



November, 2003

Volume 38, Number 11

From the Editor

Charles J. Lord, P.E., Newsletter Editor

Get Involved!

In a time of unsure economic conditions and perennial layoffs, EEs are always asking “how can I be sure of keeping my job, or getting another job if I am laid off?” The answer (at least the best answer) is NETWORK, NETWORK, NETWORK. With a plethora of on-line job boards and other classified ads available, the sad fact is that Internet and published ads combined only account for about 10% of all jobs filled. How do we find our next job (and chances are, you will have a “next” job)? Knowing someone at that company is the #1 way of getting that new position. And being involved in a common group with that person is the way to get to know them. So how do we find that common group? The IEEE of course!

The best way to get to know more engineers from more backgrounds, to stay abreast of what is happening in local companies, is to be involved in local IEEE events. And what is the best way to be involved? Help out! (saw that coming, didn't you?). Our section now has 10 active technical chapters representing 16 IEEE societies—almost half of all of the societies in the IEEE! Plus, we have special interest groups or affinity groups in such areas as Women in Engineering, Embedded Systems, Professional Development, K-12 education, and employment issues including software and biotech job seekers.

So how do you get involved? Well, first, come to the many local meetings we have (see the calendar for a sampling, and the on-line calendar for more). Meet the other folks that share your interests. Then get active; there are a lot of “little” things you can do to help out with each of these groups to make them operate and be successful, from assisting with organizing a meeting to helping to pick up the sodas. As we always like to say, “Many hands make for little work.” Being a volunteer in the IEEE is a richly rewarding experience, and a great source

of free management and leadership training which will benefit you throughout your career. Do I guarantee that it will keep you employed 100% of the time? Unfortunately, nothing short of civil service can do that; however, it will give you the best chance possible. And a great time to boot.

Speaking of employment, if any of you are looking for an embedded systems / quality (FDA) and medical device guy with oodles of experience and lots of project management experience, contact me at c.j.lord@ieee.org.

Awards!

Please take this opportunity to accomplish something good and of great value to our profession by nominating a colleague for recognition by an award from our section.

The IEEE awards serve these purposes:

- A form of recognition for outstanding contributions to the art and science of electrotechnology,
- An incentive to youth to emulate excellence,
- A demonstration to the public of the achievements of the profession and its members, and
- The identification of IEEE with these achievements.

From those you know, you are invited to make one or more nominations for the following awards:

- OUTSTANDING ENGINEER AWARD
- OUTSTANDING SERVICE AWARD
- OUTSTANDING ENGINEERING EDUCATOR AWARD

Nominating is as easy as emailing a completed one page form. You will have made an appreciated contribution. Click on “awards” at our website at <http://www.ieee.org/encs> or go directly to <http://ewh.ieee.org/r3/enc/awards.htm>

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From the Desk of the Section Chair

Abhinav Aggarwal (abhinav@ieec.org)

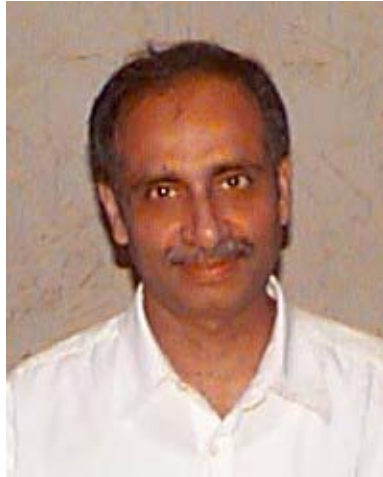
Dear IEEE ENCS Members,

As I had written to you last earlier, we are in the middle of several new initiatives. One of these was the reconstruction of our Section website. Our objective was to shift the focus of activity to our membership by launching the 'virtual community' as a forum for interaction between members, interest groups, society chapters and for inter-exchange of ideas and experiences. Please join me in conveying our special thanks to Charles J Lord, our past Section Chair, PACE Chair and R 3 Leadership Chair, to build the section website and virtual community. Please respond with any suggestions for improvement directly to Charles at: c.j.lord@ieec.org

Another significant initiative is the plan to launch the Entrepreneurship Development Network, for which we have the introduction meeting on November 20, 2003 (see event listed below). Efforts like these can only be sustained by whole-hearted membership participation, involvement and support. Our objective is to bring real value in terms of opportunities by canalizing specific and diverse energies and expertise to a common synergy of collaborative effort. While each one of us keeps aspiring for a job opportunity at various networking sessions that we may be attending, this is our venture at creating an opportunity for ourselves by 'pooling in' our resources.

Each one of us can bring some value to the table by offering what we are good at doing. A combination of such offerings can be a complete menu for what various businesses or government agencies may be asking for in terms of projects. I encourage each one of you to attend this event, and if you feel like, bring along an enterprising guest who can be a likely business partner in times to come. We are all looking forward to this initiative as a step towards life-transformation for engineering community in view of the current industry situation. Our proposal for IEEE Center for Excellence in 'Vision of Technology' (ICEVT), being taken to R3 meet in Atlanta for funding as a Special Section Project, gels well with the Entrepreneurship Development effort.

Volunteers in Philanthropy (VIP), a training program conducted by IEEE Foundation, helps us to understand the objectives of IEEE Foundation and develop skills at fund-raising for non-profit ventures. This training is provided free of charge to IEEE Members. We had a good representation



at the last VIP program that was conducted in July 2003 in RTP (see accompanying article on that program). Once again, members of our section have the opportunity to attend VIP training program at no charge (see details listed below).

We have a series of interesting upcoming events, some of which are listed below. Please take advantage of the opportunity to listen to these dignitaries who are especially visiting our section to deliver these talks:

1. Engineering Management & Communications Chapters with Section are hosting a talk by Ray Gilbert, CTO of Lucent Technologies Canada Bell Labs Innovations on 'Applying new technologies to Business : Wireless Data' on November 3, 2003 from 5.45 pm to 7.45 pm at MCNC Auditorium, 3021 Cornwallis Road, RTP.

2. Our Section is planning to start an Entrepreneurs Network that can focus on meeting the needs of our members towards starting and sustaining a new business or strengthen an existing one by mutual cooperation and sharing of opportunities, expertise and experience. Joseph Hirl, Managing Director of Agilis Advisory Group (MBA, Harvard; Ex-

President, Enron Japan) is spear-heading this effort and shall make a presentation, jointly hosted by the section and Engineering Management Chapter on November 20, 2003 from 5.45 pm to 7.45 pm at Sony Ericsson, 8001 Development Drive in RTP

3. VIP training program at Greensboro, as part of Southeast-Con, in March 2004. If you want to attend this program, please contact Karen Nowicki with IEEE Foundation Office at k.nowicki@ieec.org for details. The training program will be held on Saturday, March 27, 2004 at Greensboro, NC. A meal will be hosted by IEEE Foundation Office. Pre-registration is required. The program is free of charge for ENCS Section Members.

The details of above talks and all other events are also posted on our section calendar at www.ieee.org/encs that we request you to keep checking regularly. Since these talks are co-hosted by the Section, all section members are welcome to attend. We are requesting RSVPs to arrive a day before the talk so that your Chapter Chairs can plan ahead.

To take our section further, we need your kind support and volunteering. It is our joint efforts that bear fruits by the synergy of collaboration. Finally, on behalf of the ExCom, I take this opportunity to wish 'Happy Thanksgiving' to all our members and their families.



Wilmington Area Members Take Note!

The Lower Cape Fear Subsection now has their own web site at <http://www.ieee.org/lcf>. Check there for meeting information and other timely information.

News From K-12

An exciting development for high schools students statewide will be the first IEEE NC Robotics Challenge, to be held March 27, 2004 in Greensboro as part of the IEEE SoutheastCon 2004 conference. This will be open to all high schools in North Carolina. Details are being finalized and should be ready for next month's newsletter. Stay tuned! For more K-12 news, see page 6.

IEEE Entrepreneur's Network

Interested in starting your own business, or already in business for yourself? At the November 20th Section Meeting, Joe Hirl will provide a status report presentation on his findings regarding the creation of an IEEE Entrepreneur's Network for Eastern North Carolina Section. Joe has presented to the ExCom a basic outline of what a Network could look like and was given the go-ahead to further evaluate the possibilities including polling members to better determine their needs and interests. There are a number of possible models that could be developed based on other IEEE Entrepreneur's Networks (www.boston-enet.org), affiliation with existing local Entrepreneur's Networks or a more tailored and focused approach. Joe will be polling members through the Virtual Community website and would welcome any direct comments or suggestions (jhirl@ieee.org). Any people who have experience with the Council for Entrepreneurial Development (CED) are encouraged to provide feedback on how their needs are being served by this organization.

Congratulations Harold!



Harold Meder, our Employment Committee Chair, recently was elevated to Senior Member of IEEE. As with all who upgrade, he received a nice engraved plaque from the IEEE to herald this distinction. You too can get one of these nifty plaques! If you are interested in achieving senior member status, contact our Membership Development Chair, Shobha Saraiya, at shobha@ieee.org.

Attention Members in the Greenville / Wilson / Elizabeth City areas

We are making an effort to re-vitalize our inactive Greenville Subsection. This includes all members in the northeast corner of the state, including the Outer Banks. If you are interested in helping with this effort and possibly taking a leadership role in this effort, please contact Charles Lord at c.j.lord@ieee.org. We hope to have an organizational meeting in the next month or so.



ENCS Starts a Virtual Community for Improved Communications

Where can you go to hold discussions with other IEEE members, share files of info like job listings or non-copyrighted technical and professional information? How about a comprehensive calendar of events? Or contribute your own knowledge to share? Or create or participate in a poll to gauge opinion on a new venture or idea? Or share lists of your favorite EE urls or other data? All in one place, with no spam or advertising? Why, there is such a place, our new Virtual Community. Free to members and invited non-members, membership in our new Virtual Community (VC) allows you access to these features and more. There are folders in each area that allows discussions to be separate, and powerful notification features that allow you to decide when the VC tells you of new information: when it happens, daily, weekly, or never. And, if you see a "hot" topic that you want to keep up on in "real time" - you can have the VC email you when a particular topic or discussion is responded to. All you need is to sign up.

Go to <https://www.ieeecommunities.org/encs>, then use the invitation key "i40jam" to join. You must enter your first and last names and email address in the blanks. Your email will not be visible to outsiders but is important for the administrators to notify you if necessary.

Come join us! Look around, and feel free to suggest ways that we can make this tool better and how we can use it to better serve you the member. We are listening!

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the IEEE Virtual Communities website. The browser title is "IEEE Virtual Communities - \"IEEE Eastern North Carolina Section\" - Microsoft Internet Explorer provided by AT&T WorldNet Service". The address bar shows "https://www.ieeecommunities.org/encs". The website header includes the IEEE logo and navigation links: "IEEE HOME | SEARCH IEEE | SHOP | WEB ACCOUNT | CONTACT IEEE". Below the header is a sub-navigation menu: "Membership | Publications | Services | Standards | Conferences | Careers/Jobs". The main content area is titled "IEEE Eastern North Carolina Section" and features a "What's New" section with tabs for "Welcome", "What's New", "Explorer", "Administration", "Highlight", and "Help". The "What's New" section is divided into three columns: "Highlights", "Discussions", and "Notes".

Highlights:

- New Biotech Conference Private Areas
- Welcome to the IEEE Eastern NC Section Virtual Community!
- ALL MEMBERS PLEASE READ.. We are an open community of people for discussion and communication. We do not allow anonymous members. If you registered and did not give your name, please do so under "Members". We will boot all anonymous members after 7 day...**

Discussions:

- Opening - programmer, UNC Hospitals, Oncology** (2 msgs, 1)
 - email received from an employee in the department with the openings: I am a software engineer working at UNC's Dept. of Radiation Oncology. We have an open research position in our department, and I have been asked to assist with finding qualified c...
 - Employment Issues - Biotech
- Conference - Oct 25 - about Risk in Clinical Re...** (1 msg)
 - Risk Management and Resolve in Clinical Research, from ACRP. Oct. 25, 2003 in RTP. Of interest to Biotech/Health/Pharma Job Hunt Collaboration folks. ACRP is Association of Clinical Research Professionals. Their RTP website is <http://www.acrpne...>
 - Employment Issues - Biotech
- Welcome to the IEEE Eastern NC Section Virtual ...** (1 msg)
 - This is the discussion area for topics of interest to members of the IEEE Eastern NC Section. Areas have been set up for the following general topics: Excom (restricted access) Employment Issues - Software Employment Issues - Biotech K-12 If yo...

Notes:

- TomJepsen** (17-Oct-2003 9:43 AM)
 - I have created a folder called "TechForLifeDocs" under "Biotech" that contains all the documentation for the Technology For Life Conference. Best regards, Tom Jepsen
- cjlord** (16-Oct-2003 4:02 PM)
 - ALL MEMBERS PLEASE READ.. We are an open community of people for discussion and communication. We do not allow anonymous members. If you registered and did not give your name, please do so under "Members". We will boot all anonymous members after 7 days. Thanks for your cooperation.
- cjlord** (17-Sep-2003 2:15 PM)
 - Hey - this looks great. I like the lighthouse that you got off our web page. Hopefully the lighthouse will still be standing after tomorrow. Thanks again!

The bottom of the page shows a "Jump to..." dropdown menu, a status bar with "encs (1/54)", "Who's on", "Help", "Disable", and "Applet started.".

Embedded Systems Affinity Group Gaining Momentum

Embedded Systems Special Interest Group To Start Regular Meetings in January

The IEEE-ENCS Embedded Systems Group held its second organizational meeting on October 7th. Charles Lord led a presentation of the new IEEE Virtual Community web tools. The group has decided to put these tools to the test and use them to create a virtual community for the Embedded Systems Group.

The next meeting was set for Thursday, November 13th. We will have a brief business meeting to coordinate outreach efforts to the rest of the local embedded community followed by a joint meeting with TriLUG, the Triangle Linux Users Group. The Triangle Linux User Group will have a presentation on "White Dwarf Linux", a small distribution of embedded Linux that was specifically designed to run on PC/104 boards.

The group has decided to have its first public meeting in January. Please stay tuned for further details. Between now and then our major task will be to reach out to the local Embedded Systems community. If you would like to be a point of contact for your company to help spread the word or if you would like more information on the Embedded Systems Group please contact Steve Lund at slund-ieee@pobox.com.

Professional Development Institute Off to a Good Start

The IEEE ENCS Professional Development Institute (PDI) held its first meeting of the Fall on October 14, with a presentation on "Management Basics for New Supervisors." The November meeting will be a live presentation on risk management. See the calendar on page xx for more information and be sure to register at <http://www.southeastcon.com/pdi>.

Sally Ride Toy Design Competition

There's an interview with Sally Ride in the Oct. 2003 issue of Spectrum. It talks about the TOYchallenge(TM) contest which she started for kids in grades 5-8. In the inaugural 2003 competition, 240 teams from around the country blasted off with Sally Ride

on this fun-fueled challenge. Teams brainstormed a brand new toy or game, outlined their design process, and developed a prototype of their creation for the National Showcase June 13-15, 2003 at Smith College in Massachusetts. There's a picture of the winning team in the Spectrum article. The competition will start later this year for 2004 - see details at <http://www.toychallenge.com/> - both boys and girls can participate in this activity. If you have subscribed to the online version of Spectrum, you can read the article at <http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/spectrum/oct03/departments/care.html>.

Sept. 6th, NCSU hosted a Sally Ride Science Festival for girls in grades 5-8 at the McKimmon Center. It was a big success, attended by at least 250 girls from across North Carolina. Sally Ride gave a great speech, and signed lots of autographs. Bob Young (formerly of Red Hat and now of Lulu.com) and NCSU Chancellor Marye Anne Fox spoke. The Raleigh Amateur Robotics Club had a table and robots available for test-driving in the street fair area. A number of local organizations exhibited in the street fair - the robots and the slime-mixing tables were a bit hit. I really enjoyed attending the festival. NCSU intends to host another event next year - check <http://www.sallyridefestivals.com/> for upcoming dates.

Esther Lumsdon, Chair of IEEE ENCS Bio-tech/Health/Pharma Job Hunt Collaboration



Mark your calendar!
IEEE SOUTHCON 2004
 January 14-15, 2004

Orange County Convention Center
 9800 International Drive
 Orlando, Florida, 32819

*"Solutions for the Entire OEM
 Electronics Team"*

www.southcon.org

Biotech Job Hunt Collaboration Moving Along

Esther Lumsdon, Chair of IEEE ENCS Bio-tech/Health/Pharma Job Hunt Collaboration

The Biotech/Health/Pharma Job Hunt Collaboration has been meeting every other month. This purpose of this group is for people interested in breaking into the BioTech, Health and Pharmaceutical industries to collaborate and share information. Breaking into a new industry is hard, time consuming work. Sharing information and resources can make attacking this job market a little bit friendlier.

The July meeting featured a speaker on 21 CFR Part 11 Electronic Records & Signatures – a popular topic in this arena. The October meeting (joint with the Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society) happened just after the deadline for this newsletter, and promised to be a well-attended meeting on an exciting topic – “Introduction to Bioinformatics”. The really appealing thing about the presenter for October, Terri Fleming, is that she has a BS in Computer Science, and got into bioinformatics from scientific software development. It’s always encouraging to hear the story of someone who successfully changed fields. There will be a report on that meeting posted to the new VC area for the section.

The next meetings of the group are scheduled for Nov. 17 and Dec. 15, instead of the usual forth Monday dates. Speakers for those meetings are TBD. This group has already started posting content to the new Virtual Community – you should join and take a look at the information available. There is a very useful guide to biotech-related events at Cato Research's website, <http://www.cato.com/news2.html>.

Visit Us on the Web!

<http://www.ieee.org/encs>

And come explore our Virtual Community

<http://www.ieeecommunities.org/encs>

November 15 Merit Badge College at Duke University

Chris Siegl, K-12 Chair

The IEEE ENC Section K-12 Committee, the Duke Chapter of the Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity and the IEEE Student Chapter are co-sponsoring a Merit Badge College on November 15th all day at Duke University. We are recruiting Merit Badge Councilors for the following merit badges: Electronics, Electricity, Computer, Radio, and Space Exploration. We are also hopeful to offer Atomic Energy if we can get Geiger counters and a qualified Councilor. I currently have much of the equipment needed for electronics and electricity (soldering irons, scopes, PS, bread boarding strips). Roger Lawrence is getting us an electric utility meter. For computer merit badge we are hoping to borrow some older laptops. We are in the final stages of getting the OK to fly rockets, so will need some help with a rocket building group as well.

If you would like to help, we still need a few more people, please advise me (siegl@ieee.org). If you have not been a merit badge councilor before, will are planning a short intro class. Merit Badge Councilors need to be registered annually, I will email you the materials. If you have sons involved in scouting, you can bring them to the event, registration will be required. There will be a patch as well as some refreshments. I have prepared tracking sheets for each merit badge that outline the requirements and a first pass as to how we will support. This will be a lot of fun, come for two hours or for all day.

We have an opportunity to operate K2BSA as a Special Event Station for Duke if we can get a General Class or higher Scouter over 21 to sign up as our Control Operator during this event. This would be a memorable achievement. I have not been able to learn enough code to pass the test, so we need your help.

Stay Connected

Spend less time worrying and more time communicating with an IEEE Email Alias. An @ieee.org email address shows you're a part of a community of innovators. the IEEE Email Alias gives you an @ieee.org address while forwarding mail to your real account - and scanning for viruses at the same time. Over 380,000 virus blocked last year alone! It's free with your IEEE membership. Sign up today at www.ieee.org/alias

What is Bioinformatics?

Thomas C. Jepsen
Chair, IEEE Communications Society
Acting Chair, IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society

Bioinformatics, the intersection of computing and biology, is rapidly emerging as a full-fledged discipline in its own right. Recent advances in biology, such as the decoding of the human genome, were made possible by the development of specialized computing techniques and software for genetic research.

There are some surprising similarities and synergies between the two fields. DNA (deoxyribonucleic acid) can be thought of as a "high-level programming language" for living organisms which stores a linear sequence of instructions for creating the proteins essential for life. These instructions are stored as sequences of four base nucleotides - adenine, cytosine, guanine, and thymine - which form complementary pairs. Each living organism has a unique DNA signature comprising a specific sequence of base pairs.

In order to understand the genetic makeup of a given organism, you need to analyze its DNA signature. While this sounds straightforward enough in theory, it is immensely complicated to put into practice. The DNA of the simplest organisms, bacteria, consists of over one million base pairs; the human genome consists of over 3 billion base pairs. Current analysis techniques allow only a few hundred of these base pairs to be read at a time; computer software must then be used to assemble these short sequences into a complete genome map. Determining which of these tiny pieces goes where is a computationally difficult, or "NP hard," problem.

Completing the genome map, however, is just the beginning. Experimental biologists need to understand the relationship of processes like growth, evolutionary change, and disease to specific sections of the genome map, which requires extensive searching of databases that are constantly growing and changing. Pharmaceutical companies can use the results of this research to develop new medications, and healthcare professionals can develop new treatments for diseases. Specialized pattern recognition algorithms similar to those used in data mining are being used to establish links between biological processes and specific gene sequences. As the volume of data available grows, the

problems associated with searching it become more complex; one of the major problems facing researchers today is the difficulty of integrating multiple data bases throughout the world that are continually changing and growing. Thus bioinformatics poses new and interesting challenges for computer and biomedical engineering professionals.

The IEEE Eastern North Carolina Section (ENCS) is a strong supporter of biotechnology research and biomedical engineering as we are located in a hot bed of biotechnology and medical resources. We believe that success in biotechnology research requires a strong bioinformatics infrastructure. We further believe that the development of a strong bioinformatics base will lead to expanded economic development, more technology-oriented jobs and greater professional and career development for IEEE members in North Carolina.

Several of our chapters are sponsoring activities in the bioinformatics area. The Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society has sponsored a presentation on bioinformatics by Terri Fleming of GlaxoSmithKline. The EMBS chapter, together with the Communications Society and the Computer Society, are planning a conference, "Technology for Life," the Symposium on Biotechnology and Bioinformatics, to be held in the Research Triangle Park area in the fall of 2004. For more information on these activities, contact Tom Jepsen at tjepsen@mindspring.com.

Further Reading:

The "Bioinformatics" feature issue of IEEE Computer Magazine (July 2002) contains an excellent series of tutorials on current issues in bioinformatics. For information on the Human Genome Project, see "GenBank" at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>.

Jobs!

Report from the Employment Committee

Harold Meder

As the job market turns towards recovery, we can help our peers by sharing job opportunities early in the recruiting process. Help your organization identify qualified candidates by posting these opportunities to the IEEE membership.

...Continued on Page 8

Report from the Jobs Committee

(Continued from Page 7)

A forum has been established for the purpose of exchanging leads for job opportunities at <http://www.federal-systems.com/discus/messages/9/9.html> or www.ieee.org/encs > Forums > Jobs Available

Job postings can be posted directly to this forum, or by sending an email to hwm@ieee.org.

Job seekers can register themselves for automated notification of job postings in their area of expertise at <http://www.federal-systems.com/scrubs/discus/board-profile.cgi?action=register>.

Note: Please respect the job posting in this forum. We would like to establish this forum as a resource for identifying highly qualified candidates. Please only apply to positions that you are qualified for.

The IEEE Foundation Adds More VIPs to IEEE Region 3!

By Karen Nowicki
VIP Coordinator, IEEE Foundation

The Volunteers In Philanthropy (VIP) Program has trained twelve more VIPs. On 27 July, Karen Nowicki, VIP Coordinator and Kristina Collmann, Director of Development for the IEEE Foundation were invited to conduct a VIP Training for the IEEE Eastern North Carolina volunteers. The IEEE Eastern North Carolina training was the fourth VIP Training in IEEE Region 3 to date in 2003. Prior VIP Trainings also include a session at the Florida Council meeting in Tampa, FL and two sessions held at SoutheastCon 2003 in Jamaica.

Founded in 1973, the IEEE Foundation is the principal philanthropic instrument of the IEEE. It is a grant-making non-profit 501(c)(3) organization responding to the need of supporting education at all levels, preserving, researching and promoting the history of electrical and information technology, as well as recognizing engineering achievements. The goal of the IEEE Foundation is to be an advocate for programs that reflect the breadth and range of IEEE's fields of interest and to make a significant, positive, global impact on the profession.

To keep engineering and technology programs exciting and engaging, the IEEE Foundation supports philanthropic programs that:

- Encourage young people to discover science and technology;
- Foster technological innovation;
- Preserve the history of electrical and information technology;

- Promote the public's awareness of engineer accomplishments; and
- Provide support to programs that will significantly advance the profession and help the IEEE Foundation meet its broader societal responsibilities.

In response to meeting the challenging needs of expanding and increasing IEEE charitable support, the IEEE Foundation created the VIP Program to create a greater awareness of philanthropy. The VIP Program is designed to encourage growth of the philanthropic culture based on the mission of the IEEE Foundation.

Initially the IEEE Foundation team was invited to Raleigh/Durham, NC to assist volunteers from the IEEE Eastern North Carolina Section in their pursuit of philanthropic dollars for the DARPA (Defense Advanced Projects Agency) Challenge project. However, they were happy to also have in attendance, IEEE Section volunteers who had a strong interest in education and wanted to learn more about philanthropy at the IEEE.

If your local IEEE Section or Chapter is interested in seeking or increasing funds to support a worthwhile program, VIP Training is for you! If you sign up for a VIP Training, we can help:

- Spread the word about your charitable goals while also assisting the IEEE Foundation in its efforts to remain in touch with local current donors;
- Train your IEEE Volunteers so that they can develop the skills to approach current donors and garner support for local and international efforts; and
- Provide a philanthropic support network with other VIPs and staff throughout the Region and eventually throughout the world.

The next VIP Training in IEEE Region 3 is scheduled for SoutheastCon 2004 in Greensboro, March 26, 2004

A Special Thank You

We would like to extend a special thank you to John Gibson, IEEE Eastern North Carolina Section Chair and Abhinav Aggarwal, Vice Chair for your wonderful hospitality and for initiating the IEEE Eastern North Carolina Volunteers In Philanthropy (VIP) Training on 27 July 2003. Prior to the VIP Training, we were treated like VIPs ourselves at the IEEE Eastern North Carolina Section's Annual Summer Picnic at the New Hope Valley Railway, the site of the North Carolina Railroad Museum. We enjoyed meeting the Section members and appreciated the special treatment of riding in the steam engine with the engineer during the train ride! It was our pleasure and honor to be a part of your community for the weekend.

Many thanks,

Kristina Collmann
IEEE Foundation Director of Development

Karen Nowicki
VIP Coordinator

Calendar

As always, the latest calendar information can be found on our website. <http://www.ieee.org/encs>, select "Calendar"

Monday, November 3, 2003

Applying new technologies to Business : Wireless Data
5:30 am - 7:30 am (EST)
Location: MCNC Auditorium, 3021 Cornwallis Rd, RTP
Engineering Management & Communications Chapters with Section are hosting a talk by Ray Gilbert, CTO of Lucent Technologies Canada Bell Labs Innovations on 'Applying new technologies to Business : Wireless Data' on November 3, 2003 from 5.45 pm to 7.45 pm at MCNC Auditorium, 3021 Cornwallis Road, RTP. The talk follows Dinner and Social. Directions at: www.mcnc.org . The talk shall focus on Wireless Data impacts. Ray is responsible to oversee Lucent's CIO partnership initiatives with Suppliers, Customers and other CIO peers in major enterprises. He has been concentrating his efforts on sharing Lucent CIO's views on the business benefits, plus technology experience of end users who have been trialing Mobile High Speed Data. In this role, he has led seminars & facilitated discussions involving over 1,000 IT managers who were interested in assessing MHSD for their own enterprises. Ray & his colleagues are expecting to continue these and similar engagements globally throughout 2004. If you want to attend this talk, please RSVP to our Engineering Management Chapter Chair Subroto Bhattacharya at: subroto@computer.org by Nov 02.

Tuesday, November 4, 2003

EMS & PDI present: Risk Management Workshop
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm (EST)
Location: ISA at Alexander Dr. in RTP
Abstract: According to the Standish Group three out of four software projects fail or did not meet their original goals. This presentation will cover ways to identify typical risks that can derail software projects such as requirements risk, integration risk, business risk, political risk and so on. Mr. Murthi will discuss ways to integrate more proactive risk identification and management into the software development process. The focus will be on hands on ways of managing risk and less on theoretical aspects. He will compare and contrast this with traditional methods of risk identification and management. The presentation will use many real life examples and anecdotes from Mr. Murthi's varied experience. We will end with an informal workshop in which audience members will get a chance to try out the risk evaluation process for themselves.
Speaker: Mr. Sanjay Murthi
For further information or to register, please go to <http://www.southeastcon.com/pdi>

Thursday, November 13, 2003

Microwave Remote Sensing and Applications
3:30 pm - 6:30 pm (EST)
Location: 229 Dixon Hall, ECSU
Thursday November 13, 2003 3:30PM
CERSER Lecture Series
229 Dixon Hall
Elizabeth City State University
Sivaprasad Gogineni, Ph.D.
University of Kansas
Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department
"Microwave Remote Sensing and Applications".
Linda Hayden: haydenl-AT-mindspring.com

Friday, November 14, 2003

Microwave Remote Sensing Training workshop
8:30 am - 4:30 pm (EST)
Location: 229 Dixon Hall, ECSU
Friday November 14, 2003 8:30 am - 4:30pm
Microwave Remote Sensing Training workshop
229 Dixon Hall
Elizabeth City State University.
Linda Hayden: haydenl-AT-mindspring.com

Saturday, November 15, 2003

Merit Badge College at Duke. See article on page 5 for details!

Thursday, November 20, 2003

Entrepreneurs Network Development
5:30 pm - 7:30 pm (EST)
Location: Sony Ericsson, 8001 Development Drive, RTP
Our Section is planning to start an Entrepreneurs Network that can focus on meeting the needs of our members towards starting and sustaining a new business or strengthen an existing one by mutual cooperating and sharing of opportunities, expertise and experience. Joseph Hirl, Managing Director of Agilis Advisory Group (MBA, Harvard; Ex-President, Enron Japan) is spearheading this effort and shall make a presentation, jointly hosted by the section and Engineering Management Chapter on November 20, 2003 from 5.45 pm to 7.45 pm at Sony Ericsson, 8001 Development Drive in RTP off Davis Drive. Talk follows dinner and social. If you have the business acumen or have been struggling to get something off the ground, this is your chance. Take advantage of our own family of IEEE members and draw upon that as a resource to help each-other. In this economic downtime, this can become our roadmap to success. Everyone must take this opportunity very seriously and explore the possibility of mutual cooperation. If you want to attend this meeting, please RSVP to our Engineering Management Chapter Chair Subroto Bhattacharya at: subroto@computer.org by Nov 19.

Who's Who in the IEEE Eastern N.C. Section

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Section Vice Chair
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Educational Activities
Open—this can be you!

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K-12 Outreach
Chris Siegl
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Nominations for 2004 Officers

The Nominations Committee, con-
sisting of recent past chairs, has pre-
sented the following nominees for
office for 2004:

Chair:
Mary Ellen Randall

Vice Chair:
David Ruden

Secretary:
Thomas Jepsen

Treasurer:
Roger Lawrence

These candidates and any other
nominees will be on a ballot to be
mailed out as part of the December
newsletter. If you are interested in
nominating someone for one of these
positions, or would like to volunteer
for one of the committee positions
listed at left, or would just like to
help out, please contact Chris Siegl
at siegl@ieee.org.