



# IEEE Boise Section Newsletter August 2001

## Upcoming Events:

**Wednesday, 5 September -**

Time: 5pm  
Location: Municipal Park, #3 site, "Willow"

**Annual Fall Picnic**

**Wednesday, 5 September -**

Time: 5pm  
Location: Municipal Park, #3 site, "Willow"

**Officer Elections**

**Wednesday, 12 September -**

Time: 6:15pm  
Location: Boise State University, Student Union Building, Bishop Barnwell Room  
Speaker: Dr. Ginger Levin  
Topic: Using a Project Management Maturity Assessment for Project Mgmt Improvement (Assessing and improving the methods used to manage projects in your organization)  
Cost: Free for IEEE members, \$5 public.

**Project Management Workshop**

**Friday, 28 September-**

Time: 1:30pm  
Location: Micron Technologies (see page 2 for details)

**EDS Technical Talk**

**Thursday, 18 October -**

Time: noon  
Location: Idaho Statesman, at 1200 North Curtis Road Boise, ID

**Tour of Idaho Statesman Printing Office & Equip.**

**Tuesday, 11 December –**

Time: 7pm (tentative)  
Location: BSU Student Union Building  
Speaker: Dr. David Stork,  
Topic: “The HAL9000 Computer and the Vision of 2001: A Space Odyssey”

**Annual Awards Banquet**

## Event Details

### Annual Fall Picnic

Spouses and children welcome! BBQ food and beverages will be provided. Please join us for this event. *Election of officers* will take place at this time.

### Officer Elections

Election of officers will take place at the annual picnic. Current nominations are:

Chair	Elisa Barney Smith	Treasurer	Syed Ahmad
Secretary	Steve Parke	Vice-chair	Erwin Schweibert
Professional activities	Brooklin Gore	Web page	Brooklin Gore

**The section needs more nominees for officers.** Choices are:

Newsletter editor	Membership chair
Events chair	Publicity chair

We also need company liasons for our operations committee. We have liasons from: Extended Systems, Micron Technologies, Washington Group International and Zilog. Be a point of contact for us to promote events at your company and give feedback to our board on the needs of IEEE members at your company.

**Project Management Workshop**

This talk will be free to IEEE members and \$5 for non IEEE members. Please tell your co-workers, your company's training office and their Human Resources office. Contact Elisa if you would like a poster sent to you for advertising this event. This will be a great opportunity for you to expand your project management skills and this will be a fundraiser for the section too. See the May newsletter or the Boise section webpage for details.

**Tour of Idaho Statesman Printing Office and Equipment**

See how your Newspaper is composed, printed, assembled, folded and made ready for delivery. The Idaho Statesman run their presses with a 10 SCR controller and all the print comes thru from the News room to the printers via computers. If you have not been in a press room in many years you won't reconize anything. Come and see what makes today's newspapers print.

You must enter the Statesman parking area from Irving street. If front parking is full, use East Parking or the Eagleson Street gravel area. Closest lunch facilities are the "Sunshine Feed Store" or the "Texaco Food Service" across Curtis Road from the Statesman Building.

**Annual Awards Banquet**

As advertised in the May newsletter, we will be having David G. Stork, the author of the book "HAL's Legacy," speaking at our awards banquet. It is now the namesake year for the film "2001: A Space Odyssey," by Stanley Kubrick and Arthur C. Clark. David G. Stork will compare the film's computer science "visions" with current technological fact – in particular those related to its central character, the HAL 9000 computer. This non-technical talk is profusely illustrated with clips from 2001 and current research and sheds new light on key moments of the film. You will never see the film the same way again.

A PBS documentary on the topic, "2001: HAL's Legacy," is due to air this fall. Idaho Public Television has said that they intend to broadcast this documentary, but do not have a date selected yet. Information will be kept on <http://sucia.stanford.edu/~stork/HALTalks.html> and in a month or two on <http://www.HALsLegacy.com> and <http://www.pbs.org>. The Idaho Public Television schedule is available at <http://idahoptv.org>. Look at the monthly program schedule (in the left hand column) and it should be at the top of the alphabetical listing page when it is scheduled.

More details on the banquet will be announced in the November newsletter. Mark your calendar now.

**E-mail:**

If you haven't been receiving the newsletter or event notices electronically, check what we have for your email address on your mailing label. Please notify both the IEEE ([address-changes@ieee.org](mailto:address-changes@ieee.org) or <http://services1.ieee.org/membersvc/coa/intro.htm> and the Boise section ([EBarneySmith@boisestate.edu](mailto:EBarneySmith@boisestate.edu)) so we can add you to our electronic mailing list (we get address corrections only once a month from the IEEE). Plans often come about for events between newsletters. To assure that you get timely information about IEEE Boise events, please make sure we have your correct email address in our address database.

**Chapter & Branch News:****Electron Device Society Chapter:**

1. Franklyn Burke, graduate student in Electrical Engineering at Boise State, will present "0.15um SOI DRAM Technology Incorporating Sub-Volt Dynamic Threshold Devices for Embedded Mixed-Signal & RF Circuits" in an IEEE/EDS Meeting at Micron Technology at **1:30pm on Friday, Sept. 28th**. This paper is the result of collaborative research between Micron and BSU and has been accepted for presentation at the 2001 IEEE International SOI Conference. Please Call RSVP Fernando Gonzalez (368-3784) if you will be attending arrange for gate entrance at Micron.

2. In Spring of 2002, the IEEE/EDS chapter will planning a one-day Regional Symposium on Electron Devices. The Call For Papers is forthcoming outlining the topics for this symposium. The Due Date for the Abstract submission for peer review is due on Jan. 15, 2002. The Manuscripts will be due on March 15, 2002. There will be a journal published for the conference attendees. A minimal registration fee of \$40 will cover the Journal and the IEEE/EDS Luncheon meal. More details will be distributed as well as the Call For Papers.

3. The EDS BOISE chapter wants to hear from you. We would want volunteers from different companies represented in the Valley to be champions for EDS in their companies. We would like some volunteers to contact people to spread the word on certain activities and to coordinate more EDS members to do special activities. For instance we will need helpers for the Regional Symposium on Electron Devices for next spring. Please, let's know your interests by calling Fernando Gonzalez (368-3784 or fgonzalez@micron.com), Kunal Parekh (368-3013 or Kparekh@micron.com), Suraj Mathew (363-1633 or sjmathew@micron.com) or Dr. Stephen Parke (Sparke@BoiseState.edu).

### **Joint Chapter of the Power Engineering and Industry Applications Societies:**

Dr. Said Ahmed-Zaid, Interim Chapter Chair, is soliciting a candidate who are interested in serving as Chair or Vice-Chair of the joint IAS/PES Boise Chapter for the 2002 term. Send your names or nominations to: Dr. Said Ahmed-Zaid, Boise State University, at his email: sahmedzaid@boisestate.edu. New officers will be announced in December. He is also soliciting two speakers or tour organizers for the joint IAS/PES Boise Chapter during 2001 Fall. Interested candidates should contact Dr. Said Ahmed-Zaid. Also, please suggest a possible location and lunch/dinner fee is applicable.

### **Computer Society Chapter:**

The Boise Section of the IEEE is working to start a Computer Society Chapter. To that end Martin Danner of Arrowrock Corporation conducted an online survey to determine the level of interest. The response was very encouraging! Martin sent 49 survey invitations and received 49 responses. Clearly we have the critical mass to launch a Boise Chapter. Software Engineering, Internet Computing and Design & Test were the topics of greatest interest to the survey respondents. Complete results of the survey can be found at [http://arrowrockcorp.com/ieee/cs\\_survey\\_results.htm](http://arrowrockcorp.com/ieee/cs_survey_results.htm). The chapter will soon be electing officers and planning events for the coming year. Contact Martin Danner (331-0226, mdanner@arrowrock.net) if you are interested.

### **BSU Student IEEE Branch:**

This year is promising to be very exciting for the IEEE student branch at BSU. The main goal for the year is to increase membership and club involvement. The club has made an arrangement to volunteer at the Discovery Center. Each month two or three members will spend a few hours helping out at the center. In addition to the Annual IEEE picnic, the club is planning on having a year end picnic for students in the spring. The big event planned for this year is an S-PAC (Student Professional Awareness Conference) that will be held during the spring. We are looking for sponsors and people to assist with the S-PAC. We are also looking for companies to tour during the upcoming academic year. Please contact Ben Millemon at [ieee@boisestate.edu](mailto:ieee@boisestate.edu) if you can help us.

### **GOLD Affinity Group (Graduates Of the Last Decade):**

The GOLD affinity group welcomes the new graduates of BSU's engineering program and other recent graduates just moving into the Boise section. We are looking for ideas for GOLD events, some of which may be financially sponsored by the Boise section or IEEE Region 6. Contact Randy Wolff by phone at 363-1764 or by email at [rrwolff@micron.com](mailto:rrwolff@micron.com).

## **News & Notes:**

### **BSU College of Engineering seeks industry mentors for students**

The College of Engineering at Boise State University invites you to participate in a Mentor Program for engineering students. The purpose of this program is to encourage students to continue their studies in engineering, and for you to serve as a role model. The duration of the program is one academic year (September-May). Mentors are asked to maintain an e-mail exchange at least twice monthly with your student, learn about student's interests, and help them relate to their chosen career. If you or anyone you know would be interested in being a mentor please contact Leandra Aburusa at 426-4432, or e-mail [laburusa@boisestate.edu](mailto:laburusa@boisestate.edu).

### **News from the IEEE Board of Directors meeting, from Region 6 chair, Larry Hammerman:**

"From July 14-15 2001 the IEEE Board of Directors meeting in Beijing, China. The news of most interest to the general member is that the Board approved a \$15 increase in the basic dues to \$101 from \$86 and for those members in regions 1 - 6 a \$4 increase in the IEEE-USA assessment from \$27 to \$31. These are the first dues and IEEE-USA increase since

1995. Also be prepared for increases in society dues. These are controlled by the Technical Activities Board as opposed to the IEEE Board.

The reasons for the need for the dues increase are many, however the major one is that the Board continued to budget for and spend returns on reserves that did not materialize. Last year the return on reserves was budgeted to be 9% while 1% was actually achieved. This resulted in a nearly 10 million dollar shortfall which was taken from (reduced) the reserves. The majority of the reserves are considered the property of the societies who earned them by sale of publications and surpluses from conferences. Thus, the societies as well as major boards had their reserve accounts decreased. The situation is little changed for this year in that the Board has not balanced income versus outgo and another large deficit is expected. Also, many of the operations will have their budgets constrained and other cost cutting measures have been put in place, such as holding meetings in less exotic places. The dues increase will go a long way to keep this situation from recurring again in 2002."

Contact Elisa if you would like to have the full report mailed to you.

**What do you want from the Boise section?**

If you are receiving this newsletter, you are aware that some of your IEEE dues goes to the Boise section (such as to pay for this letter). What else do you want for your money? Let your officers know. You just might get it.

**Current Officers:**

IEEE Boise Section:

Chair: Elisa H. Barney Smith, 426-2214  
EBarneySmith@boisestate.edu

Vice-Chair: Sunish Gupta:  
supergupta@hotmail.com

Secretary: Stephen Parke: Sparke@boisestate.edu

Treasurer, PACE: Syed Ahmad:  
SAhmad@micron.com

IEEE Boise Section:

Boise EDS Chapter:

Chair: Fernando Gonzalez:  
Fgonzalez@micron.com

Boise PE&IA Chapter:

Acting Chair: Said Ahmed-Zaid:  
SahmedZaid@boisestate.edu

Boise Computer Society Chapter:

Formation Contact: Martin Danner  
mdanner@arrowrock.net

Section officer nominations in progress. Elections at the September picnic.

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r6/boise>

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