

ELECTRON

Institute Of Electrical & Electronics Engineers, Inc.

Volume 14, No. 6

THE IEEE CHARLOTTE SECTION NEWSLETTER

August 1997

1997 CHARLOTTE SECTION FAMILY PICNIC

This year our annual family picnic will again be held at Latta Plantation Park. Make arrangements to leave work early, grab your family, and join us for lots of fun activities. Make your plans now to attend this fun-filled event. Remember, this event is open to anyone, not just IEEE members, so bring your friends along!

- DATE & TIME:** August 21, 1996
3:00 p.m. till Dark, Picnic Dinner Served at 6:00 p.m.
- PLACE:** Latta Plantation Park, Shelter #2
- PICNIC FUN:** Nature trails, and Door Prizes
Raptor Center (\$2.00 adults)
Latta Plantation (\$3.00 adults)
- PICNIC FOOD:** Served by Sports Page:
Buffet with entrees, vegetables, bread, desert, ice tea.
Meal cost: \$5.00 per person for IEEE members & family
\$6.00 per person for non-members & family.
- MEAL TICKETS:** Purchase from any of the following by **AUGUST 15:**
- | | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| John Tannery | 382-9867 (Duke Energy Center) |
| Cathy Hope | 382-8560 (Duke Energy Center) |
| Bill Whitlock | 875-4869 (McGuire Nuclear Station) |
| Jim Herrington | 831-4096 (Catawba Nuclear Station) |
| Steve Neckyfarow | 594-8256 (IBM) |
- DIRECTIONS:** To Latta Plantation Park from I-77 take Sunset Road West (Exit 16) and at 2nd stop sign turn right on Beatties Ford Road. After approximately 5 miles, turn left on Sample Road. The park is about 1 mile down the road on the left.

CHARLOTTE SECTION MEETINGS

Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 13

Charlotte Section Annual Picnic
Thursday, August 21

Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, September 17

Computer Society Meeting
Monday, September 22

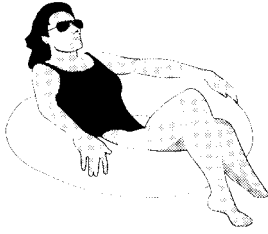
Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, October 15

Communications Society Meeting
Tuesday, October 21

Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 12

Charlotte Section Annual Banquet
Thursday, November 20

Executive Committee Meeting
Annual Planning Meeting
Wednesday, December 10



CATHY'S CHATS

Summer's over!!! That's what the children say when July ends. August brings a return to school and an end to the hectic family vacation season. Well, summer's not over ... yet. It's still hot, sticky and humid. The lakes and golf courses are still calling our names. And I still have not unpacked from my vacation. I'm stretching it out as long as possible...

SUMMER PICNIC

Another way to stretch your summer is to join us for the annual IEEE Summer Picnic on Thursday, August 21. We always have lots of fun, food and door prizes. Section Vice Chair John Tannery has lined up The Sports Page to cater the meal again this year. Back by popular demand are "The Desserts" which were so fabulous last year. (Of course, that's my favorite part of the meal!!!) The picnic will be held at Latta Plantation (see the cover page for details). Why don't you plan to leave work early that day so you can experience the park's other attractions such as birds of prey, horses and nature trails?

UPCOMING EVENTS

The NC Council and Central and Winston-Salem Sections are sponsoring NCSE '97 which features discussions and presentations on Wireless Communications. (See the facing page for details.) It should prove to be an interesting and educational program. In addition, make sure to mark your calendars for technical meetings sponsored by our Communications and Computer Societies this fall. In addition, the Power Engineering Society is still planning a field trip. Check each issue of the *ELECTRON* for details on meeting locations, times, and topics. Look forward to seeing you at the picnic!

Cathy
Cathy Hope
Charlotte Section Chair

GOVERNMENT & PRIVATE SECTOR COMPETITION

The Republican drive to require that the federal government divest itself entirely from activities that are commercial in nature has gotten off to a slow start as Congress approaches the mid-term. In February, two members of Congress introduced legislation to eliminate government "competition" with the private sector, but the bills have not moved to the hearing stage.

On Feb. 12, Sen. Craig Thomas, R-Wyo., and Rep. John Duncan, R-Tenn., introduced bills that codify the 40-year-old federal policy of using the private sector for commercial tasks. Six senators and seven representatives, all Republicans, are co-sponsoring the bills.

Thomas believes that government competition with the private sector is a growing problem. The intent of his bill, he said, is "to get agencies to focus on their core mission" and allow the private sector to carry out routine commercial tasks. The legislation, he said, "has the potential to open up a \$30 billion market for the nation's small and large businesses." The federal government's avowed policy of relying on the private sector, he said, "has not worked. The bureaucracy has not found ways and means to procure goods and services from the private sector."

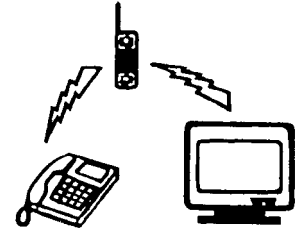
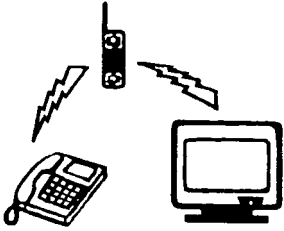
The Thomas bill gives a lead role to the Office of Management and Budget in identifying functions to stay within the federal establishment and those that the private sector can do better. The bill also includes safeguards for displaced government employees, with provision that "facilitates transition to the private sector."

The Senate has already explored the bill's concept by 1996 Senate Governmental Affairs Committee hearings. The U. S. Chamber of Commerce strongly endorses the bill, as does the National Federation of Independent Businesses, the Contract Services Association, the Small Business Legislative Council and the American Consulting Engineers Council.

NCSE'97

WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS

September 8, 1997 (Monday after Labor Day)
 Holiday Inn Airport, Greensboro, NC
 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (6 hours PDH for PEs)



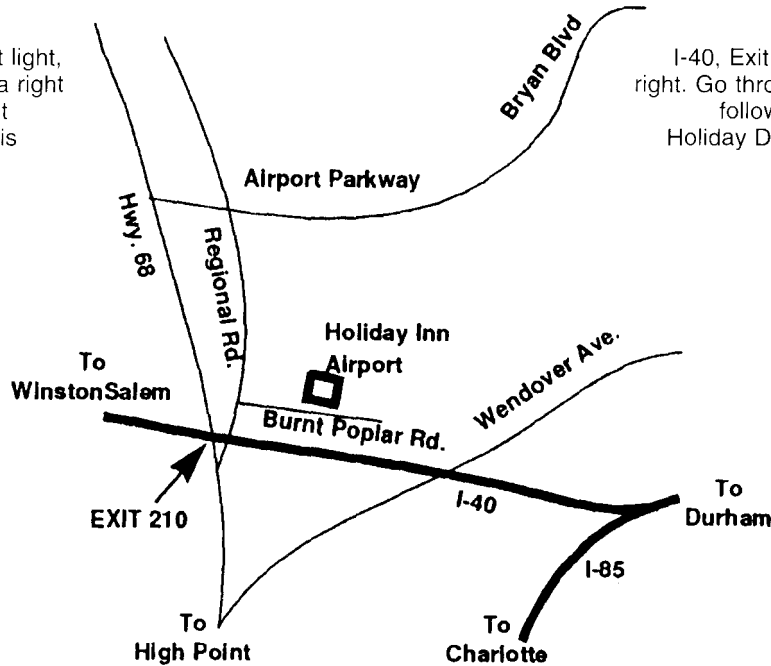
- 8:00 a.m.- Continental Breakfast
- 8:30 a.m. -Introduction: Marketing and Sales Division, Lucent Technologies
- 9:00 to 10:15 a.m.- Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM): Ericsson/Bell South DCS
- 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. - Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA): Lucent Technologies
- Lunch (Butcher Block Deli Assortment)
- 1:00 to 2:15 p.m.- Code Division Multiple Access CDMA: Nortel
- 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.- Commercial Fixed Base Systems: Nextel

East Bound:

I-40, Exit 210 and go through first light, left turn at second light and take a right turn at the third light. Follow Burnt Poplar Road; Holiday Inn Airport is 0.25 miles on left.

West Bound:

I-40, Exit 210, take immediate right. Go through intersection and follow Burnt Poplar Road. Holiday Day Inn Airport is 0.25 miles on left.



For more information:
 Grbro: David Macchiarolo
 (910) 547-3880
 Ral/Dur: Mike Stember
 (919) 544-7104
 Charl: Cathy Hope
 (704) 382-8560
 WS: Dick Riddle
 (910) 765-9702
 Western NC: J.C. Wright
 (704) 452-2921

Cost: (includes breakfast, lunch and breaks)
 IEEE member or Professional Engineer.....\$40.00 (preregister) (\$50.00 at door)
 non-member.....\$95.00 (preregister) (\$105.00 at door)
 The \$95.00 also includes membership in IEEE through February 1998.

Please send in application by August 25, 1997

Name.....IEEE or PE#.....

Address.....

City.....State.....Zip.....

Make check payable to IEEE NCSE97
Send to: M. Neiditz (NCSE97), P.O. Box 10472, Greensboro, NC 27404

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IEEE CHARLOTTE SECTION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SECTION OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

Chair
Cathy Hope Duke Power 704/382-8560
Fax 704/382-6542
cxh3378@dukepower.com

Vice Chair
John Tannery Duke Power 704/382-9867
Fax 704/382-5418
j.tannery@ieee.org

Secretary
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kmm9195@dukepower.com

Treasurer
Natalie Little Sayles Duke Power 704/875-4895
nal2856@dukepower.com

Past Chair
Randy Groves Duke Power 704/382-9176
Fax 704/382-3105
rcgroves@dpcmail.dukepower.com

Directors
Becky Harrison Duke Power 704/382-0954
Fax 704/382-5601
bsh8650@dukepower.com

Carol Mullis Retired-Duke Power 704/537-0538
Trip Doggett Duke Engr. 704/382-6535
bdoggett@dpcmail.dukepower.com

Roscoe White Retired-Duke Power 704/537-8449

SECTION STANDING COMMITTEES

Archives
Sokha Chhak Duke Power 704/329-2808
snc8383 @ dukepower.com

Arrangements
Tom Teeter 704/365-4861

Auditor
(open)

Awards & Nominating
Trip Doggett Duke Engr. 704/382-6535
hbdoggett@dpcmail.dukepower.com

Bill Whitlock Duke Power 704/875-4869
Fax 704/875-5664
cww8383@dukepower.com

Steve Graham Duke Power 704/382-3731
Fax 704/382-3993
s.graham@ieee.org

Randy Groves Duke Power 704/382-9176
rcgroves@dpcmail.dukepower.com

Continuing Education
Teresa Dahlberg 704/547-4389
Fax 704/547-2352
tdahlber@unccl.edu

Membership/Attendance
Tracy Blackmon Duke Power 704/382-5692
Fax 704/382-3993
trb2429@dukepower.com

Newsletter Editor

Paul Colaianni Duke Power 704/382-5632
Fax 704/382-0368
p.colaianni@ieee.org

PACE

Carol Mullis Retired-Duke Power 704/537-0538

Programs

John Tannery Duke Power 704/382-9867
Fax 704/382-5418
j.tannery@ieee.org

Publicity

(open)

Student Activities

Chris Clippinger 704/382-9333
Fax 704/382-9843
ckc8383@dukepower.com

HICKORY SUBSECTION

Chair
John Leach Hi-Tech Fuses, Inc. 704/322-2860
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Fax 704/327-5082
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Fax 704/462-3391
ranjanra@pdc03.sch.ge.com

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Fax 704/382-9843
ckc8383@dukepower.com

Vice Chair

Lee Underwood Duke/Fluor Daniel 704/329-3016
Fax 704/329-2749
lsunderw@dpcmail.dukepower.com

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Stephen Ladd Duke Power 704/382-6656
Fax 704/382-5418
sbl6050@dukepower.com

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Mark Ragusa VideoServer, Inc. 704/344-259*
Fax 704/338-F
mragusa@videoserver

UNC CHARLOTTE STUDENT BRANCH

Faculty Advisor
Dr. Yogendra Kakad 704/547-4146
kakad@unccl.edu

Chair

Brian L. Fesperman blfesper@unccl.edu

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David W. Vines dwvines@unccl.edu

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<http://www.coe.unccl.edu/~ieeesb>

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avampato@york.tec.sc.us

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<http://www.york.tec.sc.us/yt>

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CPCC STUDENT BRANCH

Faculty Advisor
Don Jessep 704/330-6922
donald_jessep @ cpcc.cc.nc.us

Chair

George Kent 704/289-2607
george_kent@juno.com

Vice Chair

Mike Markland

Secretary

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Treasurer

Leah Campbell 704/335-7349

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Send articles for publication and newsletter comments and corrections to me at Duke Power Co.-EC12R, P.O. Box 1006, Charlotte NC 28201-1006, p.colaianni@ieee.org or 704/382-5632/-0368 Fax. —R.Paul Colaianni, *ELECTRON* Editor

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Further information on IEEE-USA issue positions and publications are available from IEEE-USA, 1828 L Street NW Suite 1202, Washington DC 20036-5104, ieeeusa@ieee.org, or 202/785-0017/ -0835 Fax. IEEE-USA Hotline recording 202/785-2180.

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