

ELECTRON

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THE IEEE CHARLOTTE SECTION NEWSLETTER

November 1997

CHARLOTTE SECTION ANNUAL BANQUET THE HISTORY OF UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHARLOTTE

SPEAKER: Mr. Ken Sanford, Retired, UNCC Public Relations

The IEEE Charlotte Section will hold its annual banquet on WEDNESDAY, November 19 in the Graves Room at the Westin Hotel in downtown Charlotte. After dinner, we will elect officers for 1998, present Section Awards and enjoy our featured speaker, Mr. Sanford.

Mr. Sanford will share with us some of the ideas from his book, "The History of UNCC and Charlotte Growing Up Together." Mr. Sanford is retired from his Public Relations position at UNCC but has many memories to share about its history. His enlightened discussion will be humorous and informative. So join all your IEEE friends for an enjoyable evening!

DATE: WEDNESDAY, November 19, 1996

TIME: 6:00 p.m. - Social Hour (Cash Bar)

7:00 p.m. - Dinner, Awards Presentations, Elections of 1998 Section Officers & Directors, Guest Speaker

PLACE: Westin Hotel Charlotte, the Graves Room, 222 E. Third Street, Charlotte, NC

Park in the Westin Hotel courtesy of the IEEE (enter parking building from Third St.)

TICKETS: PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS NOW!!! — \$16.00 members and guests, \$32.00 Non-members

Don't miss this opportunity for fine dining, education, and FUN! You may purchase your ticket from any of the following members:

Duke Energy, Charlotte	John Tannery	382-9867	or	Cathy Hope	382-8560
Duke Energy, McGuire	Natalie Sayles	875-4895	or	Bill Whitlock	875-4869
Duke Energy, Catawba	Jim Herrington	831-4096			
IBM Corporation	John Jacomino	595-4677			

IEEE POWER ENGINEERING SOCIETY

POWER SYSTEMS ANALYSIS AND PROTECTIVE RELAYING TRAINING SEMINAR

The subject program will be an in depth look at SKM Systems Analysis Power Tools software DAPPER and CAPTOR. One day will be spent on each software tool going over its use and capabilities. The instructor will be Lon Lindell, who is the senior software application engineer with SKM. This will be an excellent opportunity to learn how performing power systems analysis and protective relaying for Generation, Distribution, and Transmission systems is fun, fast and Dynamic with the use of the computer and these software tools. The course material will be presented via a data show and there will be 1 computer for each 2 participants. This is anticipated to fill quickly—Please do not delay in making your reservation— only 20 reservations will be taken. PE credits will be given.

DATE: Monday & Tuesday, November 10 & 11, 1997

COST: IEEE members: \$300, Non-members: \$400

(Note: This same course costs \$500 in California not including travel and lodging.)

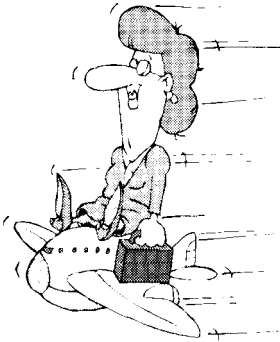
TIME: Class time is from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday & Tuesday

PLACE: Duke Energy Power Building, 422 S. Church St., Charlotte, NC, Room PB 3066A

Reservations are required. Contact one of the following:

Chris Clippinger—704-382-9333 Steve Ladd—704-382-6656 Lee Underwood—704-426-3016

CATHY'S CHATS



REFLECTIONS

This is my last column as your Charlotte Section Chair. It has been a busy year for me but I still remember struggling over that January issue. Although December marks the end of my Chairmanship, it is not the end of my support and participation in IEEE. One thing I have learned this year is that the Executive Committee needs many enthusiastic volunteers that want to see the Section thrive.

I had the pleasure of meeting many of you at the meetings organized by the officer team this year. We tried to mix both technical content, location, and times so that every member had an opportunity to attend the meetings. Our most successful meetings included discussions on the impact of open transmission access on electric utilities, MMX technology, DCS mobile phone technology, and Lotus Notes®. We traveled to Cope generating facility in South Carolina. Our

PACE meeting was a luncheon seminar on retirement planning. In addition to these meetings, social activities included the annual picnic at Latta Plantation and the Annual Banquet this month. I also met many of you at NCSE '97 on Wireless Communications which was a huge success for the North Carolina area.

For those of you who were unable to attend any meetings this year, we missed you! We hope to see you in January, 1998 when our technical meetings resume. We are all experiencing changes in work environments and society so I understand the need to make choices concerning your valuable time. We hope that next year you choose to attend one of our technical or social meetings. I encourage you to participate in IEEE Charlotte Section activities and take advantage of the networking potential with your fellow professionals. I hope to see you at the banquet or next year.

THANKS SO MUCH!

I want thank everyone on the Executive Committee for attending the committee and Section/Society meetings. This year could not have happened with you! Thanks especially to the officers, John Tannery, Kale Meade, Natalie Sayles, and Randy Groves who administered their duties and could always be counted on during "crunch" time. A special thanks to Carol Mullis and Roscoe White, directors/retirees that help us out all the time! Also, I want to recognize John Jacomino, Computer Society, and Chris Clippinger, Power Engineering Society, for handling these organizations and their meetings.

Thanks to Becky Harrison, Tracy Blackmon, and Bill Whitlock for their help and support at the committee meetings. Another special thanks to Paul Colaianni, the Electron editor. Without him, the issues would never be on time! Finally, thanks to all the individuals who served on the standing committees including the student branches.

FUTURE EVENTS

The Charlotte Section Annual Banquet is scheduled for **Wednesday, November 19th** — PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF DATE — see page 1 for complete details. It is important that you attend and cast your vote for the 1998 Section Officers and Directors. Please attend and show your support of next year's team.

Watch for details of next year's meetings in the next Electron. I look forward to seeing you at the Power Engineering Society meeting in January!

Cathy
Cathy Hope
Charlotte Section Chair

DOES IEEE HAVE YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS?

Many Charlotte Section members already communicate using electronic Mail. The executive committee is compiling a section electronic mailing list so members can receive updates on meetings, section activities and the latest from IEEE headquarters via e-mail. Please help us by including your e-mail address with your 1988 IEEE renewal information.

IEEE maintains a policy of confidentiality with respect to member information, so you can be confident that your E-mail address will not be distributed to any unwanted mailing lists. (No Junk Mail!!)

ADD YOUR E-MAIL ADDRESS TO YOUR 1988 IEEE RENEWAL FORM!

CHARLOTTE SECTION MEETINGS

Executive Committee Meeting
Wednesday, November 12

Charlotte Section Annual Banquet
Wednesday, November 19

Executive Committee Meeting
Annual Planning Meeting
Wednesday, December 10

WHAT IEEE-USA'S TRANSITION YEAR MEANS FOR U.S. MEMBERS (PART II)

by Daniel R. Benigni, Chair, IEEE United States Activities Board

In my last article, I discussed the direct election of leaders (President and Members-at-Large) for our new organization when the revised IEEE-USA Bylaws take effect on Jan. 1, 1998. But what about the other leaders, the five Vice Presidents (VPs) and the Secretary/Treasurer (S/T) whom our Assembly elects? Who are they and what will they do?

The five VPs will serve on the IEEE-USA Board and provide volunteer leadership for Career Activities, Member Activities, Technology Policy Activities, Professional Activities, and Operations. Four of these positions parallel the current Council Chairs and PACE Network Chair, while the fifth VP is entirely new. Operations will cover across-the-board activities, such as conference coordination, publication coordination, financial and strategic planning, and new business opportunities. However, we have only just started to discuss how much we should change the rest of the organization to take full advantage of these new positions.

Just what is this Assembly? It is NOT the IEEE Assembly, but is patterned after

After this transition year, the IEEE-USA Assembly will consist of the 11 directly-

elect members of the IEEE-USA Board, including the three Presidents (Past, Present and Elect), the Region 1-6 Directors, and the two Members-at-large. However, the new Bylaws did not specify an Assembly for this transition year. We considered a number of options, but your Board decided at its last meeting to have an Assembly for 1997 that consists of the Chair and Past Chair of USAB, and the Region 1-6 directors. This Assembly will meet at the end of the year to determine who will fill the five VP and S/T positions.

Why should you care what this Assembly does? Although you do not directly elect the volunteers who will fill the VP and the S/T positions, they are important to you for several reasons. First, by definition, this Assembly meets in your place and represents you, the member, when it's not possible to bring all members together in one place. Second, the VPs and the S/T will become new volunteer leaders on the IEEE-USA Board for the following year, and represent your interests on the Board. Third, if you or any other qualified members are interested in any of these positions, the N&A committee needs to hear from you now. Finally, there

is a petition process for these Assembly-elected positions to allow for candidates other than those USAB's Nominations and Appointments Committee (N&A) nominates.

Because it is a transition year, the IEEE-USA Board must also approve, at the last Board meeting of the year, candidates for election in 1998 for the positions of President-elect of IEEE-USA 1999, and the Member-at-Large 1999-2000. Again, the N&A committee will supply lists of qualified candidates for these positions to the IEEE-USA Board, who will then select the Board-approved candidates for next year's election process. There is a petition process for other candidates for these positions as well. Please let the N&A know if you are willing to serve, or know other qualified candidates whom the Committee should consider.

In my next article, I will describe some of the priorities, other than transition activities, that have kept me hopping this year, which is now almost over. I would appreciate hearing from you through the IEEE-USA Office at 202-785-0017, or by e-mail at d.benigni@ieee.org.

IEEE-USA NEWS BYTES

- The National Building Museum, in conjunction with National Engineers Week, will present a new exhibit, *Breaking Through: The Creative Engineer*, beginning in February 1998. The museum is seeking photographs of engineers at work, as well as on creativity in engineering. Engineers can submit their photos (color or black-and-white, any size), captions, and quotations to exhibit curator Robert Friedel, National Building Museum, 401 F Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20001. Photos will be returned upon request.
- SAT Math scores are up but engineering enrollment is coming down, according to a survey of the Class of 2001 by the College Board. Despite the infotech revolution, only eight percent of incoming college freshmen chose engineering as their intended major—down from 11 percent 10 years ago. Women are even scarcer: fewer than one out of five engineering freshmen will be women, according to the survey.

- The White House Nominated IEEE member Duncan Moore on Aug. 29 to replace the departed Lionel (Skip) Johns as associate director for technology of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy. Currently, Henry Kelley is acting associate director. Moore is dean of engineering at the University of Rochester and is a former Optical Society of America president and former American Physical Society congressional fellow with Senator John D. (Jay) Rockefeller IV, D-Va.

SO FAR, SO GOOD: CAPITOL HILL ACTION ON IEEE-USA GOALS ENCOURAGING

by George F. McClure, Editor,
Technology Policy Council

Now that the budget bills are signed, it's time to see how Congress and the Administration are translating their promises into realities, and how they're meeting IEEE-USA's 10 specific legislative goals. So far, the news is encouraging. By the time Congress recessed in August,

significant progress, in the form of legislation enacted, had been made on five of our priorities, and other bills advancing our positions are pending. Here's a look at the actions on some of our goals:

• Savings Opportunities

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-35) provided significant expansions of Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs), raising income thresholds, allowing penalty-free early withdrawals for first-time homebuyers or long-term unemployment, and creating a new "Roth IRA" (or IRA Plus) for higher-income households.

• Research and Experimentation

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 (Public Law 105-34), as signed by President Clinton on Aug. 5, extends the R&E tax credit 13 months for the period June 1, 1997 through June 30, 1998. Although the credit had expired on May 31 of this year, it will be made retroactive.

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ELECTRON ARTICLES & COMMENTS

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 Colaianne, *ELECTRON* Editor

IEEE-UNITED STATES ACTIVITIES

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