

May 2005

See us on the WEB at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/susquehanna>**May 2005 Section Meeting****"Early Reservation Needed for Special Tour"****May's Program**

Join us this month for a tour of the York County Judicial Building. This new, state of the art facility is fully automated, including the HVAC, lighting, and courtroom AV systems.

Date: Tuesday, May 10, 2005
Time: Dinner 6:30 PM
Program 7:30 PM
Location: 45 N. George St., York, PA
Dinner Cost: \$20, no-shows will be charged \$20.
Program: Tour of the York County Judicial Building
Contact: Dave Sarraf
717-295-6059 (W)
E-mail: david.sarraf@paonline.com
RSVP no later than April 24
(Please contact by email if possible.)

The York County Judicial Building is a newly-completed state of the art facility that features centralized computer control for nearly every system. Lights in the public areas are controlled by a master computer in the basement that communicates with switch panels on each floor. Similarly, the HVAC main chiller and boilers reside in the basement, and a second computer monitors and controls valves, pumps, and makeup air via remote units on each floor. The courtrooms are also highly automated. They each have three different lighting systems, microphones and speakers throughout, and a matrix of video inputs that can be fed to a large screen projector that is visible to the whole courtroom. All systems can be fully controlled via a touch screen at the Judge's bench.

Our tour guide will be Mr. Scott Cassel. Scott is the building supervisor/manager and was intimately involved with installation, commissioning, and operation of all of these systems. For those having any interest at all in building automation, Scott will provide an excellent tour.

Dinner will be served before the tour at 6:30 p.m. at the Yorktowne Hotel, a fabulous national history landmark hotel, at 48 E. Market St. in York. The Yorktowne provides us with free valet parking. When you park for dinner, the Courthouse

is just a two minute walk from the hotel, so you will pick up your car after dinner and the tour.

Due to the special arrangements, dinner including parking will be \$20 inclusive for members, guests, and students. The Section is also subsidizing part of the dinner cost.

Important Note

The courthouse is a secure facility with several conditions for entry. The names of all attendees must be submitted to the York County Sheriff two weeks prior to the tour. On the day of the tour, you will need to pass through a metal detector and may be subject to a hand search, a machine check for narcotics or explosives, or an X-ray check of purses or briefcases. Several classes of items are forbidden in the courthouse, including knives, cell phones, and cameras. Remember to leave those items at home or in your car, or you will not be allowed in.

Directions

Directions to the Yorktowne:

From Lancaster Area: 1. Take Rt. 30 and turn left on George Street (just after passing under I-83), skip ahead to step 5.

From Gettysburg Area: 1. Take Rt. 30 and turn right on George Street (stay to far right as if entering I-83, turn at light), skip ahead to step 5.

From the Harrisburg Area: 1. Get on I-83 South toward York, 2. follow I-83 South to Exit 22 (North George St), 3. take the middle lane of the off ramp to the traffic light, 4. turn right at the traffic light onto North George St., 5. follow North George St. South (2 mi), cross over Market St., 6. turn left onto King St., go one block to Duke St., 7. turn left onto Duke St., 8. the Yorktowne Hotel garage is half a block on your left.

Note on April's Section Meeting

This newsletter is edited ahead of the April's section meeting. You can read about our April's program in our next newsletter.

IEEE-USA Focuses Advocacy Efforts on Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania has become one of the most politically important states for IEEE members. As the result of changing committee assignments and party leadership, both Pennsylvania Senators will be key voices, and votes, on engineering issues in 2005. In addition, several Pennsylvanian Representatives sit on important committees that will be debating legislation impacting engineers.

Sen. Arlen Specter assumed the Chairmanship of the powerful Senate Judiciary Committee in January. This committee has jurisdiction over a number of issues important to technology engineers, including intellectual property, H-1B visas and Immigration. As Chair, Sen. Specter will decide, in large part, which bills will be considered by the committee and in which order they will be considered. Given the full agenda ahead of the Congress this year, this will allow him to effectively kill legislation simply by not bringing it up.

Pennsylvania's other Senator, Rick Santorum, is currently serving as the Chair of the Republican Conference that coordinates the actions of all Republicans in the Senate. As Chair, Sen. Santorum is a member of the Republican leadership. He is also thought to have frequent contact with the White House, including the President. As a result of these positions, the Senator has a direct role in setting the Republican Party's agenda and choosing the general direction of the Congress.

It is likely that Sen. Santorum will play a role in deciding the basic structure of any major immigration reform bill considered by Congress. Such a bill could include significant changes to the H-1B and L-1 visa programs. Neither Senator has taken strong stands on IEEE's issues in the past, and may in fact not have a position on some. This gives IEEE members an opportunity to shape those positions simply by engaging their legislators.

In the House of Representatives, Pennsylvania legislators sit on all major committees. For example, two prominent members of the Science Committee, Rep. Curt Weldon and Rep. Melissa Hart are Pennsylvanians. Rep. Hart is also on the Judiciary Committee. Representatives Joe Pitts, Timothy Murphy and Mike Doyle sit on the important Energy and Commerce Committee. Finally, Rep. John Murtha is the Ranking Minority Leader of the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee.

Given Pennsylvania's political importance, IEEE-USA will be asking IEEE members in the state for help more frequently than usual in 2005 and 2006. Legislators listen to their constituents, so it is vital to IEEE-USA's legislative efforts that all Pennsylvanian technology engineers express their

views to their elected officials.

IEEE members with questions about legislation in Washington can contact Russ Harrison at 202-530-8326 or r.t.harrison@ieee.org. All IEEE members, but especially those that live in Pennsylvania, are encouraged to join the IEEE-USA CARE program. Members can learn more about the CARE program by visiting <http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/care/default.asp> or by contacting IEEE-USA staff member Russ Harrison at r.t.harrison@ieee.org.

A World of Other Information from IEEE-USA

IEEE is not just about Standards and Spectrum. A representative of the Section recently attended the annual IEEE-USA Leadership Workshop. Amazingly, there is a world of other information available from IEEE-USA. OK, it is really not about the world, just the USA. If you have not recently checked these resources, consider taking a few moments:

Main IEEE-USA website: <http://www.ieeeusa.com/>

Today's Engineer website: <http://www.todaysengineer.org/>

Career website (Career Planning Guide just added):
<http://www.ieeeusa.org/careers/>

Public policy (you can also read "Eye on Washington" there):
<http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/>

As members, we might as well take advantage of every bit of what is available to us, to benefit ourselves, our colleagues, and others important to us. If you notice something within the IEEE or IEEE-USA websites of particular note to our members, please consider submitting an article (just facts about IEEE resources, no editorial opinions; this is not the place) to Soheil Tofghi, newsletter editor, at mtofghi@psu.edu.

Consultants Network

“Attend the Meeting on 4/18 to Be Listed in the Inaugural Webpage, Part of the Section Website”

If you are a consultant, work for a consulting organization, or have some current/future interest in the consulting arena consider joining our monthly call-in meetings by no-travel-required 800 number conferencing. We seek to promote our mutual interests while furthering the goals of the local IEEE Section.

Our meeting on Monday 4/18 will be a roundtable discussion on how we can help each other with our personal and professional objectives.

To receive call-in details, email Stan Telson, st@qspp.com or call 717-569-6579.

Consultants Directory – Please call or refer your projects to local members of our Consultants Network in the directory, below. Attend meetings to be added to the directory.

- Roy Hoffer, P.E.- forensicengineer@ieee.org - Fire Investigation, Product Design
- James E Hooper, CISSP - j.e.hooper@ieee.org - Computer Security, Electronic Systems
- Bernie Kost - bfkost@onemain.com - Product Assurance, Environmental Test (NEW)
- Ron Locati - rlocati@connectorconsultants.com – Electromechanical Devices, Electrical Connectors
- Gopi Mehrotra - gopi_mehrotra@taraconsultants.com – Security Consulting, Global Procurement (NEW)
- Stan Telson - st@qspp.com - Technology Strategy, Predictable Results
- Joe Wible - jbwib1@aol.com - Internal Combustion Engine Instrumentation

Useful Information Column

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Q/A-C Column

Do you have any questions or comments? Call, email or FAX it to our Chair at the above addresses.

Newsletter Mailing or WEB Page Notification

If you do not receive your Newsletter, please notify AB Shafaye mes121@psu.edu or Mohammad-Reza Tofighi mtofighi@psu.edu. If you would like to convert from paper copy mailing of the Newsletter to WEB page delivery, please notify AB Shafaye, who serves as our Publisher.

Address Changes and Updates

There are several ways to correct member information with IEEE. They update their directory from the information you provide, and pass the changes to us monthly. Keeping your address information up to date will ensure accurate mailings.

There is a WEB based interactive “change of address” form at: <http://services1.ieee.org/membersvc/coa/intro.htm>

You can send an email to: address-changes@ieee.org

Call IEEE Member Services at 1-800-678-IEEE

Mail changes to

IEEE
445 Hoes Lane
P.O. Box 1331
Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331

FAX changes to 1-732-981-9667

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