



CHAIRMAN'S UPDATE

By Andy Dozier

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our officers and friends for their support during 2001. Bruce Mackie, Mike Puckett, Jim Duke, and Bill Sims are due special thanks for all of their help. As you may notice with this mailing, a ballot is included for the election of officers for the 2002 calendar year. It has been my pleasure to serve. Some of the accomplishments of which we can be proud are the implementation of a new section web site (www.ieee-nashville.org), a listserv for timely email notification of meetings and other events, the Nashville Section 50th Anniversary Celebration, and this newsletter. At the 50th anniversary, we had a light show, live band, and lots of food for those who joined us at the Renaissance Center in Dickson, TN. Mike Puckett, who served as our program chair deserves special thanks for organizing this event. Fortunately for the Section, Mike has agreed to serve for another term.

I think that I do owe the members an apology for getting this first quarterly newsletter and the ballots out so late. The Electrical Engineering and Computer Science Department at Vanderbilt had to move into our new building on December 17. This event, plus the normal end of the semester activities, caused my schedule to erode severely. Hopefully, we can have a "house warming" IEEE function in our new building for all of you in the Spring.

2002 Elections. Normally ballots go out in December. Since they are being sent out late, ballots must be received by Lester Smith by Feb 20th in order for us to notify the national organization of our elections. During the intervening period, I will continue to act as Interim Chair in accordance with our existing Bylaws.

Bylaws Update. On the subject of Bylaws, many of you are aware that our bylaws have not been updated since since 1966. We are in the process of updating the Nashville section bylaws. In addition to the general update of the bylaws, we must merge the Middle Tennessee Section (Tulahoma Area) into the Nashville Section. We are going to create an "area" entity for the three geographically diverse areas that our section supports: Nashville Metropolitan Area, Cookeville, and Tullahoma. Each area will be able to elect officers, have meetings, and provide budgetary requests to the Section Executive Council for approval. Using this approach, the outlying groups can benefit from the membership reimbursements and other benefits that we receive from the national entity.

Section Name. Now that our coverage area extends from Kentucky to Alabama on the North-South axis, and from halfway to Jackson on the West side to halfway to Chattanooga on the East side, it seems reasonable to change the name of the section. This name change must also be incorporated into the bylaws. I recommend that we rename the Nashville Section to the Middle Tennessee Section. This seems appropriate now that the Tullahoma geography (formerly the Middle Tennessee Section) is now part of our geography. If any of you have strong feelings one way or the other, please notify Bob Allen at rva@novabionics.com.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE CHAPTER TSPE ALL-ENGINEER'S BANQUET

From the TSPE Newsletter

Plans have been finalized for a night of fellowship, music, and presentation at the TSPE engineering awards for 2002. The meeting will be held on Friday, Feb. 22, at the Nashville Marriott on Marriott Drive. The reception and a Silent Auction will start at 6:00 PM, with Dinner served at 7:00 PM. Tickets for the event can be reserved by calling Richard Riggins at 383-8420, or by filling out and returning the Ticket Order Form included on the Section web site at www.ieee-nashville.org.

PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

Bill Sims has been awarded the Regional Professional Leadership Award by the Board of Directors of the IEEE-USA. This award is for Bill's service to the Nashville Section during a three-year period of transition. Bill single-handedly kept the section going by organizing meetings, handling the Section newsletter, and acting as the section cheerleader. Since that time, Bill has been very active in fund-raising for the Tennessee Engineering Center, which is co-located with the Cumberland Science Museum. Bill will attend as a Special Guest of the Board at the annual Awards Banquet in Dallas, which is scheduled for April 13, 2002.

TENNESSEE ENGINEERING CENTER

By Bill Sims

Exciting things are happening in Nashville. After several technical delays, our Tennessee Engineering Center is scheduled for completion on June 30, 2002. Contributions have been excellent to date, but we are still soliciting funds to complete this project. The IEEE has obligated \$62,000 to

date towards our goal of \$75,000. If your firm is interested in contributing, we can make the necessary forms available by calling Bill Sims at 615-331-7521, or email at wsimsbb@aol.com. Please be aware that if your company contributes to the TEC, the contribution will be counted in both the name of the donor, and the IEEE. You would essentially get a 2 for 1 "bang for your buck". In kind donations are also accepted.

This support will enable the Cumberland Science Museum to continue providing engaging and informative exhibits, as well as comprehensive educational science programs for children and young adults. The IEEE will have a permanent exhibit in this new space. The TEC will also provide a shared meeting facility for all of the Tennessee professional societies.

JOBSHADOW PROGRAM

From the TSPE Newsletter

The Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce is starting the spring "Jobshadow program". The following shadow schools and dates are available :

January 31 - Counselor Shadow

February 6 - Pearl-Cohn High School

February 27 - Glenclyff High School

March 13 - Antioch High School

April 4 - Hillwood High School

April 24 - Stratford High School

If your company is interested in providing an opportunity for future engineers, please call Lori Odom for more information at 743-3152.

2001 MEMBERSHIP RECAP

By Andy Dozier

We started the year with a total of 586 active members. Of these members, 114 were students, with the remainder composed of Associates, Members, or Fellows (including Senior grades). At the end of 2001, we had 692 active members on our roster. Of the total members at the end of the year, 124 were student members. The remaining members were in the category of Associate, Member, or Fellow (including Senior grades). The total increase in membership during the year (106) was primarily a result of an increase in the number of Associate Members (26), Members (65), and Students (10). We had an increase of one Fellow during the year, Professor Kazuhiko Kawamura, who is a faculty member of the Vanderbilt EECS Department. Although the section remains healthy, we need to increase our student recruiting, and maintain our other categories.

LISTSERVER SUBSCRIPTION

By Andy Dozier

As mentioned previously, we are now notifying our members of monthly meetings via email, coupled with posting of the meeting notice on our website at www.ieee-nashville.org. We populated the initial list with email addresses from the SAMIEEE database. However, we experienced a 30% error rate in the addresses. If you wish to receive email notifications via the IEEE Nashville Section listserver in the future, please send mail to andy.dozier@vanderbilt.edu. Otherwise, check the section web site periodically.

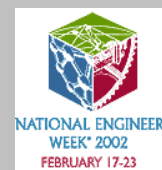
BALLOT ERRATA AND WRITE-INS

The ballot enclosed with this newsletter has one error. Due to unforeseen business circumstances, Sam Dunn will be unable to run for Section Secretary. There will therefore be only one candidate for Secretary unless there are write-in candidates. If you wish to write-in a candidate for any office, please do so at the bottom of the ballot.

TSPE 2002

ALL-ENGINEERS

BANQUET



February 22, 2002

Music City Marriott Hotel

\$35.00 Each

\$15.00 Student

Order Tickets with the
Form at

www.ieee-nashville.org

CY 2002 ELECTION

By Lester Smith

Nominations for section officers for CY 2002 have been prepared by a nominating committee consisting of the following individuals: Jim Duke, Matt Dozier (no relation to Andy!), Bill Sims, and Lester Smith, who acted as chairman. Enclosed with this newsletter, you should have received the ballot and biographical sketches of the candidates.

The nominating committee has recommended separation of the secretary/treasurer position, since it is anticipated that the treasurer's task will require more time this year. The reason for this is the incorporation into the Nashville section of the group of members in and around Manchester-Tulahoma. In addition to summary reporting of financial status for the section as a whole, it will be necessary to maintain subsidiary ledgers for the geographical areas. The committee anticipated that a greater time commitment would be required by the treasurer to fulfill these new duties.

As you may notice from the ballot, we anticipate changing the bylaws to allow an officer to volunteer to run for a second term. At the end of the second term, the officer must then step down. Dick Riddle, who was the 2001 Region 3 Director, suggested this at our organizational meeting in September. Andy Dozier, Chris Finen, and Bruce Mackie have agreed to run for a second term.

The committee encourages more members to stand for office and take advantage of the leadership opportunities available through such service. Being a section officer is a good way to hone one's skills of personal relations, motivation, and initiative, all the while increasing one's network of contacts and professional relationships. Moreover, if our section is to remain viable, more members must come forward to strengthen our technical program and to plan a course that is appealing to today's electrical/computer engineer and information technologist. Most of all, we would like to encourage and recruit our younger members into these positions. For next year, please think about taking advantage of this great opportunity to advance your own career and serve your fellow IEEE members.

Finally, the nominating committee urges you, as a minimum, to vote in this election. We look forward to receiving your ballot! A tellers committee composed of Jim Duke and Lester Smith will count all the ballots received by the deadline of Wednesday, February 20, 2002.

GOLD CHAIR VACANCY

By Andy Dozier

We are sad to announce that Jeff Beck, who was our GOLD Chair, has moved out of the area. As a result, we are in need of a volunteer to take Jeff's place. The GOLD program stands for "Graduates of the Last Decade". GOLD is an affinity group within the Section. The objectives of the GOLD program are to:

1. Establish communication opportunities within the IEEE for GOLD members.
2. Promote strategies to bridge the transition from Student to Member grade within the IEEE.
3. Promote strategies to retain and recruit graduating students and recent graduates,
4. To develop volunteer leadership from within this affinity group.

As such, the GOLD chair communicates with student groups and serves as the liaison to our student chapters. Technically, GOLD is classified as an "affinity group" within the IEEE. To qualify, the group must have at least 6 members in good standing, and provide a report of activities to the section once per year to maintain standing. In return, the IEEE provides a modest budget for GOLD activities. The Section, when petitioned, can also provide additional funds for activities. If you are interested, please contact any of the officers. Additional information on GOLD can be found at: <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/gold/>.

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

By Andy Dozier

As can be inferred from this newsletter, significant effort is required to compose and write the material. If anyone would like to volunteer for the position of editor of our newsletter, please contact any of the officers.