

**Attention Chapter Chairs
and
Anyone Considering the Position**

**Need help with Meetings?
Or Wondering What You Would
Do?**

Meetings help to achieve the goals of education and professional advancement basic to all IEEE Technical Societies and provide a way to manage Chapter business. For some pointers on the basic components of holding successful meetings, go to the Section/Chapter Support Web page at

www.ieee.org/ra/scs/

Select the link for Resources for Officers, then "How to hold a Successful Chapter Meeting."

...*editor*

**Do You Have An IEEE Web
Account?**

You've probably heard many references to IEEE Web Accounts but still may be asking "What is it, and why do I need one?" IEEE Web Accounts provide IEEE members and customers with access to a growing number of online services, many of them free. Web Accounts provide access to Bibliographies Online, BooksPlus, and Spectrum Online; renewing membership; shopping in the IEEE Online Catalog & Store; and soon, access to IEEE Xplore.

According to IEEE Executive Director Dan Senese, "Upcoming areas of planned migration to Web Accounts are e-mail alias services, IEEE OPERA (through Xplore), and other to-be-announced Society-oriented services and publications."

To register for an IEEE Web Account or for more information, visit

<http://www.ieee.org/web/accounts/>.

Electronic Newsletter

Please Sign On

Update

We still need members to sign up for e-mail distribution of the Newsletter.

As noted previously, the Newsletter is the largest single expense in the Section's budget. The total cost is about \$0.50 per copy. That's a small number but We send out about 500 copies each month. We are trying to trim the mailing to free funds for other uses.

Please send your name to the editor (j.fennick@ieee.org) with a short note requesting sign-on. We will see that you are placed on the distribution list.

Note, the Newsletter is also available, along with back issues, on our Web site. Go to:

[www.ewh.ieee.
org/r3/virginia-mountain](http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/virginia-mountain)

...*editor*

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

by **Dan Jackson**
d.jackson@ieee.org

SENIOR MEMBER:
CONGRATULATIONS to **Tom Hochkeppel** who was elevated to Senior Member at the Dec 11 A & A Panel meeting in Roanoke.

Summer is over. The kids are back in school. It's time to put the IEEE Section meeting back onto the calendar. For the September 21 program we have IEEE Past President Ken Laker. You may remember he was scheduled last year but Hurricane Floyd interfered. We are looking forward to a good turnout to welcome Ken. It is not often we are able to get one of the IEEE presidents.

By this time you have received your IEEE ballot or will shortly. Be sure to cast your vote. Many IEEE elections are decided by only a few votes difference. **YOUR VOTE DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE!** There are three candidates for President Elect: Art Winston, Pete Morley, and Ray Findlay. All are excellent men but my personal choice at this time is Art. You must decide for yourself who you like and send in your vote. Be sure to vote for any other offices listed on your individualized ballot.

The Section lost the chair of the joint chapter of Electron Devices/Microwave Theory & Techniques when Tim Gittemeier moved to Texas. This chapter will be dissolved in November if it does not hold a meeting this fall and if we cannot get someone to be chapter chair. If you are a member of either of these societies and want to have a local chapter contact me.

Last June the Section adopted new Bylaws which changed the term of our officers to the calendar year. This fall we will have a local election of officers, executive committee members-at-large, and chapter chairs. If you are interested in becoming involved contact David Livingston, d.livingston@ieee.org, our Nominating Committee chair.

...*Dan Jackson*

CHAPTER NEWS

**Attention! Members of the Electron
Devices and Microwave Theory &
Techniques Societies**

Our local ED/MTT Chapter is in danger of being dissolved. As there has been only one reported meeting of this chapter in 1998, 1999, and 2000, the Regional Activities Board may remove the chapter from the list of IEEE active chapters at the November meeting. If any one is interested in keeping this Chapter active contact me, Dan Jackson, d.jackson@ieee.org, or 540-774-0484. Future efforts to reestablish a dissolved Chapter will require a new petition and approvals by the Region

Director and the Society Presidents. It is easier to revive a dormant Chapter than to restart a dissolved Chapter. It is your Chapter. If you want it, call me. - 540-774-0484

...*Dan Jackson*

Reference-Linking Service Goes Live

CrossRef, the reference-linking service, went live on 5 June 2000. The IEEE and 32 other leading scientific and scholarly publishers are participating in this initiative, which will revolutionize the way engineers and scientists use the Internet to conduct online research.

According to CrossRef Executive Director Ed Pentz, "CrossRef is now well on its way to becoming the comprehensive source for linking journal articles. The reference links that researchers want and need are starting to appear."

For a demonstration of the live reference links, visit

[http://
www.crossref.org/demos/gallery.htm](http://www.crossref.org/demos/gallery.htm)

How IEEE-USA Benefits the U.S. Member

George F. McClure

Editor, IEEE-USA Technology Policy Activities

Some members belong to IEEE primarily to receive publications on electrotechnology and, perhaps, to attend technical meetings sponsored by their technical society or its local chapters. Some belong to take advantage of the insurance program or other aspects of the Financial Advantage program. Some find their chief attraction in the Engineering Management or the Professional Communication Societies. Perceptive members may realize the opportunities available to them to develop organizational skills through running local sections, tutorials, or working on technical

conferences. A relatively small number belong to participate in standards development.

Many members may not realize the ways in which IEEE-USA advances the professional and career interests of the IEEE U.S. member. Following are just some of those ways:

The annual Professional Development Conference is an information-packed weekend with opportunities to improve "soft" communication and presentation skills, learn career-advancing tips, develop leadership skills, and to get exposure to pending legislation that may affect members.

Technology policy can have a strong influence on future engineering careers. IEEE-USA has five such committees, respected in government offices and sought out for their expertise: Aerospace, Communications and Information, Energy; Medical Technology; and Research and Development. Technical societies are encouraged to send a representative to technology policy committee meetings and participate in the development of policy positions for use in advocating to legislators.

Today, members often find their career is not one continuous path, but a series of stepping stone positions that may include periods of self-employment. IEEE-USA's popular job listing service has grown into the new IEEE-USA Global Employment Services site:

www.ieeeusa.org/employment/global

With members having to assume more responsibility for their careers, committees with a focus on career activities assume more importance. IEEE-USA has five such committees. Among their many activities, these work to aid in career vitality, promote continuing education, protect employee benefits, promote engineering registration, and acquaint members with the steps involved.

The IEEE-USA PACE Network, a grass-roots linkage to U.S. regions, areas/councils, sections and interested members, provides timely alerts on

legislative issues so members can communicate their own views to congressional representatives.

IEEE-USA also sponsors the Washington Internships for Students of Engineering (WISE) program, which supports research on public policy issues; and underwrites a Mass Media Science and Engineering Fellow to report on sci-tech issues at a broadcast or publication news outlet.

Outreach to the public at large takes two paths: precollege education - promoting technological literacy among students; and through media communications - familiarizing the public with engineers, their role, and the benefits we all enjoy as a result of engineering. National Engineers' Week is one such observance.

Higher-grade U.S. members fund IEEE-USA and related activities through a \$27 assessment in the dues bill which includes support for the American Association of Engineering Societies (AAES) and the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET).

Clearly, not all U.S. members find all IEEE-USA projects of equal interest, but the careers and professional image of all benefit from the work IEEE-USA does. For more information on IEEE-USA activities, visit www.ieeeusa.org, or call (202) 785-0017.

Adapted from THE INSTITUTE, March 2000

...*editor*

HELP US HELP YOU

To enable IEEE staff to provide us with the most accurate lists, labels and member contact information, up-to-date information must be provided by you. Please, any and all members who have changed address, email or phone number, send a note to:

address-changes@ieee.org

...*editor*

2000-2001 MEETING SCHEDULE

DATE	SPEAKER/TOPIC	MEETING PLACE
September 21 Spouses' Night	Kenneth R. Laker 1999 IEEE Past President 21st Century IEEE The Exemplary Global Engineering Society	Clarion Hotel Roanoke
October 19	TBD	Clarion Hotel Roanoke
November 16	TBD	Clarion Hotel Roanoke
January 18	TBD	TBD
February 15	TBD	TBD
March 15	TBD	TBD
April 19	TBD	TBD
May 17	TBD	TBD

IEEE Virginia Mountain Section

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(Changes are forwarded to the Newsletter)

Visit the VMS WEB page:

www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/virginia-mountain
 Section/Chapter meeting notices, and reports.
 Past issues of the Newsletter, PACE Patter, etc.
 Articles, organizations, and activities affecting
 our profession.

Contributions welcomed - make them on-line.