IEEE Central Texas Section

ANALOG NEWSLETTER

Volume 48-12   **December 2004**

Newsletter of the Central Texas Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Inc.

Published monthly (Deadline for inclusion is the 25th day of the previous month). Dawn Roberson, Editor, (robersondj@ieee.org). Have a question or comment? Contact us.

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The Chairman's Column

OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Central Texas Section is seeking volunteers to assist with the following: **Electronic Media Coordinator** and **Webmaster**. These may be filled by one or more persons. While these are not overly demanding positions, they each will require several hours per month of volunteer effort. If you are interested in sharing your talents with the Section, please contact me at John.Purvis@ieee.org.

AS ALWAYS

We continue to work to get you more involved in your professional association. We always welcome your feedback (John.Purvis@ieee.org). Please let all our leaders know how we are doing and please feel free to make any suggestions or recommendations.

John R. Purvis, PE

Chairman

Central Texas Section:

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Old Business: Central Texas Section hosted the Admissions and Advancement panel meeting in San Antonio, TX on November 20. The meeting was held concurrent with the IEEE Board of Directors meeting in San Antonio, TX last week.   The A&A panel, chaired by Slawo Wesolkowski, reviewed 460 applications for advancement to Sr. Member grade.   Of these, 439 were accepted. Central Texas Section contributed 21 Senior Member volunteers from San Antonio and Austin to staff the committee and was recognized as a major contributor of Sr Member applications in 2003.

No December Meeting: Have a great holiday!

January Meeting:
Date –   January 26, 2005
Time –   6:00PM Social
                   7:00PM Dinner / Speaker
Cost -   TBD
Location – Randolph, AFB Officer's Club
                  San Antonio, Texas
Subject -   Wind Power / Mr. Marshall Word

IEEE Central Texas Section will hold a meeting joint with AIAA, ASME, and ASM at the Randolph AFB Officer's Club. Mr. Marshall, Regional Sales Manager for GE Wind, will address Wind Power Generation. GE Wind manufactures and operates many of the wind turbines in Texas. Mr. Marshall serves on the Board of Directors of the Texas Renewable Energy Industries Association.

The **CTS Spring Planning Meeting** will take place at the Quality Inn in San Marcos on Saturday, January 22, 2005 from 9 am to 3 pm. The Quality Inn is on the frontage road of I 35 S in San Marcos. Lunch will be provided as well as coffee in the morning. Executive Committee members are invited as well as all Chapter Officers.

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Chapter Activities: Central Texas Section

Multi-Chapter Activities

A tour of the Texas Advanced Computer Center (TACC) will take place on Wednesday, January 19 at the University of Texas Pickle Research Center in Austin starting at 6:00 pm. TACC provides advanced computing resources and services to enable computationally-intensive research. There will be a 20 min. introduction followed by a tour of the machine room facility. This event is jointly sponsored by three CTS Chapters: Austin Computer Society, Engineering Management and Women in Engineering. Information on TACC can be found at http://www.tacc.utexas.edu.

(Joint) Circuits and Systems / Solid-State Circuits Societies

Topic:
Meeting:
Cost:
Reservations:
S**peaker:**
Directions
For further information, contact Gerald Garcia at gerald.garcia@ieee.org

(Joint) Signal Processing / Communications Societies

Topic:
Meeting:
Cost:
Reservations:
S**peaker:**
Directions
 (Note: We are no longer meeting at the SBC's Labs, Inc., 9500 Arboretum, Dr., Austin, TX.)

Computer Society - Austin [for more information]

Topic: Return on Software: Maximizing the Return on Your Software Investment
Meeting: December 7, 2004, 6:30pm
Cost:
Reservations:
S**peaker: Steve Tockey**, author of *Return on Software: Maximizing the Return on Your Software Investment*.
Directions: National Instruments, 11500 North MoPac, Building C, room 1S15, Austin, TX 78759

More than 70 percent of software projects are late and over budget. About 40 percent of projects end up being net money losers: they cost more for the organization than they ever return. The reasons behind this poor performance are varied, but can usually be traced to bad decisions--either on the part of the development team or the customer, or both. Bad decisions on WHAT to develop, or HOW to develop it. Despite the fact that there is so much information available on HOW to develop software, there's remarkably little about WHY to develop it in the first place. Clearly knowing WHY will illuminate decisions on WHAT and HOW. In addition to discussing WHY to develop software, this presentation describes a systematic process for making better decisions about WHAT to develop and HOW to develop it.

For more details, see our Society website.

Computer Society - San Antonio [for more information]

Topic: *Salvaging Legacy Code in a New Environment*
Meeting: Thursday, December 9, 2004
Cost: $10 members/ $2 students/$13 non-members
Reservations: Required by Monday, December 6, 2004, to Kevin Nickels, knickels@engr.trinity.edu or (210) 999-7543
S**peaker:** Matt Wright, Principal Engineer, CACI.
Directions: Networking, Dinner and the Program will be in the Skyline Room, Coates Center, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX.

6:30 - Networking
7:00 - Dinner
8:00 – Program
Please note that we have parking instructions on the Web site. The Alamo Stadium parking is reserved for Alamo Stadium Event parking. Please check out the instructions at http://www.ieee-cs-cts.org/meeting_details.htm#Location%20&%20Directions for the parking by Laurie Auditorium.

For more details, see our Society website.

Consultant's Network [for more information]

Speaker(s): TBD
Topic: TBD
Date: Thursday, (2nd Thursday)
Time: 6:30pm - Networking, 7:00pm - Program
Location: China Star Restaurant, 6134 Hwy 290E, Austin, Texas, located at the north east corner of IH-35 and 290E
The consultants' web directory has been updated. The directory is to be found at http://www.alesu.com/xltrp/ieeecons/listzero.htm

Electromagnetic Compatibility Society [for more information]

S**peaker:** Bruce Archambeault of IBM
Topic: Decoupling
Meeting: December 9 at National Instruments Headquarters (Building C)
Cost:
Reservations:
Directions

Bruce is completing his tour as an IEEE Distinguished Lecturer with a presentation on Decoupling. Meeting time starts with a social and dinner at 6:30 with the talk following.

For more information, see the EMC website (above).

IEEE EMC Symposium Coming Back to Austin!

For the first time since 1997, the IEEE EMC Symposium will be returning to the Central Texas area. The Central Texas EMC Society was recently awarded the 2009 Symposium and the society looks forward to putting on another great event. If you are interested in assisting with this event, please see the website for contact information.

Electron Devices Society (**for more information:** www.ieee.org/texedc)

Topic:
Meeting: *TBD*
Cost:
Reservations:
Speaker:
Directions

For information, contact Thuy Dao, thuybdao@ieee.org.

Engineering Management Society [for more information]

Topic: Overcoming Challenges in Managing Engineering Projects
Panel of Speakers: Stacey Berlow, Scott Killen and Bill Meacham (bios below)
Date: Thursday, Dec. 2
Time: 5:45 Networking and Dinner; 6:30 Panel Discussion; 8:30 Program close
Location: El Gallo Restaurant, 2910 S. Congress Ave. Austin
Cost: $15 includes a selection of 7 entree choices, coffee/tea and dessert.
RSVP: Leslie Martinich lmartinich@ieee.org

Speakers bios:

Stacey Berlow is a certified Project Management Professional with over 15 years of management experience in the insurance, healthcare and manufacturing industries. Stacey has extensive experience developing interactive web-based applications and content management applications. Working with international teams, she has successfully directed the design and implementation of large intranet, extranet and Internet applications.

Scott Killen is the Director of Process Strategy at CyberTrader. He has over twenty years experience managing a variety of projects in the software industry.

Bill Meacham is an accomplished project manager and software professional. He is a Project Management Professional (PMP) certified by the Project Management Institute.

For more information on Chapter Activites, please contact Leslie Martinich at 512-423-5121.

Other Upcoming Engineering Management Events:

<u>2005</u>:
January 19th, 2005: A tour of the Texas Advanced Computer Center (TACC) will take place on Wednesday, January 19 at the University of Texas Pickle Research Center in Austin starting at 6:00

pm. TACC provides advanced computing resources and services to enable computationally-intensive research. There will be a 20 min. introduction followed by a tour of the machine room facility. This event is jointly sponsored by three CTS Chapters: Austin Computer Society, Engineering Management and Women in Engineering. Information on TACC can be found at http://www.tacc.utexas.edu.

August 25-26, 2005: 6th Annual IEEE/UT Engineering Management Conference
   CALL FOR PAPERS (IEEE Program Chair, sprough@austin.rr.com)
        Deadline for papers: May 1, 2005
        Notification of acceptance: June 1, 2005
        Deadline for final paper version: July 1, 2005

July 10-13, 2005: International Professional Communications Conference (IPCC), www.ieeepcs.org/conference/limerick, Limerick, Irland

Sept 8-10, 2005: International Engineering Management Society Conference, St. Johns, Newfoundland

For information regarding chapter activities (and those wanting to volunteer), contact **Leslie Martinich** (leslie@competitivefocus.com) (512-423-5121). .

Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society

Topic:
Meeting:
Cost:
Reservations:
Speaker:
Directions

For further information, please contact David G. Kilpatrick, P.E., 210-695-1406, d.kilpatrick@ieee.org.

Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD)

Brand New Chapter:
For more information, please contact Chapter Chair: Julian Anugom at julian.anugom@conexant.com.

IEEE GOLD is Connecting Young Professionals - a new presentation!

If you are an IEEE member who graduated with your first professional degree within the last ten years, you are automatically part of IEEE GOLD!

Value added - Discount for Graduating Student members

IEEE Student members who graduate and are elevated to full IEEE membership, **will automatically receive a one-year discount of 50% off of the full higher grade IEEE and Society membership dues rates upon renewal.** The offer is available once to IEEE Student members upon their graduation and elevation to full higher IEEE membership. The discount is available to all IEEE Student members graduating with an undergraduate or graduate degree.

IEEE Student members who previously graduated with a Bachelors degree and received a

discount upon their elevation to full IEEE member grade, would not be eligible to receive the 50% discount again if they returned to school and completed an advanced degree program. Renew your membership today!

Experience the Power of GOLD!

- IEEE technology and information
- Online research & career Resources
- Online job search
- Professional networking opportunities
- Peer connection
- Local social activities
- Leadership opportunities

Laser and Electro-Optics Society
Topic: TBD
Speaker: TBD
Date: TBD
Time: TBD
Location: TBD
For information contact Ray Chen raychen@uts.cc.utexas.edu.

Power Engineering Society [for more information]

Topic:
Meeting: *TBD*
Cost:
Reservations:
Speaker:
Directions

For further information, please contact Susan Thompton or Steve Kanetsky, at 512-326-3380

Product Safety Engineering Society
Topic:
Speaker:
Date: (NEW: 3th Tuesday of the month)
Time:
Location:
Future meetings Our November / December meetings will be combined into one meeting in early December, date to be announced.

We encourage you, others in your organization, or other interested parties to participate in our meetings every month. The PSES meets at Crossroads Systems, 8300 N. MOPAC in Austin, on the

third Tuesday of every month except in November/December. A combined monthly meeting is held in early December to allow members and guests to enjoy the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. For further information about the PSES, please contact Dale Ritzen at (512) 651-5338.
Chapter Chair: Daniece Carpenter (daniece_carpenter@dell.com).
To learn more check out: http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/inst_art.jsp?isno=09031&arnumber=09031_9w.newssociety%C2%A7=5

Women in Engineering [for more information]

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 19, 2005
Program: Tour of the Texas Advanced Computer Center (TACC)
Place: Commons Building of the University of Texas Pickle Research Center, Austin
Time: 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm
Event Sponsorship: This will be a joint event between the Austin Computer Society, Engineering Management and Women in Engineering Chapters. Additional details and directions to the center are posted on the WIE website at http://ewh.ieee.org/r5/central_texas/wie.

IEEE Central Texas Section Student Branches
For information on events, click on the [for more information] links below:

St. Mary's University – San Antonio [for more information]

Trinity University – San Antonio
Contact Faculty Advisor: Farzan Aminian, Email: farzan@engr.trinity.edu
Branch President: Brandi House, Email: Brandi.House@Trinity.edu
University of Texas at Austin [for more information]
University of Texas at San Antonio [for more information]

Upcoming Local Conferences

Invent Austin! Inventive Thinking
Purpose
For fourteen years, *Invent Austin!* has been helping students to create and stretch their imaginations. They learn to think outside the box!
Who can be an inventor?
Every time you figure out a new way of doing something or change something to fit your needs you are an inventor! An inventor is someone who thinks of new ideas to make life easier or better through inventions. Students can be inventors too!

Agenda
December 3
1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Set Up Travis HS for *Invent Austin!*
3:00 – 8:00 p.m. Set Up Student Projects
4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Media Interviews

December 4
8:00 - 11:00 a.m. Judging
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Public Viewing

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Awards Ceremony
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Media Coverage
2:00 p.m. Dismantle *Invent Austin!*

(Please make arrangements to pick up projects at 2:00 pm.

Projects not picked up by 2:00 p.m. will be discarded.)

Dear Judges, If you would like to contribute to Invent Austin! with donations of judging, money, or service, please contact me by return e-mail. Sincerely, Barbara ten Brink, 512-414-4590

2005 IEEE Applied Power Electronics Conference and Exposition - APEC 2005 (#10091)" – Austin

IEEE Industry Applications Society & Power Electronics Society will sponsor the conference entitled "2005 IEEE Applied Power Electronics Conference and Exposition - APEC 2005 (#10091)". This conference will be held **March 6-10, 2005** in Austin, TX. For further information, please contact: Mr. Jason Lai, +1 540 231 4741, +1 540 231 3362 (Fax), laijs@vt.edu, or Conference Services Dept., at IEEE Operations Center at +1 732 562 3878

2006 World Congress on Information Technology Brings Legacy to Texas. The World Congress on Information Technology (WCIT 2006) accepted the official crystal from WCIT 2004 symbolizing Austin, Texas, as the next official host of the 15th World Congress. The World Congress, which will be held in Texas **May 1-5, 2006**, will attract an estimated 2,000 global leaders from business, government and education to discuss IT policy, direct the future of technology, and drive social and economic development.
http://home.businesswire.com/portal/site/google/index.jsp?
ndmViewId=news_view&newsId=20040521005032&newsLang=en

Other Important Events and Notes of Interest

2005 IEEE REGION 5 Technical, Professional and Student Development Workshop

(TPS). April 7 – 8, 2005, Coors Center, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado http://r5.ieee-denver.org. The 2005 Technical, Professional and Student (TPS) Development Workshop will provide a forum for interdisciplinary interaction and exchange on new technologies, new paradigms and ideas, and a program of events that will help in our technical and professional development. TPS will have a balanced program of technical advances, tutorials, and professional development events. On-site meal breaks will provide an opportunity to network with leading engineers, managers, executives, and other professionals.

In addition to technical paper sessions, this event will include in-depth tutorials on RF Engineering, Power Engineering, Six Sigma for Competitive Advantage, Intellectual Property, NARTE Certification Preparation, Career Planning and Management, and other topics.

Conference Contacts:
Technical Program Chair: Dr. Bill Newhall, Ball Aerospace & Technologies Corp., wnewhall@ball.com
General Chair: Dr. Pankaj Goyal, MicroMega, chair@r5.ieee-denver.org

TPS 2005 (April 7-8, 2005) will be held in conjunction with the IEEE Region 5 Leadership Workshop (April 9-10, 2005).

More IEEE Information:

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THE INSTITUTE: **can be found at http://www.ieee.org/theinstitute**
IEEE-USA NEWS & VIEWS : IEEE Career-Building Resources: *BOOKMARK THIS SITE*: For career-building resources, including articles and product and service notices, visit IEEE-USA's CAREER NAVIGATOR at: http://ieeeusa.org/careers/.
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Central Texas Section Editor's Notes

The goal of this newsletter is to provide the more than 4700 members of the Section with up-to-date and meaningful information. We welcome contributions and suggestions that will improve the newsletter. Please contact the editor, Dawn Roberson at robersondj@ieee.org if you have any thoughts or suggestions. The deadline for submission is the 25th of the month.

Email List

The purpose of this Email list is to send notices of general interest to our Section IEEE members. If you chose not to receive these messages, please send an Email to: Majordomo@majordomo.ieee.org. Include in the body of the Email the following message "Unsubscribe cts-section". If you chose to subscribe, please send an Email to: Majordomo@majordomo.ieee.org with "Subscribe cts-section" in the body of the Email message.

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The purpose of this Email list is to send notices of general interest to our Section IEEE members. If you chose not to receive these messages, please; 1. Address an e-mail message to listserv@listserv.ieee.org 2. Put the following in the body of the message: signoff cts-section 3. Do not include your name or e-mail address in the body of the signoff message. The message should be sent from the mail client you use to subscribe to the list