

Huntsville Section Report, SoutheastCon 2019

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on behalf of

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Huntsville Section Report – April 13, 2019

We had a very busy 2018 as a section. We had a total of 16 technical meetings, which included one event with a distinguished speaker with over 100 in attendance. We hosted MOVE training in Huntsville and a regional FIRST robotics competition with over 1,000 in attendance. We held two Teacher In Service Programs (TISP) and had our first summer social cookout as a section and had a great turnout. We held a Senior Member Roundup, annual awards dinner, and hosted multiple STEM outreach events.

As our annual meeting in December, another first for our section was a social event fundraiser for the annual Alabama Regional Future City Competition (ARFCC) where we had the “Engineer Comic” Dan McMillan come to Huntsville to raise money for this STEM outreach. This was a fantastic success, and people are still talking about it 5 months later.

Challenges for our Section include retention/involvement of student members, and development of future ExComm officers. Goals for the Huntsville section are development and outreach to our student branches at the University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) and Alabama A&M University. We have plans to start a new K-12 robotics competition at UAH that will be explored for early 2020.

Specific responses to Jill Gostin's prompts:

2018 Accomplishments: 16 technical meetings, hosted distinguished lecturer, STEM outreach events with a total of 1,600 in attendance

2018 Challenges: Retention of members, engagement of student members

2019 Goals: New K-12 STEM outreach, more Section social activities

One thing I learned at SoutheastCon 2019: Awards matter! Offer more recognition of faithful members.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenn Parker
Huntsville Section Chair

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