



The Open Channel

Newsletter for the Hampton Roads Section

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

April 2000

April Meeting

"The Virginia Modeling and Simulation Center"

Speakers: Dr. Roland R. Mielke

Technical Director, VMASC

Date: Thursday, April 20, 2000

Location: Sammy & Nicks

2718 Mercury Blvd.

Hampton, Virginia

Schedule: 6:00 p.m. - Administrative Meeting 6:30 p.m. - Social

7:00 p.m. - Dinner

7:30 p.m. - Speaker

Price: Member - \$15.00 Student - \$7.50

Guest - \$15.00

Directions: Take I-64 to Mercury Blvd. (from the south side, go through the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel), Exit westbound on to Mercury Blvd., and travel approximately 1.5 miles. Sammy and Nicks is on the right.

The Virginia Modeling, Analysis and Simulation Center (VMASC) will celebrate its third anniversary this coming July. This month's speaker is Dr. Roland R. Mielke, technical director for VMASC. He will present an update on the state of the Center and discuss one of the Center's recent projects, the Busch Gardens Traffic Management Simulation. This simulation was developed to assist Busch Gardens evaluate and refine its planned

strategy for parking guest vehicles at its Williamsburg theme park once the new Grove Interchange is complete. The simulation design and application are discussed and the actual simulation is demonstrated.

From the Chair

As the new Chairman of the Hampton Roads IEEE Section, I am concerned that we have less than 5 percent of our members participating in the local meetings. Last year, Bill Labelle worked very hard to improve communication with the membership and, although the postal service is still sometimes slow, we now have both email and a web site which provides the information to us. This year we are attempting to vary the subjects of our speakers to see if we can reach more of you. If you have a specific topic of interest please contact me at 757-873-4467, [ssimmons\(at\)ieee.org](mailto:ssimmons(at)ieee.org) or Wilfredo Avila-Perez (vice-chair) at [w.avila-perez\(at\)ieee.org](mailto:w.avila-perez(at)ieee.org)

Sam Simmons

IEEE Online Store and Catalog

For the first time, the IEEE's wide range of products are available for purchase on the Web. The new IEEE Online Store & Catalog opened for business on 28 Dec 1999 at <http://www.ieee.org/ieeestore>. It provides the definitive catalog of IEEE products including books, conference proceedings, subscriptions, standards, mixed-media products and merchandise. User-friendly and fully searchable, the service allows shoppers to make secure credit card transactions. Added features include shopping lists and a help desk. The store uses software that has been proven successful for many well-known Internet retailers [such as Barnes & Noble, Dell, Eddie Bauer, and Office Depot.]

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Educational Activities Board

For complete access to IEEE educational products and programs, log onto www.ieee.org/eab. The site offers the online education reading room, video on-demand, the NewsWire, contests and prizes, and much more.

Tell Us About Your Local Engineering Events

Are you organizing or sponsoring a local event of interest to the engineering community? Let us know! Contact chapter president Sam Simmons (ssimmons@ieee.org) or newsletter editor Sonja Ebron (sebron@ieee.org) to have your event announced in upcoming editions of *Open Channel*. With distribution to over 1000 local IEEE members each month, you cant afford to ignore this free resource.

Symposia and Conferences

Southcon 2000 is scheduled for May 23rd - 25th in Orlando, FL. For more information, contact Tome Klote at (407) 226-2319 or (t.klote@ieee.org). Advance registration is available at <http://www.southcon.com>. The Year 2000 marks Southcons 20th Anniversary as the Southeast's largest component technology event for electronic systems design and OEM engineers and professionals. The Southcon Board of Directors are proud to announce the addition of two Special Events:

Robot Exhibition:

Selected teams from southeastern universities who competed in SoutheastCon, April, 2000 in Nashville, TN, have been invited to display and to demonstrate their completed hardware projects (robots).

Electric Vehicle Exhibit:

- Automobile Powered by an Advanced Nickel Metal Hydride Battery System
- The "Gator" Fuel Cell Powered Utility Vehicle
- Stationary PEM Fuel Cell powered by natural gas
- Formula E car competitively raced by Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- Electric Power-Assist scooter by ZAPWORLD.COM

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IEEE Hampton Roads Section

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