prestigious award.

Final notes: don't forget to examine the numerous benefits and discounts, available to members through the *IEEE Financial Advantage Program*: <http://www.ieee.org/fap/index.html>; and to assist in your job quest(s) explore the recently-expanded *Electro-Technologies Industries (ETI) Database*: <http://ie3eti.eng.uab.edu/scripts/newetidb.exe>. As always, feel free to contact me with your questions, concerns, and suggestions regarding student activities.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Pat Donohoe

The University of Kentucky Stu-

dent Branch is busy in preparation for the Region 3 Student Conference at Southeastcon '99 to be held March 26-29 in Lexington, Kentucky. Please encourage the Student Branches in your area to attend Southeastcon and participate in the various student competitions. For details regarding the upcoming Student Conference, see the Southeastcon '99 website at http://www.engr.uky.edu/student.orgs/IEEE/SouthEastCON_99/. Four separate Student Branch Leadership Training Workshops are being conducted this fall at locations throughout Region 3. The workshops are designed to bring new Student Branch leaders up to speed quickly so that their branch will have a productive and rewarding year. The sites include: Birmingham, Alabama (University of Alabama at Birmingham); Charlottesville, Virginia (University of Virginia); Nashville, Tennessee (Vanderbilt University); and Tampa, Florida (University of South Florida).

SOUTHEASTCON '99

MARCH 25-29, 1999

Conference Scope

SoutheastCON is the annual IEEE Region 3 Technical, Professional, Student Conference established to bring Electrical and Computer Engineering professionals, faculty and students together to share information through technical sessions, tutorials, and exhibits. It is the most influential outlet in Region 3 for promoting awareness of technical contributions made by our profession to the advancement of engineering science and society. Attendance and technical program participation from areas outside IEEE Region 3 are encouraged and welcomed.

Topics of Interest

Southeastcon '99 program committee cordially invites interested authors to submit original papers dealing with all aspects of electrical engineering specifically on topics of current interest. Papers that may be submitted include those that have not previously been published or presented elsewhere. Full-length papers (full-paper refereed) and Short papers (abstract refereed) on all topics in electrical/computer engineering interest are being solicited from prospective authors.

Important Dates and schedule include:

Initial Full-length Paper Submission Date - November 1, 1998

Initial Short Paper Submission Date - December 1, 1998
Author Notification Date - January 1, 1999
Final Camera-ready Paper Due Date - February 1, 1999

Submission Instructions

All submissions should include the title, author(s), authors affiliation, addresses (postal and email) and key words. In case of multiple authors, indicate the correspondence author. This can be accomplished by submitting a "Paper Submission Cover Sheet" which is available via the internet. Potential contributors are encouraged to submit their papers in electronic forms in Postscript format to walcott@engr.uky.edu. For inquiry about the technical program and queries concerning paper submission, please send email to the technical program chair at walcott@engr.uky.edu. Please also consult the homepage for SoutheastCON 99 for further instructions at:

http://www.engr.uky.edu/student.orgs/IEEE/SouthEastCON_99/

1. Full Paper (Entire Paper Refereed)

Submit four (4) copies of a paper to the Technical Program Chair by the due date. The paper length is limited to twenty (20) double-spaced pages (including references and figures) and the final camera-ready paper is restricted to eight (8) conference proceedings pages. The text should be printed on 8.5"x11" paper, in one column format, in 10 points or a larger font size.

2. Short Paper (Abstract Refereed)

Submit four (4) copies of a paper summary and separate abstract to the Technical Program Chair. The abstract must be on a separated sheet and limited to one page. The summary should not exceed 500 words. The summary should be complete and should include (a) statement of problems or questions addressed, (b) objective of work with regards to the problem, (c) approach employed, (d) progress or work performed, and (e) important results and conclusions. Since the summary will be the basis for selection, care should be taken in its preparation so that it is representative of the work to be reported. Short papers, not exceeding four (4) camera-ready proceedings pages (including references and figures) will be published subject to acceptance by the Papers Review Committee and the author's fulfillment of additional requirements contained in the author's kit.

Call for Tutorials

Proposals are invited for organizing tutorials. Please send your proposal to Prof. Bruce L. Walcott, the Technical Program Chair, by December 1, 1998. The proposals should include the objectives of the tutorial, a brief description (200-500 words), a tutorial outline, intended audience, the length of the tutorial (half-day/full-day), and a one page vita of the lecture.

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Southcon®/99 Comes To NE Atlanta

**The Electronic Exposition and Conference Will Take Place April 13 - 15, 1998
at the Gwinnett Civic and Cultural Center in Duluth, Georgia**

Southcon®/99 will return to the Atlanta area, in a new location Northeast of Atlanta. Southcon®/99 will be held with the cooperation of the ERA Dixie Chapter and the Atlanta Section of IEEE and the Southcon Board. The decision to locate the show in Duluth was based on the large number of electronic oriented industries in the area. Engineers and buyers at these firms will have access to displays of the most up to date OEM products, tools and ideas. Plan now to exhibit or attend. The number of booths is limited, reserve your space now.

SMTA to Co-locate with Southcon®/99

The Surface Mount Technologies Association Atlanta Chapter will Co-locate its SMTA 1999 Expo with Southcon on Thursday April 15, at the Gwinnett Civic and Cultural Center. SMTA was organized in 1996 to serve suppliers and users of surface mount technology.

Southcon, which has traditionally been component oriented, and SMTA, which is Surface Mount Technology equipment, materials and supply oriented, are two facets of the same manufacturing industry, reflecting the trend towards smaller, lighter products. In 1999, Southcon and SMTA hope to capitalize on the synergy between the two organizations by joining together for one day in the Gwinnett Center as Southcon returns to Atlanta.

The proximity of the Gwinnett Convention Center allows local industry to turn out in force for the opportunity to see the latest in equipment, materials and supplies under one roof.

This will be the 3rd show SMTA has held in the Atlanta area. The first Atlanta SMTA Expo was held in the spring of 1996 as a table-top show in the ballroom (upstairs) of the Gwinnett Center. The organizers were somewhat surprised at the response, and more than 50 booths were squeezed into the ballroom and the adjoining halls and lobby.

In 1997, chapter organizers took a giant leap forward with a pipe-and-drape show in Hall C of the Convention Center, selling 80 booths.

Local industry turned out in force for the opportunity to see the latest in equipment, materials and supplies under one roof, and to attend the technical programs offered both years. The proximity of the Gwinnett Center allowed companies to send many more people to the SMTA Expo than they were able to send to the large West Coast shows, and face-to-face meetings and discussion of current problems and needs created many new relationships and strengthened old relationships.

ERA Dixie Chapter

The Dixie Chapter of ERA at a Board of Directors meeting in June 1998 approved Southcon for Atlanta. Dixie Chapter members will participate in Southcon®/99. Southcon Director Deb Powers is forming a local Show Committee that will include members of the Chapter.

Gwinnett County Technology Profile

Gwinnett County is the Southeast's dynamic center for communications technologies. Gwinnett is home to more than 480 high-tech companies, 315 of them employ at least 100 professionals. Southcon is where engineers and buyers from the Gwinnett area and elsewhere will find the solutions they have been looking for. Plan now to reserve your exhibit space and attendance time.

For More Information

Mail to:

Southcon
8110 Airport Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90045

Phone 800-877-2668
FAX 310-641-5117
E-Mail southcon@ieee.org

TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

The Technical Conference at *Southcon*^{®/99}, tutorials and short courses, works in tandem with the leading edge technologies displayed on the show floor, and the latest technology in current use locally. It also offers unique educational opportunities for engineering professionals who want to explore critical design and management solutions of immediate applicability to their project needs. Possible subjects include wireless technology and communications.

Southcon conference speakers are all highly-credentialed experts in their respective topic areas. No sales pitches.

SEE US ON THE WEB

www.southcon.com

The Southcon Web Site offers
Latest Exhibition Details

Exhibitors, get added visibility.

An exhibitor can now reach out via the Southcon Web site to customers at discounted rates to promote their products and services.

YES!

You can register on the web. It's **FREE**

BOOTH PRICING

Southcon^{®/99} booth pricing is a great value. A three day booth (10' X 10') with pipe and drape including aisle carpet is only \$1900. Certain discounts for early bird and ERA members apply. As usual corners will cost \$200 more.

Win a LAPTOP at *Southcon*^{®/99}

Win one of three laptops to be given away at *Southcon*^{®/99}. Each day of the show one laptop will be given to a registrant actually attending, in a random drawing.

Be a part of the fun!



**Student
Hardware Design
Competition**
at
IEEE SouthEastCON 1999
March 26 – 29, 1999, Lexington, KY

A total of \$2500 in scholarship prizes to be awarded!

All participating branches are guaranteed a prize



Enter Today!

To enter sign up at the SouthEastCON 1999 web site:
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SECTIONS CONGRESS '99

October 8-11, 1999

Minneapolis Hilton
Minneapolis, Minnesota

By Daniel W. Jackson, SC'99 Coordinator

Sections Congress '99 is only one year away; October 8 - 11, 1999 in Minneapolis, MN. The program is well underway and will have 84 sessions covering 42 different topics, each of which is valuable in organizing and running successful Sections and Chapters. These topics are organized into four groups, Successful Sections and Chapters, Serving Professional Needs, Growing Membership, and a general group. Every Section in the world is expected to send one primary delegate who will receive partial funding from the Regional Activities Board. Region 3 will provide additional assistance for its sections with the expectation that each Section provide its share, estimated to be about \$400. Additional delegates are welcome but the delegate must find full funding, approximately \$1000 plus airfare.

This is the sixth triennial Sections Congress, and each has built upon the success of the previous Congress. Everyone who attends come home very enthusiastic. Following are comments from Butch Shadwell, Florida Council, about his experience in '93 and '96.

"I have been an active IEEE member for over twenty years. To be sure, I have found many valuable facets to my membership, but none has had a more profound impact on my understanding of what it means to be a part of this noble profession than attending the Sections Congresses in Puerto Rico and Denver.

"I have always been impressed with the quality of people I meet at IEEE functions, but I was unprepared to find that the level of quality was unencumbered by international borders. It was an uplifting experience to meet engineers from all over the globe with whom there was an immediate sense of partnership. Not only because our educational and professional histories had so much in common, but also to learn that our individual wants and concerns were the same. Meetings like this are the stuff that the future is made of, and the IEEE provides an invaluable service by facilitating it.

"Sections Congress is such a large group of professionals that you are virtually guaranteed you will meet other engineers with similar interests. It was also very interesting for me to discuss problems in section operation with people from other countries experiencing similar problems. There were many discussions of standards that impact our business on a global basis as well.

"If you get an opportunity to represent your section at Sections Congress, don't let it get away. It will definitely be an experience that will enhance your career and your person."

For more information contact Dan Jackson <d.jackson@ieee.org> or Mary Ann Hoffman <m.a.hoffman@ieee.org>, phone 732-562-5506.



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