IEEE Region 3
Newsletter

IEEE

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Dale Caston

It was my pleasure to present 50 year anniversary banners to the Miami and Virginia Mountain Sections this year. This is a real milestone of service for these two sections and the Region congratulates them for their extended activities since 1949. The Virginia Mountain Section had invited both IEEE President Ken Laker and IEEE-USA President Paul Kostek and the Regional Director. Ken Laker was unable to attend due to the weather caused by Hurricane Floyd, but Paul Kostek gave an interesting speech on the state of IEEE-USA. The Director presented the 50 year anniversary banner to Section Chair Dan Jackson. In May, the Director presented a similar banner to the Miami Section Chair Osama Mohammed at their meeting at the University of South Florida.

Sections Congress 1999 is planned for 8-11 October in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Our Regional Coordinator Dan Jackson reports as of this writing that about 33 sections will have delegates at this congress. It is a great opportunity for the section leaders to obtain good training and to participate in the recommendations that will be made to make the IEEE an improved organization. In addition to the primary delegates, nearly 23 other people from our Region will attend as secondary delegates, session speakers or IEEE committee members. Several of Region 3 volunteers will be leading sessions and Secretary Dave Green is serving on the Program Committee responsible for the Red Track "Successful Sections and Chapters."

Speaking of sections, one of the Region's goal is to have each section elect officers on a calendar year basis. Many of the sections are making plans to change from mid-year to calendar year and I encourage the other sections to consider this move. As stated in early articles, the main advantages are: (1) Makes year end reporting of meetings, financial and officers simpler, (2) it will reduce the cost for the IEEE in the printing, mailing and clerical time for the Geographical Organization Roster; and 3) it will aline the selection of section officers with region Executive Committee members.

Section leadership need to take every advantage to encourage student participation in section meetings. Some sections use the following means to assist students: 1) subsidize the meal cost for a reduced price for students, b) provide transportation from campus to meetings, c) schedule section meeting on or nearby campus for ease in attendance, d) insure that there is a student representative on the section executive committee. Since the students are the future of IEEE, we need to both recruit and try to maintain membership of the students after graduation.

The IEEE-USA sponsored the Professional Development Conference (PDC) in Dallas this past Labor Day weekend. Region 3 was well represented and one of our members, George McClure, was given the Award for Distinguished Contributions to Engineering Professionalism. Our congratulations are extended to George for this award. It was a good conference and one of the actions taken was a vote requesting that the IEEE logo retain the kite and arrow for the right hand rule. There is an IEEE Branding Committee that is studying the possibility of changing the logo. A motion from this committee is planned for the next Board of Directors meeting in November. Also, recommendations from the IEEE Streamlining and

What's Inside......

New Financial Model Committees are expected at that same meeting.

A new Director-Elect will be selected this fall and either of the candidates Jim Howard or Charles Hickman will provide leadership to this Region to achieve worthwhile goals and be an example of service to the other nine regions. It has been a busy two years and I do appreciate the hard work of the Executive Committee members, Section leaders and members. It has been a real privilege to work with such a good group of volunteers in the best Region in IEEE. As Dick Riddle becomes Director, I wish him success and continued member support during his term. If you have not voted, please do so very soon since the deadline is that the ballots must be received in the IEEE office by noon on 1 November 1999.

DIRECTOR-ELECT

Dick Riddle

My compliments to all of the Region 3 ExCom and the Region's volunteer leaders who have given so much of their time and talents to make 1999 another year to be proud of. In particular I would like to commend Don Hill and his SoutheastCon '99 team that provided us with an outstanding regional conference. I feel sure that George Cook, Saleh Zein-Sabatto and their SoutheastCon '2000 team are hard at work in an attempt to equal or surpass that record. I feel that Bill Harrison and his Corporate Relation's Project team has made tremendous progress in making companies conscious of what IEEE can do for them and their technical professional employees. I have watched with eager anticipation as Dave Green, Bill Ratcliff, Bob Duggan and the Region 3 e-Conferencing Project team working so hard and diligently to make electronic meetings a reality for our ExCom and other committees within the Region. I can assure you that it is my intent to fully exploit the benefits of electronic conferencing during my term as Region 3 Director.

As we bring the curtain down on the 1998-1999 term of office for our Director Dale Caston, I would like to congratulate him on his leadership and commend all of those who have made his term another remarkable success for the Region. I hope and pray that you will give me the support and dedication to continue making Region 3 the region others try to emulate.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

David Green

I hope you are having a good year both personally and in association with IEEE. IEEE and Region 3 have been working to make more resources available through the web and hopefully you are seeing the results. More sections are distributing their newsletters by e-mail and the web freeing up dollars in their budget for other programs.

One of the most intense Region 3 Projects that I have been involved with this year is the E-Conferencing Project. This project seeks to develop guidelines for using electronic technologies such as Internet Relay Chat, Newsgroups, etc. for conducting IEEE business (especially project meetings) electronically. We have been through a design cycle, beta testing (Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) use, Area 3 meeting, Electronic Communications Committee as well as others), a demo at the Professional Development Conference in Dallas, and a "rollout" presentation at Sections Congress. At least 12 members of the ExCom have been involved in one phase or another of this project. The group used these technologies almost exclusively during the project holding weekly meetings between April and October with good participation (average of 5 per meeting) during the effort. After training, it is an effective way to do projects and get participation while being frugal with IEEE funds. Region 3 SPC has continued their use of these guidelines beyond

the beta cycle to conduct some of their business. I think you will be seeing more uses of this and allied technologies. More information on this project and a list of the e-Conference Project Team members are available at http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/e-conf/ .

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. You can also do this through the web using the information you were given with your renewal package. 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.

You can also access the Region 3 Web Site (listed elsewhere in this issue) for current Region officer information as well as Regional events such as SoutheastCon 2000. These volunteers are trying to make your IEEE membership valuable to you. Contact them if you have any issues in their designated areas of responsibilities or to volunteer to help out.

It has been my pleasure to work with Dale Caston and his ExCom these last two years. I thank him and you for the opportunity to serve.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Charles E. Hickman

The Region 3 finances are well and strong. Through August 31, 1999, the actual receipts of $141,074 exceed the budgeted amount of $138,802. Year-to-date expenditures are $86,246 against a budget of $167,418. However, Sections Congress '99 and the December Executive

Committee represent major travel expenses for the remainder of the year. The RAB support for Sections Congress '99($14,319) has been received, and the Region has allocated an additional $20,000. We are encouraging every Region 3 Section to be represented in Minneapolis.

Income from both Southcon ($9,750) and SoutheastCon '99($10,639) exceeded the budget estimate. PACE funds from IEEE-USA($14,283) and support for the MDC Corporate Relations project represent major IEEE commitments to our Region. The IEEE Concentration Account has earned $3,059 in interest, and the Long Term Investment Account has increased in value by $8,221 to a total of $114,510.

As noted above, the budget situation is excellent, so please review your goals and objectives for approved programs to ensure that we serve our members well.

PAST DIRECTOR

James H. Beall

A Message of Thanks

Last March 28, at the Region 3 Annual meeting Awards Luncheon I received two awards for which I am very grateful. The first was the IEEE Regional Activities Board Leadership Award. The other was our own Region 3 Outstanding Service Award. That Sunday was recognition time, the second half of Awards and Recognition. Boy, what a recognition. At the time I was asked if I had any thing to say. I declined, you have no idea what all those flash bulbs can do to you.

Let me now say some words of thanks to a lot of people. Regional Activities Vice President, Dan Benigni said some very kind and nice words that day, to him and RAB the utmost of thanks. To all the members of this region, whose help and support are essential; to the success of any endeavor and accomplishment many, many thanks. To the leadership of Region 3 for their wise guidance and support a large thanks. I also give thanks to many close friends and associates, who hopefully know who they are. Apparently last, but certainly not least, thanks and recognition to my best friend and dear wife, Nina for her support throughout our marriage.

We got married when I was a society president and its been on the go ever since.

I've met a lot of people over the years in IEEE, they are all great and I'm glad to have known them. It's been a good run and I still do not see the end of the trail.

Speaking of Awards and Recognition it is that time of year to nominate deserving persons for awards and recognition at all levels of the Institute, from your Chapter, Section and Region to the IEEE Medal of Honor. Once the awardees have been chosen, please see that they receive proper Recognition from their peers, friends and relatives. That is the crowning joy of the Award.

P.S. Has anyone got a picture from behind those flash bulbs? I'd like to see one.

VIRGINIA COUNCIL

Adeed Hamzey

The Spring and Summer were provided much needed time to re-align our section bylaws with the new IEEE procedures regarding section treasury, section reporting, and section officers elections. Some creative thinking and maneuvers took place. Who said engineers aren't innovative?

On the scouts front, the Virginia Council taking the initiative to pursue activities that benefit scouting for boys and girls. John Cross, Virginia Council Membership chairman and Lynn Simms, of the Central Virginia Girl Scouts organization are working on a project that will provide girl scouts with opportunities to experiment with electrical and electronic kits. The goal is to provoke interest among the young scouts in electricity and electronics. Presently, cost estimates and designs are being finalized for a science fair for the girl scouts. Also, sources of funding are being sought. The Boy Scout Jamboree Project was honored at the 1999 Professional Development Conference in Dallas over the Labor Day weekend. The

Pre-college Education Committee had an exhibit throughout the conference where the project description and copies of the first issue of the Jamboree Project newsletter were available. Discussion have been held with the Girl Scouts in Richmond, Virginia to discuss their Energy Badge. Additional discussions will be held with the national office of the Girl Scouts to determine how to incorporate girl scouts in the Jamboree Project. Kits for the electricity and electronics merit badges are being developed by a group in Bastrop, Texas. The kits will be packaged for use by any group wanting to work with pre-college students to teach them the basics of electricity and electronics. The Jamboree Project team is working with the IEEE Corporate Communications Group to develop a public relations plan. The goal is to get groups in all Regions involved with getting students interested in electricity, electronics and computer engineering careers. Anyone interested in working on the Jamboree Project team should contact Ralph W. Russell, II at r.w.russell@ieee.org

IEEE members can access the Scanner home page for information about activities in the Northern Virginia Section and the National Capital Area. The address is: http://ewh.ieee.org/r2/capitalarea/scanner.htm

Low section meeting attendance is still an issue for Virginia Sections. Attempts are being made to plan these meetings in conjunction with other societies, to improve communications and boost attendance. For example, the Richmond Section will hold a joint meeting with ISA.

The Virginia Council is going forward with plans to conduct a series of public relations workshops for the sections, to encourage section members to get involved in their communities, and thus, have the opportunity to publicize their skills, knowledge, and usefulness as active volunteers in a variety of specialties needed by the public. The workshops are geared towards building an action plan, that participants can execute in their communities to boost their section involvement.

On the legislative front, Sam Harris drafted a letter to go to all state delegates explaining the IEEE and its legislative initiative. The letter is intended for distribution prior to the General Assembly con-

vening next January 2000. Each delegate will have an IEEE contact from his/her district. This contact is a resource for the delegate and staff on technical issues in question.

Virginia Council Sections have the benefit of Sean Haynes' multi-media presentation entitled "GOLD Volunteering Opportunities. How to Start a Successful GOLD Chapter". Section officers are looking forward to establishing GOLD Volunteer Programs in their communities.

Virginia Council Sections are considering the Mailers+4 postal address preparation program. According to a presentation by Sean Haynes, during a recent Virginia Council meeting, this program pays for itself by allowing the section to take advantage of several U.S. Postal Service discount programs. In addition, his section found the average delivery time dropped below two days from over a week. Andy Hargrove sought input from Virginia Council members with regards to Region 3 Goals and Objectives. Cherie Kronimus made her parting comments. She noted the use electronic communications has substantially improved the operation of the Council. She expressed appreciation for the forum provided by the Council. She encouraged Council members to emphasize the sharing of solutions to common problems and not just make reports. Cherie relocated to Northern Virginia (Region 2). She has been very instrumental in the conduct of Virginia Council affairs. She will be greatly missed, for valued contributions and dedication to IEEE Virginia Council activities.

The Virginia Council and the Virginia Coordinating Council will have representative members in the Virginia Math and Science Coalition. This will provide IEEE access to the organization, for mutual benefits.

Virginia Council members extend their deepest sympathy to fellow IEEE member and dear friend Val Bodin on the loss of his wife, who passed away Labor Day weekend, after a long battle with cancer.

AREA 3
GEORGIA

William B. Ratcliff

Area 3 conducted its first electronic meeting using the e-conf Guidelines during the beta testing phase. The e-conference saved not only travel expenses but also allowed for exchanging information between the sections in an interactive mode as opposed to e-mail. A future meeting has been established for mid November to follow up on Section's Congress 99 and exchange ideas on sharing speakers between sections.

The contacting of members in arrears continues to be one of the activities to be improved. Discovering the member's needs and then providing the products and services at the local level are some of the greatest challenges to achieving "customer satisfaction" and retaining members. The "catch 22" of member participation (members that are active in IEEE receive the greatest benefit but receiving benefit is often a prerequisite to participation) plagues most section executive committees.

Coordination and sharing ideas, experiences, visions and plans is the highest priority for Area 3.

FLORIDA COUNCIL

Butch Shadwell

As Sections Congress is approaching, I hope that all sections have their delegates selected and all arrangements in place for their travel. Every section should be represented, please make sure that someone is attending for your section.

We will be having our second council meeting this year in Daytona. Al Helfrick and his Student Branch at Embry-Riddle, are trying to organize a state wide student meeting to coincide with the Florida Council meeting. I hope this becomes a regular event in Florida. Also, I would like to see the student branches in Florida develop a network of phone numbers and e-mails that is kept current each term so that all student groups would know who they can call to compare notes from the students perspective. Area 4 has always performed well in the Region 3 Robot Competition. I hope we will see more of our student branches compete next year.

I intend to organize the end of year training session in Florida again this year. This was found to be very useful last year and as we are converting all of our sections to run terms of office during the calendar year, this seems to be the most effect time. Calendars are getting very crowded already and I am having some trouble scheduling a date at this time.

Running the election of Council officers by email seemed to work quite well last year. We will solicit nominees at the October Council meeting but feel free to send nominations to Dr. Osama Mohammed (o.mohammed@ieee.org).

My two year term as Florida Council Chair is nearing an end. I would like to take this time to thank all of those volunteers in Florida who have so generously given their time to support the IEEE and the Florida Council. Certainly the greatest reward of serving in an IEEE position is the host of excellent people with whom you get to work. I feel especially blessed with the team here in Florida. I would also like to thank Dale and the other Region 3 volunteers who have done so much to support the sections in Florida and me as Council Chair.

Important Web Addresses to Know

R3 Web Site:
http://sandbox.ieee.org/r03/

ETI Web Site:
http://sandbox.ieee.org/r03/eti/eti.html

Region 3 e-Conferencing Project
http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/e-conf/sc99/

AREA 9
JAMAICA

Dennis Hartley

The Section Meeting venue for twenty-two years was renovated and is now being used as an office. Consequently, meetings are now being held at the Le Meridian Jamaica Pegasus Hotel.

Section meetings were held in January, February, May, June and September. ExCom meetings were held January to May. JamCon 2K meetings have been ongoing and promotion to local companies, is the main focus at this time.

A decision was taken earlier this year to move the term of office from June to January and this will commence as of January 1, 2000. Regrettably, the Section will lose one of its officers before the end of the term.

Although the Communications Society is registered, there has been no meeting to date. This will definitely be corrected before the end of the year. The petition for the Power Engineering Society is almost ready and will be sent, also before the end of the year. Before this is sent off, the signing of the petition for the Computer Society will commence.

Dr. Halden Morris will represent Jamaica at Sections Congress this year. He is presently nominated to be the next Section Chair.

COMMUNICATIONS

Lee Stogner

The Region 3 Communications Committee has been active this summer participating in the E-Conferencing project. This project seeks to develop guidelines for using a number of electronic technologies to foster good communications between members. This type of communications can be point to point between two people or between a group of people. In fact the Communications Committee met as a whole one night this summer using an Internet "Chat" application. With Chat, you can communicate with others by typing your messages on a PC. Your message is displayed on a common screen that can be accessed by people anywhere in the world through the Internet. One member of the group acts as the host. The host coordinates who types at any one time so that everyone gets a chance to participate in turn. With a little practice, a group can have an organized meeting without the expense and time of travel. A report about the progress of the E-Conferencing project will be given at Sections Congress '99 by William Ratcliff. For more information on the project, please access the website at http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/e-conf/

One of the hardest things to do is to tell others about yourself. Engineers in particular have a hard time sharing with others the accomplishments that they have earned. We do need to tell the local press in the Southeast about the good work that IEEE members do in their community. What has been missing is a good kit of instructions about how to write a press release or what to say to the local TV station or Newspaper. We have been working with IEEE to build a PR kit for section use. The information is being assembled now and will be downloadable from the Region 3 website. The website also needs to know more about the sections in Region 3. If your section web address has changed or is new, please let me know so we can provide a link to you from the Region 3 web site. Also if you have comments about the format and content of the region web site, please let me know. We'll make changes to support your needs.

Finally if you know a good IEEE story, please let me know. We'll write an article and post it in the next issue of IEEE-USA This Week.

CONFERENCES

Jim Howard

The next conference committee meeting will be held at the Region 3 Executive Committee Meeting in Nashville, Tennessee on December 4, 1999. At that meeting we will be discussing the upcoming SoutheastCon 00 and Southcon/00 conferences. In addition, we will be looking into future SoutheastCon's and Southcon's and other conferences that will be held in the Region.

Future SoutheastCon's

Sections 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. They should also be planning to attend the upcoming meeting of the Conference Committee where they will have the opportunity to discuss SoutheastCon with the current and past Chairs of the conference. If your Section is interested in hosting a future SoutheastCon, please contact Jim Howard, the Region 3 Conference Committee chair (j.howard@ieee.org) or Charles Lord, the Conference Committee Vice-Chair (c.j.lord@ieee.org).

SoutheastCon '00

SoutheastCon '00 will be held in Nashville, Tennessee. The local committee for this conference is working hard to make this one of the most outstanding SoutheastCon's in recent history. This conference will follow the model of placing all three components (Region 3 meetings, technical conference, and the student conference), in parallel. Make your plans now to attend!!!

Southcon/00

Southcon/00 will be held in Orlando,

Florida on May 23-25, 2000. This year will be the first time this show has been held at the Orlando Expo Center, which is downtown near Church Street Station. 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, so be sure to plan to attend and support the show. If you would like more information about this show, please check the web page at http://soutcon.com or contact the show manager, Tom Klote at t.klote@ieee.org (ph: 407-226-2319).

Other Items

If your Section has a conference planned, please send information about it to the Region 3 Conference Committee Chair at (j.howard@ieee.org), or to Charles Lord, the Conference Committee Vice-Chair (c.j.lord@ieee.org). We would very much like to hear about your Sections or Chapters upcoming Conferences so we can list them in the Region 3 Newsletter.

GOLD REPORT

Sean Haynes

It has been a very interesting year as the Region 3 GOLD Representative. I have attended the RAB GOLD meetings in Newark, NJ last spring, and the RAB GOLD meeting in Dallas, TX during the Professional Development Conference. At these meetings we discussed many of the ways that we can improve the GOLD program. There are also plans in the works for better resource information, instructional videos, and the resumption of the GOLD newsletter.

From these meetings, we have discovered that one of the major problems with the GOLD program is that we basically put our cart before our horse. We explained to everyone about this wonderful program that we have in place and how everyone should take advantage of it. However, when members would contact us about local GOLD programs, we would have to say, "Sorry, but your section doesn't have one." And then in the next breath "But how would you like to start

one?" This is no way to get the program started.

So, we are going to take a few steps back and get horse hitched right. In order for a section to have a recognized GOLD program, it must form what IEEE calls and "Affinity Group". An affinity group is operated just like a Chapter, except it is not tied to any Society. Forming an affinity group is much like forming a chapter. Six members of the section must sign a petition to form an affinity group. The six members need not be GOLD members. For more information, visit http://www.ieee.org/scs/forms_petitions/affform.html or contact me. For every affinity group that holds 2 meetings a year, the parent entity will receive an extra $150 of rebate money!

The next big question is funding. Any section that does not have a GOLD Affinity Group, is eligible to receive up to $500 of funding from RAB under the Quick Start Incentive Fund (QSIF) program. This program will give an entity $200 unmatched and $300 matched funds to start a GOLD program. For more information on the QSIF program visit the GOLD website at http://www.ieee.org/gold/.

One last item. I have established a Region 3 GOLD e-mail list. If you are interested in joining this list, please contact me below. I hope start using this list to communicate more effectively with the GOLD programs in the region.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

K. Reed Thompson

A LEADERSHIP TRAINING WORKSHOP for SECTION OFFICERS was held in conjunction with the Region 3 Committee meeting and SoutheastCon '99 on Saturday morning March 27 in Lexington, KY. A over twenty 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.

An additional training workshop for Section officers is planned to be held the first weekend in December in Nashville, TN for the Tennessee Council and others who may wish to attend.

A workshop highlighting the training techniques of Region 3 was conducted at Section's Congress '99 in Minneapolis, MN on October 9, 1999 for Section officers from all over the world.

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Bill Harrison

During the past year, the IEEE Region 3 Membership Development Committee (MDC) planned and conducted a Corporate Relations Pilot Project. The principal goal of the Region 3 pilot project was to determine methods to increase corporate support of member participation in IEEE activities, and, in turn, to increase membership in the Institute. The scope of the project included developing a set of tools to help reverse the current downward trend in industry support of IEEE member activities.

The project was conducted with five objectives in mind: (1) review existing IEEE materials, (2) identify IEEE products and services that are seen as valuable by employers, (3) develop a set of materials for briefing corporate executives, (4) gather feedback from a limited number of executives, and (5) produce a set of tools for Sections and Chapters. A common theme for the pilot study was to determine how the IEEE can meet the needs of members, particularly local Section and Chapter Officers, to help IEEE members approach corporate executives with specific information on how IEEE involvement can directly benefit their business.

An example of pilot project results includes a corporate visit to BellSouth in Atlanta. BellSouth is interested in upgrading the skills of its network profes-

sionals, and asked whether the IEEE would consider providing training/education and certification for specific technical disciplines such as Cisco networking. IEEE staff and volunteers participated in follow-up meetings with BellSouth executives. Ongoing discussions are underway to determine how the IEEE can best serve BellSouth's and other employers' needs to upgrade and measure technical employees' skill levels.

One lesson learned from the pilot project is that when we make visits to corporate executives and ask, "What can IEEE do for you?", IEEE representatives need to be able to formulate and provide appropriate, timely responses. An important recommendation from the Corporate Relations Pilot Project is to establish a mechanism to deal with questions and issues raised during corporate visits so responses can be developed in concert with current IEEE initiatives, objectives, and long term strategic plans. IEEE support for volunteers in their local Corporate Relations activities should be jointly developed by Regional and Technical Activities.

The Region 3 Corporate Relations Project team introduced a multimedia CD-ROM that incorporates text, video, and audio. It encourages IEEE members to conduct corporate visits and promote the IEEE. The Corporate Relations CD uses a variety of techniques to illustrate how members could go about planning and carrying out visits with corporate managers and executives. It guides the IEEE member through the steps involved in a corporate presentation, researching the organization and its needs, arranging a meeting, and approaching the executive. The CD covers what to discuss during the meeting, how to address "tough" questions, how to "close the sale," and how to follow-up after the meeting. Sample documents can be copied from the CD to the user's PC and adapted for use by local Section and Chapter members.

The Corporate Relations CD was distributed to all Sections Congress '99 attendees in October. Results of the Corporate Relations Pilot Project were presented and workshops on Employer Support were held at Sections Congress. Future Corporate Relations efforts, built on the Region 3 pilot project experience, and on the experience of Sections Con-

gress attendees, were also discussed, as were ideas for expanding Corporate Relations activities to Regions 1 - 6 (United States), Region 7 (Canada), and Regions 8 – 10. Notes from these sessions, project status, and information about future Corporate Relations developments will be available on the Region 3 Membership Development Committee's Corporate Relations Project web site at http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/mdc/cr.

PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

Don Hill

George F. McClure was the 1999 winner of the IEEE-USA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Engineering Professionalism. We are proud of the dedication and great results that George has provided to the members. Please remember to nominate worthy members from your section, area, council, and region.

A Region 3 IEEE Student Branch will present a demonstration of the RESUME PROJECT at SoutheastCon '00 in Nashville. The RESUME PROJECT will provide a member service that will benefit members at the region and Institute levels. Vernon Powers heads this project and welcomes your questions, comments, and help.

The Region 3 SoutheastCon '99 in Lexington provided PACE leaders and section leaders an opportunity to refresh, update, learn, plan, and exchange ideas about PACE projects for members in every section. George McClure did another outstanding job providing the leadership and training. Any PACE leader that needs a copy of George's PACE leaders "To Do List" should contact George by email.

This year's IEEE-USA Professional Development conference provided a myriad of ideas for local PACE projects and meetings. The conference also provided expanded personal training. The conference is now for all IEEE members. Interested members should approach their employer for support to attend next year's conference. Members can view the agenda and topics on the web through the IEEE-USA web page. Back issues of the proceedings can also be purchased through

the web.

It has been my pleasure to serve the Region 3 members as PAOC. I would like to thank all those that helped with this committee.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Bob Duggan

The Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) has actively supported the use of internet chat for cost effective meetings. Already we've held several e-meetings in August and September as we prepare the Region 3 Strategic Plan for Y2K and beyond.

Our intent is support the current and next Region 3 administration by providing the overall guidance/direction for the ExCom and assisting in the definition of the Region's Goals and Objectives.

As we review 1999 and look forward to 2000, your SPC appreciates your support and suggestions in helping Region 3 continue to lead the Institute in new initiatives and above all in meeting the needs and aspirations of our members.

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Joey Duvall

As this will be my last article as Student Representative for Region 3, my first order of business is to extend thanks to the past and present Executive Committee members who have provided mentorship, encouragement, and guidance throughout this endeavor. I've enjoyed

working with you all, and hope to do so on future IEEE ventures as well.

As always, Student Activities are lively at this time around Region 3, and throughout other facets of the institute. Among these are Branch Leadership Training Workshops and preparations for the upcoming Region 3 Student Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. SoutheastCon 2000 promises to deliver an exciting and worthwhile experience to all. The first SoutheastCon to take place during the new Millenium will be hosted by three student branches (Vanderbilt University, Tennessee State University, and Tennessee Tech University), the Nashville Section, and the Tennessee Council. Committee members are hard at work, planning the annual Student/Professional Conference program, which will include: technical paper presentations, the student paper competition (with cash prizes), software and web page contests, exhibits, tutorials, and of course, the always immensely-popular Student Hardware Competition. This year's competition is appropriately centered around the ubiquitous Y2K Bug. Participants must design and implement a self-propelled model vehicle to navigate a course on an octagonal playing field. The vehicles should detect and fix Y2K "glitches" by maneuvering to, retrieving, and depositing carbon steel balls into pre-determined receptacles for points. Additional details and official rules may be found via the Southeastcon 2000 website: http://www.tntech.edu/www/life/orgs/ieee/secon/. Please encourage student members in your area to submit papers (the deadline for undergraduate student paper submission is 15 February 2000), and to participate in the other numerous activities offered during this fun and informative conference!

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 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. Programs are 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)." 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.

Deadline reminders: Student Branches should have their Annual Plan of Activities to IEEE Student Services by 1 November.

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 student members through the IEEE Financial Advantage Program: http://www.ieee.org/fap/index.html. To assist in your job quest(s) explore the recently-expanded Electro-Technologies Industries (ETI) Database: http://ie3eti.eng.uab.edu/scripts/newetidb.exe. Be sure to check out the newly-revised Student website http://sandbox.ieee.org/ for updates, downloadable forms, membership applications, and information on other student-related issues.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

Pat Donohoe

Congratulations to Dr. Bruce Walcott (Student Branch Counselor at the University of Kentucky) for receiving the 1998-99 Outstanding Branch Counselor Award.

Bruce, who also serves as Region 3 Student Activities Vice Chair, was one of nine recipients worldwide. Dr. Walcott received a certificate and a $500 award. In addition, the University of Kentucky Student Branch received $200.

Preparations are underway for the Region 3 Student Conference at SoutheastCon 2000 to be held April 7-9, 2000 in Nashville, Tennessee. 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 2000 website at http://www.tntech.edu/www/life/orgs/ieee/

The following is a summary of the student awards presented at SoutheastCon '99 along with the various student competition results. Thanks to Dr. Bruce Walcott and his team of IEEE students at UK, we had a great Student Conference at SoutheastCon '99.

Larry K. Wilson Award
Juergen Vogel - Georgia Tech
Student Membership Growth Award
North Carolina A&T State University
Exemplary Student Branch Award
University of Alabama at Birmingham
University of Kentucky
Outstanding Region 3 Student Branch
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Student Paper Competition
1st place - Paul Zigrang
Old Dominion University
2nd place - Hiten Sonpal
University of Evansville
3rd place - Jennifer van der Horst
Clemson University
Student Hardware Competition
1st place - University of West Florida
2nd place - University of South Alabama
3rd place - University of Tennessee - Knoxville
Rookie of the year - The Citadel
Student Webpage Competition
1st place - Christian Brothers University
2nd place - University of North Florida
3rd place - University of South Carolina
Student Software Competition
1st place - Christian Brothers University
2nd place - University of Evansville
3rd place - Georgia Tech

Ms. Joey Duvall was also recognized for her outstanding contributions as Region 3 Student Representative.

Introduction To e-Conferencing

Meetings are a critical part of the operation of any global organization. Historically, volunteers in the IEEE have flown millions of miles in order to carry on the face-to-face interaction with other volunteers in order to serve the membership of the Institute and the profession at large. However, with ever-increasing travel costs and ever-decreasing time for IEEE activities, our volunteers need a better mechanism for carrying out necessary meetings.

Electronic meetings are certainly not new to the IEEE. One-way and multi-point video-conferences have been used where the facilities existed to deliver educational programs, extend conferences beyond traditional bounds, and reduce meeting costs. However, the recent explosion of desktop communications ability now afforded the average engineer has changed this concept. Thanks to the Internet and its associated technologies, affordable point-to-point communication is now available on a much wider scale.

This document is being developed by the IEEE Region 3 Electronic Conferencing (e-conf) special project team. This manual provides directions for setting up and carrying out electronic meetings over the Internet from the participants' homes or offices. As there are numerous types of meetings, each having their own quirks and needs, the project team has chosen to concentrate first on the most prevalent types of meetings used by IEEE volunteers. These meetings are centered around the development and execution of projects.

Two basic forms of meetings have been identified for development: Synchronous Project-Oriented Work (SPOW) and Asynchronous Project-Oriented Work (APOW). As used in this document, synchronous means that all parties are on-line and communicating at the same time while asynchronous means that parties do not have to be on-line at the same time. Of course, asynchronous meetings are useful when all participants cannot gather together at the same time to discuss their ideas.

One critical group activity, brainstorming, is given special focus in this work since it has special needs that must be met. Brainstorming is normally a synchronous activity but can, with appropriate process, be conducted in an asynchronous manner. Additionally, even when conducting brainstorming as a synchronous activity, preparation and follow-up activities are normally conducted in an asynchronous manner. Special information targeting electronic conferencing for brainstorming are highlighted in the material that follows.

SPOW efforts are the (near) equivalent of the traditional face-to-face meeting. The technology that has been chosen to conduct synchronous meetings during this development project is Internet Relay Chat (IRC). This technology is similar to a telephone conference call except 1) it is conducted over the Internet (lower cost) and 2) uses typed text instead of voice for communicating.

APOW efforts can be thought of as carrying out work by e-mail although other technologies such as newsgroup, discussion services, web publishing are also available and offer some advantages. Later stages of this project will concentrate on the formal development of tools and guidelines for asynchronous meetings.

This project was developed using the techniques and technologies that are being documented. In practice, the group uses a broad mix of approaches to carry out it's business including both asynchronous and synchronous conferencing: synchronous IRC, e-mail, newsgroups, web pages, and electronic forms.

This work makes several assumptions about the platforms and technology available to the volunteer who might choose to participate in electronic meetings. First, it assumes that modem-based Internet hook-ups at approximately 28.8Kb/s are the normal means of access. Second, that the volunteers, as a group, will choose to use a wide-range of platforms from Windows 3.1 through Windows 2000 as well as other platforms such as the MAC and Linux.

For more detailed information, please see the e-Conferencing web site at *http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/e-conf/*

SoutheastCon Schedule

Conference	Date	Host Section/Branch	Conf Chair
SoutheastCon '2000	April 7-9	Nashville Section	Saleh Zein-Sabatto
SoutheastCon '2001			

SoutheastCon E-mail Contacts

Conference	General Chair	Student Conference
SoutheastCon '2000	Sabatto@harpo.tnstate.edu	jausten@tntech.edu
SoutheastCon '2001		

CALL FOR PAPERS
IEEE SoutheastCon 2000
Nashville Airport Marriott
Nashville, Tennessee
April 7- 9, 2000

Conference Scope:

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

The SoutheastCon 2000 Conference Program includes:

* Technical and Plenary Sessions
* Tutorials and Workshops
* Student Competitions and Exhibit
* IEEE Professional Training
* Social Events

SoutheastCon 2000 is co-hosted by:

* IEEE Region 3
* Tennessee State University
* Tennessee Technical University
* Vanderbilt University
* IEEE Nashville Section and
* IEEE Tennessee Council

Topics of Interest:

The SoutheastCon 2000 program chair cordially invites interested authors from academic institutions and industry to submit original papers dealing with all aspects of electrical engineering topics. Papers should be limited to those that have not previously been published or presented elsewhere. Full-length papers (refereed) and Short papers (abstract) on all topics in electrical and computer engineering are being solicited from prospective authors.

Submission Instruction:

All submissions should include title, author(s), affiliation and address of correspondence author (postal and email), and up to five key words. Interested authors are encouraged to submit their paper in electronic attachment format using MS Words 97 only to sabatto@harpo.tnstate.edu.

1. Full-Length (refereed) Papers:

Submit four (4) copies of the entire paper to the Technical Program Chair by the due date. The paper length is limited to eight (8) pages, 8.5"x11", in one column format and 10 points or larger font size.

2. Short (abstract) Paper:

Submit four (4) copies of an extended abstract (500 words) to the Technical Program Chair. The abstract must include objective of the work, technical approach used, progress of the work performed and the most important results acquired.

Important Dates:

* Initial Full-length Paper Submission Date November 5, 1999
* Initial Short Paper Submission Date December 3, 1999
* Author Notification Date: January 10, 2000
* Final Camera-ready Paper Due Date: February 4, 2000

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1999 Professional Development Conference

by David Bower
East TN PACE Chair and TN Council Vice Chair

A big Texas hospitality was very evident to the 333 registrants as they converged on Dallas for the annual Professional Development Conference, held over Labor Day weekend. Of these, there were 63 GOLD attendees (51 with grants). The conference hotel, the Hyatt Regency at Reunion, was an ideal place to hold this activity with lots of shops and restaurants near by under one roof. The theme this year, "Entering the New Millennium," consisted of six session tracks (including 2 GOLD tracks) with 56 tutorials, workshops and panel discussions designed for today's engineer. There were 14 exhibitors present.

Registration started on Friday, followed by a great reception in Union Station just across the street. The heavy hors d'oeuvres consisted of a wide assortment of food with a tasty Mexican flavor. With this much good food, few had dinner afterwards. After the reception, the various Region, Division and Society meetings were held. Don Hill lead the Region 3 discussion that followed.

With everyone well fed and rested, a full day of activities started on Saturday morning with a welcome by Paul Kostek, IEEE-USA President, and Michael Masten, Conference Chair. Kris Agarwal from the Dallas Section, Jeff Carrell from the Fort Worth Section and George Dean, Region 5 Director, also had words of welcome to convey. Robert M. Lockerd, retired Vice President from Texas Instruments, gave the Keynote address and both entertained and informed us with his presentation. After a coffee break, the various sessions got underway at 9:30. Selecting forums to attend from all the great titles was hard. Such topics as Engineering Career Vitality Survivability in the Next Millennium, Career Management to Ensure Success for the Next Millennium, and Communication Skills for Today's Manager were are timely and relevant to the challenges engineers will face in the next century. One session, in particular, I enjoyed concerned "Improving the Image of Engineers through Membership in the Chamber of Commerce." Debbie Mrazek and LaEarl A. Bryant told us about the importance of joining your local Chamber of Commerce to better support engineers and the profession in general. They mentioned the Telecom Corridor in their area, and the monthly technology luncheon series to keep people abreast of the latest technologies. They have a web site at: <www.telecomcorridor.com>. Another session concerning the "Sloan Career Cornerstone Project/Outreach to Schools" produced a lot of interest from the audience, as evidenced by the question and answer session that followed. The primary target audience for this initiative is undergraduate students, followed by high school students. Some in the audience felt it should be extended to grade school. A CD-ROM is available gratis to IEEE student branches.

The lunch period Keynote Panel discussion was lead by Cinda Voegtli, and four other panelists who conveyed their perspective of the engineering profession in the next millennium.

Other sessions over the next three days included topics on telework, on-line professional development, delegating work responsibilities, networking for technical entrepreneurs, career competitiveness, public awareness of engineering, and building your sections education program. These were just a few of the many excellent sessions.

On Sunday afternoon, Don Hill conducted a Region 3 meeting with 13 participants that covered such topics as H1-B, pension issues, and getting students interested in the engineering profession at an early age. Several representatives mentioned they were seeing more junior high than high school students entering local science fairs.

Thanks are in order to the conference chair, Michael Masten, from the Dallas Section and Joe Lillie (IEEE Vice President for Professional Activities), as the co-chair. The IEEE host sections were Dallas and Fort Worth.

GEORGE McCLURE RECEIVES IEEE-USA AWARD

IEEE-USA's Awards and Recognitions underscoring outstanding contributions to professionalism in electrotechnology were presented at the recent Professional Development Conference (ProDevCon). IEEE-USA President Paul J. Kostek and Awards and Recognition Committee Chair Arthur P. Stern made the presentations at the Hyatt Regency Dallas on Sunday evening, Sept. 5.

Region 3 member George F. McClure is the 1999 recipient of the IEEE-USA Award for Distinguished Contributions to Engineering Professionalism. McClure is being recognized "for his dedicated efforts and outstanding accomplishments during many years of creative leadership in advancing the diverse aims of IEEE professional activities in the United States."

DAVID GREEN RECEIVES EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES BOARD AWARD

David G. Green, University of Alabama at Birmingham, received the Meritorious Service Citation "for outstanding and sustained service to the aims and objectives of the EAB"

REGION 3 MEMBERS RECEIVE IEEE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AWARDS

Syed A. Nasar has been selected as recipient of the 2000 IEEE Nikola Tesla Award by the IEEE Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Awards Board with the following citation: "For leadership in the research, development and design of linear and rotating machines, and contributions to electrical engineering education."

Haniph A. Latchman has been selected as recipient of the 2000 IEEE Undergraduate Teaching Award by the IEEE Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Awards Board with the following citation: "For innovative and inspirational teaching and advancing the use of information technology in education."

Robert H. Krambeck has been selected as co-recipient of the 2000 IEEE Solid-State Circuits Award along with Hung-Fai Law by the IEEE Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Awards Board with the following citation: "For pioneering the introduction and implementation of domino CMOS logic"

Arun G. Phadke has been selected as recipient of the 2000 IEEE Herman Halperin Electric Transmission and Distribution Award by the IEEE Board of Directors on the recommendation of the Awards Board with the following citation: "For leadership in the field of computer relaying and for the conception of the synchronized phasor measurement technique using Global Positioning Systems (GPS) satellite signals."

Congratulations to all of these Region 3 members on their contributions toward the engineering profession.

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SECTIONS CONGRESS '99

LAST SECTIONS CONGRESS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY

OCTOBER 8-11, 1999

DANIEL W. JACKSON
SC'99 COORDINATOR

Sections Congress '99 was held October 8 - 11, 1999 in Minneapolis, MN. Region 3 had approximately 54 members attending as primary delegates, alternate delegates, speakers, or officers of the Institute. Anyone who attended will tell you it was a great experience. To those who did not get to Minneapolis, all I can say is that you really ought to make the next one. That will be the first Sections Congress of the Twenty-First Century in Washington DC in the fall of 2002. It is not too soon to start setting aside section funds to assure that your section will be able to fund a delegate in 2002. Based on past experience, in 2002 the total cost for a delegate, excluding the conference registration, should be approximately $1200. We look forward to having even more Region 3 members in Washington. For more information contact Dan Jackson <d.jackson@ieee.org> or Tracy Hawkins <t.hawkins@ieee.org>