

IEEE Richmond Section
Section Report to the IEEE Virginia Council
March 1, 2003

The Richmond Section of the IEEE has been active in the following areas:

1. Section Meetings

The Section held monthly meetings at the Sheraton Richmond West Hotel, 6624 West Broad Street, Richmond. The Section executive board solicited menus and meal prices from a variety of businesses which agreed to commit space for our monthly meeting needs. The Section selected the Sheraton for its reasonable price of \$20 per meal, service, commitment to Section needs, and central location for the membership.

On September 5, 2002, Mr. Rick L. Wakefield, Systems Engineer, Cisco Systems, Inc., spoke on "Wireless LAN Communications." Several of the attendees included those who have not been attending for a long time. There were several questions from the audience, as the topic generated high interest among the members.

On October 3, 2002, the keynote speaker was Mr. Mike Caccia, Technical Account Manager, Siemens Energy and Automation, Food and Beverage. His speech was titled: "Trends in Motion Control." The topic held the interest of members and guests, who lead a lively discussion regarding the presentation.

On November 7, 2002, Mr. Mark Mitchell, Project Manager, Combined Cycle Projects, Dominion Energy, spoke on: "PROJECT MANAGEMENT in REVIEW: KEY POINTS for SUCCESS." The speaker presented a scenario of a project, and discussed all the technical and managerial issues that come to play from conception to construction completion.

The December 5, 2002, meeting had to be cancelled due to inclement weather and low reservations.

On January 9, 2003, Mr. George McClure, Region 3 PACE Chairman, spoke on engineering careers, benefits, and other professional issues. The meeting was very enlightening. Several of the Virginia Commonwealth University IEEE Student Branch attended, together with the Dean of the College of Engineering, Dr. Mattouck.

The February meeting was the Richmond Joint Engineers' Council (RJEC) Annual Engineers' Banquet. The keynote speaker was Dr. John Fenn, Nobel Prize Winner for Chemistry. It was held at the Jefferson Hotel, Richmond. Community leaders were recognized and Student Paper finalists were awarded scholarships: First Place \$1,000, Second Place \$400, and Third Place \$250, all in savings bonds.

On March 6, 2003, The topic will be: "A Business Model for Electric Systems Reliability in a Deregulated Market." The speaker will be Mr. Harold Adams, Dominion Resources Services. The meeting will be jointly held with the Power Engineering Society Chapter. During the social, interested members can sign up to establish a new Computer Society Chapter.

The April 3, 2003, meeting will feature Software XP, while the May 8, 2003 meeting will be reserved for a forum on Process Control.

All meetings are announced in the Richmond Times-Dispatch, free of charge. Additionally, the Section meetings are on the Richmond Section web site and sent to subscribers to the major domo electronically. Meeting attendance has been averaging in the middle 30.

2. There is a new look for the IEEE Richmond Section Web Site at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/richmond/>. The new look includes links to other IEEE web sites, a historian page, past programs and presentations, presentation for the month, recognition of Section Sponsors: ITAC, IBM, and Infineon. In addition to that there is a list of the Section Officers and their telephone numbers.
3. The Section enhanced the content of its newsletter, a copy of which is attached to this report.
4. The section participated in the 2003 Sections Congress, by sending Mr. Andy Shulick as a delegate. He reported to the Section on his unique and exciting experience.
5. The Section voted to encourage area engineering schools to establish IEEE Student Branches, by offering to provide financial incentives to cover some of the chapter meeting expenses.
6. The Section elected new officers: Adeeb Hamzey, chairman; Andrew Shulick, vice chairman; Greg Tait, treasurer; and Barbara King, secretary.
7. The executive board nominated Adeeb Hamzey to represent the Section at the Virginia Council and act in the capacity of Section PACE chairman.

The 2002 – 2003 season has been a great success for the IEEE Richmond Section. Renewed member interest in section meetings is a good example of the vitality of the section.

Respectfully submitted by:

Adeeb Hamzey
Chairman,
IEEE Richmond Section
2/28/03