



The Open Channel

Newsletter for the Hampton Roads Section

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

May 2000

May Meeting

"Multijunction Amorphous Silicon Photovoltaic Modules"

Speaker: Dr. Ralph Romero
Director of New Processes and Materials
BP Solarex

Date:Thursday, May 25, 2000

Location:Aberdeen Barn (New!)
5805 Northampton Blvd.
Virginia Beach, VA

Directions:Take I-64 to Northampton Blvd. exit (Hwy 13). Proceed north (thru 2 lights) 3/4 mile. Restaurant is the dark red building on the right.

Schedule:6:30 p.m. - Social
7:00 p.m. - Dinner
7:30 p.m. - Speaker

Price:Members - \$15.00
Students - \$7.50
Guests - \$15.00

Abstract: The largest amorphous silicon photovoltaic manufacturing facility in the world is located in James City County. Dr. Romero will discuss the structure of the devices made by BP Solarex at this plant, as well as the manufacturing process. He will also address the issues of module performance and long-term reliability.

From the Chair

This month's meeting is the last for the spring/summer season. We will resume meeting the third week in September.

We received several interesting and thought provoking emails from members who, though not attending meetings, are interested in the speakers and IEEE activities. Therefore, I am seeking a few people who can donate some time to accomplish the following:

Locate an easily accessible restaurant with meeting rooms on the South side so we can rotate meetings again. Work with officers over the summer to obtain the equipment necessary to video each speaker and provide access to videos through our Web page.

Other ideas will be considered, also. Thank you for your interest in the Hampton Roads IEEE.

Sam Simmons

2000 Section Officers

Chair: Sam Simmons [ssimmons\(at\)ieee.org](mailto:ssimmons(at)ieee.org)

Vice Chair: Wilfredo Avila-Perez [w.avila-perez\(at\)ieee.org](mailto:w.avila-perez(at)ieee.org)

Treasurer: Sonja Ebron [sebron\(at\)ieee.org](mailto:sebron(at)ieee.org)

Secretary: Greg Gallagher gallaghj@eustis.army.mil

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ETI Web Site: <http://sandbox.ieee.org/r03/eti/eti.html>

ETI Authorisation: eti-info@eng.uab.edu

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\(at\)ieee.org](mailto:ssimmons(at)ieee.org)) or newsletter editor Sonja Ebron ([sebron\(at\)ieee.org](mailto:sebron(at)ieee.org)) to have your event announced in upcoming editions of *Open Channel*. With distribution to over 1000 local IEEE members each month, you can't afford to ignore this free resource.

Symposia and Conferences

Southcon 2000 is scheduled for May 23rd - 25th in Orlando, FL. For more information, contact Tom Klote at (407) 226-2319 or t.klote(at)ieee.org. Advance registration is available at <http://www.southcon.com>. The Year 2000 marks Southcon's 20th Anniversary as the Southeast's largest component technology event for electronic systems design and OEM engineers and professionals. The Southcon Board of Directors is 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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in the body of the message. You may leave the subject line blank.

This issue is the last hard-copy mailing to the entire membership. If you wish to continue receiving the Open Channel by US Mail, please tear off the lower 1/3 of this newsletter (containing your mailing address), fold and return to us, US postage paid.

IEEE Hampton Roads Section

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