

AREA 9 REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 19, 2012, REGION 3 EXCOM

Introduction

The Jamaica Section convened its Annual Retreat and commenced our planning of goals and objectives for 2012 on January 18, 2012. The Jamaica Section plans to actively participate in Region 3 Meetings this year as we have in past years to achieve the goals and objectives of the Section and Region 3.

Goals & Objectives:

- Increasing membership attendance and participation in meetings
 - Push e-membership for existing and new members.
 - Appoint an active Membership Development Chair. (Existing MD is on study leave in China)
- Push Member Engagement in collaboration with Region 3 and MGA
- Host a successful SPAC
- Increase Student Branch attendance & participation in SoutheastCon 2012 to maintain or exceed previous attendance and performance
- Participation in Regional & PACE Activities pertaining to the IEEE USA Annual Conference in May 2012
- Implement succession planning for current Officers, Chapters and Standing Committee Chairs

Member Engagement Activities:

Monthly Section Meetings

The meeting scheduled for October 24, 2012 was postponed until November 14, 2012 due to the effects of Hurricane Sandy. A presentation was done on "The Digital Switchover in Jamaica" by Daniel Tulloch-Reid, Chair of the DSO Technical Sub Committee for Jamaica. The meeting was well supported by members and guests.

The Section plans to have a series of presentations / meetings for the weeks of November and December 2012.

e-Membership

Jamaica is eligible for the IEEE e-membership programme.

The section has responded positively to queries regarding forming a new Student Branch Chapter at the Northern Caribbean University (NCU). NCU has received significant acclamations after winning several Microsoft awards including The Microsoft Imagine Cup World Champion in 2010 - after placing 3rd in 2007.

At our Section meeting in September, the members were encouraged to utilize the early membership registration for 2013. Members who have not renewed this year, members who were found to be inactive and other interested persons will be contacted by email this month to extend to them the opportunity to utilize e-membership. We plan to continue to focus on this membership drive during the remainder of the year to improve our membership.

Website - IEEE Jamaica Section

In honour of Jamaica's 50th Anniversary our webmaster Milverton Moore created a special piece on one of the robots used in the competition at SoutheastCon 2012 by the University of Technology.

Milverton continues to keep the website current and provides valuable information for the Jamaica Section and Region 3. Milverton implemented the new IEEE web template in March and it has received very positive feedback. The IEEE Jamaica Section Website serves as our newsletter and the URL is as follows: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r3/jamaica>.

Jamaica Section Bid Proposal for SoutheastCon 2015.

Subsequent to our meeting with members of the Region 3 Conference Committee at SoutheastCon 2012 we initiated further discussion with The Hilton Rose Hall for hosting SoutheastCon 2015.

The Hilton confirmed that the dates for the Conference are available and have submitted a proposal to the Section. The Hilton has also extended an invitation to have R3 Conference Committee members enjoy a complimentary visit to the Hotel Resort. The Jamaica Section has asked members of the Conference Committee, Sean Haynes and Jim Conrad to indicate and confirm when they will be available to visit.

Barriers:

At present the Section has a few core persons who are members of the ExCom that are very active, however, there are positions within the ExCom that need to be filled and the challenge is to have other IEEE members take on these leadership positions.

Respectfully submitted:

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