



Southern Minnesota

FEBRUARY 1997

IEEE Southern Minnesota Section

IEEE Southern Minnesota Section Meeting

Speaker: Lou Behrens, IBM

Topic: Network Computers

Date: Monday, February 17

Time: 6:30 pm -- pizza
7:00 pm -- presentation

Place: Mann Hall

**Mayo Medical Sciences Building
321 3rd Avenue SW
Rochester, Minnesota**

Network Computers

A network computer is a new type of desktop device that has more function than a "dumb" terminal, but less complexity than a PC. Network Computers are a hot topic in the industry, because they represent a lower-cost alternative to PCs, and they are also easier to manage and maintain. The cost of maintaining PCs on the desktop is widely considered to be too expensive; network computers can reduce these costs considerably.

The IBM Network Station is a network computer that supports applications on any of the IBM Server family systems: PC, RS/6000, AS/400, and S/390. A small device with connections for keyboard, mouse, monitor, and LAN attachment (Ethernet or Token Ring), the Network Station is ideal for Internet/Intranet applications.

Lou Behrens is the hardware technical leader at IBM for the Network Station. He has a background in workstation development (early 5250 terminals, 3488, ValuePoint for AS/400), and a broad knowledge of the industry. Lou has led several other development projects during recent years, coordinating work efforts involving teams in industrial design, mechanical design, power, microcode development, testing, vendor interface, and manufacturing. At present, Lou is developing further enhancements to the Network Station.

Nominees & Volunteers Sought

IEEE Southern Minnesota Section officers will be elected for the 1997-98 term at our May section meeting. The following four officers will be elected:

Chair
Vice Chair
Secretary
Treasurer

If you are an IEEE member in good standing, and if you would like to run for one of these offices -- or nominate someone else -- please contact any member of the nominating committee (Dick Hall, Chris Kimble, Noelle Sesta, Duane Wenzel; see directory on page 2 for phone numbers).

We are also actively looking for volunteers to run several of the standing committees. Please contact a member of the nominating committee if you would like more information about any of these opportunities:

Student Activities -- Maintain effective relationships with Mankato State University students, and participate in IEEE meetings there. Initiate a relationship at RCC or other institution, leading to the creation of another student chapter.

Awards (new committee) -- Propose at least one section member for an IEEE award. Look for opportunities to recognize someone in our section community.

Computer Society -- Implement an active program for society members, including two separate Computer Society meetings in 1997-98.

E-mail (new committee) -- Encourage members to obtain e-mail capability, so that we may lower communications costs and expand communication opportunities.

Engineering Week, Science Fair (new committee) -- Develop a plan for Engineering Week participation whereby the section can contribute people and/or awards.

Power Society (prospective committee) -- Determine the feasibility of creating a Power Society in the section; submit recommendation by November 1, 1997.

Pre-College Prep (new committee) -- Develop at least one program to promote engineering at the pre-college level.

Workshop Development (new committee) -- Develop a proposal by September 1, 1997, for a workshop that could be sponsored by the section during 1997-98.

IEEE Southern Minnesota Section Officers

<i>Chair:</i>	Ron Jensen	253-3887	<i>ron@rchvmw2.vnet.ibm.com</i>
<i>Vice Chair:</i>	Jeff Brown	253-6020	<i>jd_brown@vnet.ibm.com</i>
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	Matt Graham	284-9551	<i>mgraham@mayo.edu</i>
<i>Newsletter:</i>	Chris Kimble	253-7571	<i>c.kimble@ieee.org</i>
<i>Membership:</i>	Tim Wolf	455-4304	<i>t.wolf@ieee.org</i>
<i>PACE:</i>	Dick Hall	282-7085	<i>dick.hall@ieee.org</i>
<i>Student Activities:</i>	Noelle Sesta	253-8058	<i>nsesta@vnet.ibm.com</i>

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IEEE Computer Society Meeting

Speaker: Gary Delp, *IBM*

Topic: Internet Communications --
Demand versus Technology

Date: Monday, March 3

Time: 6:30 pm -- *pizza*
7:00 pm -- *presentation*

Place: Mann Hall

Mayo Medical Sciences Building
321 3rd Avenue SW
Rochester, Minnesota