



IEEE *PIEEE*Edmont Potential

A publication of the IEEE Piedmont Section - March 2007

Section Web page: <http://ewh.ieee.org/r3/piedmont/>

Council Web page: http://www.ieee.org/sc_council

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Jerry Clark

Happy belated New Year! Thanks to those who gave me their vote of confidence to serve as this year's Piedmont Section Chairperson. Also, please give your full support to our new Vice Chair Louis Hapeshis and the newest member of our executive committee Owen Parks, who will serve as our Secretary/Treasurer. I look forward to working with them this year. I would also like to thank Mark Stokes, Robert Scruggs, and Lee Stogner for their continued guidance and direction.

The executive committee met in early January to map out a few goals to put into place for the coming year. In addition, we voted to contribute \$5000 to the scholarship endowment fund, and donated \$500 to the Clemson University SoutheastCon Robotics Team. We will also donate \$500 to a local FIRST Robotics Team.

At the end of January, we also presented awards to the top 3 finishers at the Clemson Student Paper Competition. Congratulations to the winners.

This month's meeting will be of wide interest to our members, as global warming and energy issues dominate news headlines more and more. Our speaker will be Dr. Nicholas Rigas. We

welcome Dr. Rigas and thanks to Lee for arranging this timely presentation.

In addition, we are still working on setting up a plant tour of the Oconee Nuclear Power Station. I have been working on this since late last year, and hopefully we can make it happen in the coming months. As you can appreciate, in the post-9/11 era, a request such as this is first met with skepticism, as security is first and foremost on everyone's mind. However, I have had a positive response thus far, and will continue to work to see this through.

Finally, we have a number of blue denim button-up shirts for sale to Piedmont Section members. The cost is \$20 each, in a range of sizes. I will have them at the meeting for anyone who is interested.

If you have any topics that you would like to know more about, or if you would like to make a presentation at a future meeting, please don't hesitate to contact me at jerry.clark@ieee.org, or one of the other officers. See you at the meeting!

NEXT MEETING

South Carolina Institute for Energy Studies

Lee Stogner

Tuesday, March 22 2007

This month, we will have Dr. Nicholas Rigas give a presentation on the SCIES program at Clemson. The mission of the South Carolina Institute for Energy Studies is to promote energy research and development in and for the state, to transfer energy technology developed by others to South Carolina applications, to contribute to national energy issues in areas of excellence, and to promote state-wide energy education activities.

Dr. Nicholas C. Rigas, SCIES' director, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience collected during a very successful career in the Chemical Engineering field. Prior to coming to SCIES, Dr. Rigas served as Director of Technology and Manufacturing, Lithium Division, with FMC Corporation in Charlotte, NC. Before that he was a Process Engineer in the Semiconductor Division with Texas Instruments in Dallas, TX.

Dr. Rigas received his Doctorate of Science degree in Chemical Engineering from Washington University in St. Louis, MO. He received his master's degree at Kansas State University and his

bachelor's degree at the University of Missouri, Rolla.

Meeting Details:

6:30pm Dinner/Social 1/2 Hour

7:00pm Meeting begins

Dinner will be served from Fatz Cafe. Dinner cost is \$5 for members and guests and free for unemployed/retired members and students (no charge to attend). The meeting location is ECPI College of Technology, 1001

Keys Drive #100, Greenville, SC 29615. Please email Jerry Clark (jerry.clark@ieee.org) if you plan to attend and especially if you plan to eat.

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