



VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

IEEE Region 3, Council 09, Section 65

March 2009

Thursday, March 19, Holiday Inn Hotel Roanoke Airport The Virginia Tech Robot Team Report on the Region 3 Student Hardware Contest

The Virginia Tech robot team will report on their design of a recycling robot for the Region 3 Student Hardware Contest held at SoutheastCon '09 in Atlanta.

Rules, Sections I & II:

I. Introduction

Athletic stadiums and college campuses are plagued by the issue of trash after tailgating parties, after which there is often an assortment of glass, plastic, and aluminum beverage containers. This is both unsightly and time consuming to clean up, and represents a potentially significant source of untapped recyclable materials. By developing an autonomous robot that can locate, sort, and separately store the different containers, the manpower needed for cleaning can be reduced.

II. Objective

Robots must locate, obtain, sort, and store used beverage products. All sorting and storage is to be done on the robot. Points are awarded for the collected objects at the end of the round. Some points will be awarded for unsorted items; however, more points will be awarded for correctly sorted items. The winners will be judged on points with 16 run time being the tiebreaker.

(http://hardware.gt-ieee.org/southeastcon2009/hardware-competition/SoutheastCon_2009_Hardware_Rules.pdf, Sections I & II)

Date: Thursday, March 19, 2009
Social: 6:30 PM
Dinner: 7:00 PM
Talks: 8:00 PM
Cost:
Members & Guests \$20.00
Students \$10.00

Reserve by 5 PM Monday March 16, 2009

Dr. Wilbur Dale (540) 464-7547

dalewn@vmi.edu

Please specify the number of attendees.

Directions to Holiday Inn Hotel Roanoke Airport

2727 Ferndale Drive NW
I-581, Exit 3
Hershberger Rd West
1st Rt. onto Ordway Drive, ¼ mile,
Rt. into parking lot.

IEEE and Eta Kappa Nu Honor Society Sign Merger Agreement

From F.Tardo, IEEE External Communications Manager

24 February -- IEEE signed a merger agreement with the honor society ETA Kappa Nu (HKN), a nonprofit, public-service organization comprising nearly 200 university chapters, 14 February 2009. The merger, which will go into effect by mid-2009 pending final approval, will make HKN the official honor society of IEEE, recognizing scholarship and academic excellence and identifying student leaders, young professionals and eminent scholars in the IEEE's technical fields of interest.

Under the agreement, HKN will become an organizational unit of IEEE, governed by the new IEEE-HKN Board of Governors. A restricted endowment will be created in the IEEE Foundation to support HKN's educational, societal, and recognition activities. In addition to holding HKN's current assets, the new endowment will receive an initial donation of US \$1.2M from IEEE.

Read the full press release at <http://www.ieee.org/web/aboutus/news/2009/24feb.html>

VMS OFFICERS

Chairman: Chris Bonadeo
cbonadeo@verizon.net

Vice Chairman: Wilbur Dale
dalewn@vmi.edu 464-7547

Sec./Treasurer: F. Gail Gray
fggray@vt.edu

VMS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AT-LARGE MEMBERS

David Geer
dgeer@ieee.org

Cy Harbourt
cdharbourt@ieee.org

Howard Moses
mmoses@ieee.org

Bob Wakefield

Junior Past Chairman: Jan Helge Bohn
bohn@ieee.org

VMS CHAPTER CHAIRS

Computer, Control Systems, & Industrial Electronics:
Lynn Abbott
abbott@vt.edu

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Dave Livingston
d.livingston@ieee.org
540-464-7545

Contact the newsletter editor to be added to the VMS listserv.

WEBSITE

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/virginia-mountain>
Webmaster: Chris Bonadeo
cbonadeo@verizon.net