AREA 9 REPORT FOR JANUARY 21, 2013, REGION 3 EXCOM

Introduction
The Jamaica Section will convene its Annual Retreat and commence our planning of goals and objectives for 2013 on January 23, 2013. The 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:

The goals and objectives for the year will be decided at the IEEE Jamaica Section Annual Retreat on Jan 23, 2013 and thereafter the goals and objectives submitted for future Region 3 Meetings.

Our objectives for last year (2012) were as follows:
- 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 Annual IEEE Jamaica Section Retreat is scheduled to take place on Wednesday January 23, 2013 at 7:00 pm at the Senior Common Room, University of the West Indies, Mona. This meeting will be chaired by the new IEEE Jamaica Section Chair, Dr. Dave Muir. The Excom Members are expected to be in attendance.

e-Membership
Jamaica is eligible for the IEEE e-membership programme.

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 to extend to them the opportunity to utilize e-membership. We have seen positive results with the appointment of a new membership development chair (Christopher Udeagha) last year and we plan to continue to focus on this membership drive during the remainder of the year to improve our membership.

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.

Website - IEEE Jamaica Section
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.
Members of the IEEE Jamaica Section SoutheastCon 2015 Committee met with the IEEE Region 3 Conference Chairman, Sean Haynes on Wednesday January 17, 2013 to discuss further plans for the Jamaica Section proposal for hosting SouthEastCon 2015. Sean gave significant guidance for organizing the Conference and also provided data and estimates that have proven very helpful in developing a budget for the hosting the Conference.

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.

<u>Barriers:</u>
At present the Section has a few core persons who are members of the ExCom that are very active and there are positions within the ExCom that need to be filled. The challenge is to have other IEEE members take on these leadership positions. However, new persons have been appointed to positions within the Excom for 2013 and it is expected that there will be increased participation over the course of the year.

Respectfully submitted:

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