



VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

IEEE Region 3, Council 09, Section 65

March 2007

Thursday, March 15, Clarion Hotel Roanoke Airport

Highlights of the Virginia Energy Plan

Professor Ronald A. Erchul, PhD., PE, CPG
Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Virginia Military Institute

ABSTRACT

The Virginia Energy Plan establishes an energy policy for the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Virginia Energy Plan is being prepared by the Division of Energy of the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy, in consultation with the State Corporation Commission, Department of Environmental Quality, and Virginia Center for Coal and Energy Research. It is to be completed by July 1, 2007 and submitted to the state legislature. If approved by the legislature, it will go to the governor for his signature. It addresses the energy supply; the energy consumption; the energy efficiency; the energy conservation; the energy infrastructure; and the effects of energy exploitation and consumption on the environment. While the Virginia Energy Plan is still a work in progress and the contents may change, this presentation will explore why an energy plan is needed, the issues that are addressed by the plan, and the probable recommendations of the plan.

SPEAKER

Ron Erchul received his Ph.D. in Ocean Engineering from the University of Rhode Island. He holds a MS in Oceanography from the Naval

Postgraduate School, and B.S. in Engineering from the United States Naval Academy. He is a registered professional engineer and a certified professional geologist in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Ron was a Navy Line Officer, Civil Engineer Corp Officer and a Certified Navy Diver. Upon retiring from Naval Service, he joined the faculty of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the Virginia Military Institute (VMI), Lexington, VA. Ron is a professor of Civil Engineering and teaches the importance of geological and environmental processes and geological hazards on engineering works. His area of expertise is in the use of in situ geophysical testing in the karst area of Virginia. Ron continues to pursue and develop new techniques, methods and instrumentation in geophysics and geotechnology to measure non-destructively and indirectly engineering and environmental parameters required in accurate site assessment. In addition, he has worked to establish and teaches courses in the Environmental Leadership and Management minor at the Institute. Ron also coordinates the Environment Virginia Symposium held each April and the Commonwealth of

Virginia Information Technology Symposium (COVITS) held each September at VMI from 1999-2002. He has also developed a new State conference entitled Commonwealth of Virginia Energy Sustainability (COVES) to be held at VMI in September 2007. Ron enjoys living in the mountains of Virginia and he and his wife, Beverly, live and operate an angus beef cattle farm in Rockbridge County, Virginia.

Date: Thursday March 15, 2007
Social: 6:30 PM
Dinner: 7:00 PM
Talks: 8:00PM
Cost: Member or Guest \$20.00
Student \$10.00

Reserve by **5 PM Monday March 12**
Dr. Wilbur Dale (540) 464-7547
[mail to:dalewn@vmi.edu](mailto:dalewn@vmi.edu)
Please specify number of attendees.

Directions to
Clarion Hotel Roanoke Airport
2727 Ferndale Drive NW
I581 Exit 3 Hershberger Rd West
1st Rt. onto Ordway Drive,
¼ mile, Rt. Into Parking Lot.

DINNER PRICE INCREASE

It may be noted that the price of the dinner at the VMS meetings has been increased to \$20 for members and guests, and \$10 for students. The previous prices, \$15 for members and \$8 for students, had not been changed for many years, although the costs have continually risen. The new prices were approved by the VMS Executive Committee at its February 15 meeting. Even at the new prices there is a sizable subsidy of the members' dinner, and of course even more so for that of the students.

STUDENT PAPER CONTEST

About 35 people were in attendance at the February VMS meeting for the annual Student Paper contest. There were four papers that had been selected for presentation at the meeting. The talks were all extremely interesting, well-organized and very clearly presented. The speakers were poised and answered questions well. The judges indeed had a difficult task, but came up with the following awards totaling \$750.



Will Flathers

First Prize: \$300

Emergency Underground Communication Using Seismic Waves
Will Flathers, VMI



Isaac Putnam

Second Prize: \$200

Electrons, Holes, and the Hall Effect
Isaac Putnam, VMI



Marcus Oliver

Third Prize: \$150

Design and Layout of a Nanosensor Array and Readout Circuit
Marcus Oliver, Virginia Tech



Derek O'Neill

Fourth Prize: \$100

Framework for Design, Verification and Analysis of SystemC
Derek O'Neill, Virginia Tech

MEETING SUGGESTIONS

Anyone having suggestions for topics or speakers for subsequent meetings should contact Wilbur Dale dalewn@vmi.edu, Vice-Chair of the Virginia Mountain Section. We are looking to increase attendance and participation in Section meetings and welcome your suggestions.

PHOTOS FROM FEB. MEETING



Executive Committee members Ed Tuttle (left) & Gail Gray(right)



Gloria Moses and Glen Hammond



Shawn Addington, Jan Helge Bohn, and Dave Livingston reviewing the evidence

IEEE CONSULTANTS AFFINITY GROUP/VMS

The Virginia Mountain Section Consultant's Network Affinity Group has been officially approved by IEEE. The purpose of this Affinity Group is to share information concerning consulting opportunities, and to make a list of consultants and their areas of expertise available to potential employers.

The following is the current listing of consultants:

1. Tuttle International Tech. Marketing, Roanoke

(540)977 4007, Re Electromechanics, Robotics, and Intellectual Property Processes.

2. Squire Consulting,

www.jimsquire.com. Biomedical engineering, instrumentation, endovascular stenting, patent litigation.

3. David H. Geer, PE Geer & Associates, LLC

540-774-4905
d.geer@ieee.org

Mathematical models for industrial processes.
Software development and maintenance in C, C++, Ada, and Fortran.
Website design, development, and maintenance.

4. Ingrid Burbey, IT Works Software Development.

iburbey@vt.edu

Website: filebox.vt.edu/users/iburbey
Embedded, real-time systems, C, Assembly; Woman-owned Business Enterprise (certified in Virginia)

5. Ira Jacobs

ijacobs@vt.edu

<http://www.ece.vt.edu/faculty/jacobs>

Telecommunications and fiber optics

Anyone wishing to be added to this group, or desiring more information should contact Ed Tuttle, Affinity Group Chair, tuttleone@earthlink.net.

REGION 3 NEWSLETTER

The latest version of the Region 3 Newsletter has been published and is now available on-line as a PDF file. The direct URL is

http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/R3_1-2007b.pdf

and from a link on the web page

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/>.

The newsletter includes

Director's message

Road map outlining strategic direction

Introduction of the Region 3 Blog and how to access it

IEEE Foundation Grant Process

Call for Nominations of IEEE Fellows

Membership status and growth plans

IEEE-USA Employment Services

Upcoming Conferences in the Region:

SoutheastCon 2007, Richmond, - March

2007 IEEE Power Engineering Society

General Meeting, Tampa, FL --June

IEEE SoutheastCon 2007

Richmond Marriott Hotel, 500 East Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23219

Thursday, 22 March 2007 through Sunday, 25 March 2007

The Southeast's Premier Technical Conference

- Technical program
- Tutorials and Seminars
- Exhibits
- Student competitions
 - Technical papers
 - Hardware
 - Software
 - Website
 - Ethics
 - T-shirt design

See Southeastcon 2007 website for more details

<http://www.southeastcon.org/2007/>

Southeastcon is co-hosted by the Virginia Mountain Section

2007 VMS OFFICERS

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NEWSLETTER

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