



pIEEEEdmont potential



A PUBLICATION OF THE PIEDMONT SECTION OF THE IEEE

January, 2000

<http://www.carol.net/ieee/>

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From the Chairman

Mark Stokes

Last year, I started my term as chair of this section by mentioning some of the benefits of being an IEEE member. Unfortunately, I am starting this year without a vice-chair. I was wondering why, with all of the benefits of being an officer in this section, why there aren't more people willing to volunteer. I thought that maybe the older professionals were possibly too busy, and the younger professionals were possibly worried about doing a bad job. This in mind, I decided to speak a few words on how I came to be an officer.

Nick Pasquerilla asked me to come to an Ex-Com meeting because I had a slight interest in helping with the newsletter. After a year of folding and stamping newsletters, I took over the job of newsletter editor. Shortly after that I decided I didn't like sticking stamps to envelopes so I found a sponsor to do this. It didn't cost the section any more money and it made the job much easier for me.

During the ex-com meetings that followed, I decided to sign on as treasurer. The treasurer position is the first because it is very easy. Just keep the books going (only about one or two receipts a month). At the end of the year a short form is filled out. I received a great sense of gratification out of "having the checkbook" for the section. The rest of my career in the IEEE is history, but suffice it to say, I don't regret having asked Nick about the newsletter (which I still do to this day) one bit.

National Engineering Week

February 20 to 26, 2000

Nick Pasquerilla

National Engineers week is February 20 to 26, 2000. As in the past, the Piedmont section will be doing visits to local Middle and High schools to give a presentation on Engineering to students. We

do this in conjunction with the local Chapter of the Professional Engineers (NSPE). The visits are usually about 45 minutes and we have some prepared material to assist. If any member is interested in helping with this, or requires more info, please contact Nick Pasquerilla at 864-882-2414 x271 or n.pasquerilla@ieee.org.

Next Meeting

January 27, 2000

Student Paper Competition

Mark Stokes

Well, it's January again, time for our annual Student Paper Competition. Each year our section sponsors a competition between the students in our section. Usually, the students come from Clemson; however, this is not part of the rules. It can be any student member of the IEEE in an EE type of undergraduate program (i.e. Computer Engineering is ok also). We devote one of our meetings to this competition where the students are to present their paper to the people present. There will be a few members who will volunteer as judges, which will make the final call on placement. There are cash prizes awarded to the first, second, and third placeholders. The students are judged on more than technical content. The categories (weight) are:

1. Speaking Techniques (25)
2. Style (15)
3. Intro and Conclusion (20)
4. Technical Presentation (30)
5. Discussion (10)

The top two placeholders are invited to take their presentations to the next level of competition where they will compete against others from around the region.

This is a great chance for the students to get a feel for speaking about their profession in front of a group of their peers without the pressure of a job loss or other pressure. We encourage discussion on how the speaker has done and can potentially improve on his/her speaking skills. Please make a point to come out to support our young IEEE professionals.

Dinner will be served in classic college style with multiple varieties of pizzas. Dinner cost is \$5 for members and guests, \$3 for students. The meeting will be held on the campus of Clemson University in the new EIB building. The building is to the back and right of the ECE department building.

Directions from Anderson or Greenville: turn left on Hy 93 (either from Hy 123 or Hy 76). Come to the second light (from Hy 76) and make a left. Proceed straight through the stop sign and follow the road around a slight left curve. Straight through another stop sign and the ECE building is straight ahead. After making a sharp right turn, take the next left. Down to the end of this road, the EIB building is across the street. It is marked the "Flour Daniel Building". Parking passes will be

provided inside the meeting room #132.

Directions from Seneca: Exit on Hy 76 from Hy 123. Follow the above directions from there.

From the Editor

Mark Stokes

Getting the Newsletter too late to make the meeting? Have an email address? Send it to me. I am usually done with the newsletter more than a week in advance of the meeting, however, because of printing times, USPS, etc., it doesn't arrive until just before the meeting. I do send the newsletter via email right after I write it! I can email it to you as soon as it's done! The newsletter will come in plain text. It is also available online at the web page listed above.

Use this space to reach over 400 IEEE members in the Piedmont section.

The Piedmont Potential is offering space for sale. Please contact Mark Stokes.

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Use this space to reach over 450 IEEE members in this section!!

The Piedmont section of the IEEE is still offering sections of its newsletter for advertising space. If you are interested in supporting this effort, please contact one of the [officers](#) listed above.

-Mark