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Chairman's Update (By Andy Dozier)

The votes are in, and Chris Finen has been elected as the new Chairman for the IEEE Central Tennessee Section for CY 2003. It has been a great two years, and we have accomplished a lot. I am pleased with the activities that we have accomplished. Most important in my mind are the following items:

1. **Merger of the Middle Tennessee and Nashville Sections.** We have successfully integrated these separate sections into the Central Tennessee Section. Our new territory covers the area from just east of Cookeville and Tullahoma to the Tennessee River in the west. Believe it or not, getting our territory sorted out was the most difficult part of this effort. We are fully integrated from an accounting point of view as well.
2. **Section Web Site.** Hopefully, all of you are now using the web site at <http://www.ieeecentraltn.org>. I will strive to keep this updated at least monthly in my new duties as Section Secretary.
3. **Listserver.** Hopefully, you are receiving regular emails from our officers with meeting notices and other pertinent technology events in the section. We are still having difficulties with accurate email addresses. If you have not been receiving emails, send a notice to andy.dozier@vanderbilt.edu. Also, make sure that your contact information in the SAMIEEE database is up to date and accurate. You can do this online at: www.ieee.org/membership.
4. **Symposia.** The section has sponsored symposia on Network Security, Voice Over IP (VOIP), and Java over the past two years. I have received very positive feedback on these events, and recommend that we continue them if our budget permits.
5. **Tennessee Engineering Center.** We have provided the TEC with over \$65,000 of direct and in-kind donations. As a result, we have available to the section a very nice facility for meetings and events. Special thanks are due Bill Sims for his fundraising efforts.
6. **Bylaws Update.** In conjunction with the merger of the Middle Tennessee Section, we took the opportunity to update our bylaws for the first time since 1966. Special thanks are due those members who proofread and commented on the bylaws. They are being submitted this month to the IEEE Regional Activities Board (RAB) for approval. After approval by the RAB, they will be posted on the Section web site.

Visit the Central TN Section web site for all the latest Section information and announcements.

www.ieeecentraltn.org

OR

www.ieee-nashville.org

I would also like to personally thank Chris Finen, Bruce Mackie, Bill Sims, and Mike Puckett for their unflagging support over the past two years. Without their help, we could not have accomplished any of the milestones mentioned above.

Thanks again for the opportunity to serve. I look forward to serving all of you in the future as the Section Secretary.

Andy Dozier

2003 Meetings for IEEE Central TN Section

We have some very interesting programs scheduled for our 2003 meetings, so mark your calendars now so you don't miss any of them! The following is preliminary list of the meetings that are already being setup for 2003. Look for e-mail meeting notices and check the section's website for final program details or contact BJ Safdie at 615-646-5899 or by e-mail at bjs@MetaManagement.com.

Date	Time	Program	Location
2/04/03	9:00am - 11:30am	<p>"Nashville Electric Service (NES) - New SCADA Control and Dispatch System"</p> <p>This will be a morning meeting with a catered breakfast. The program will include a discussion of the new SCADA system, a tour, and demo of the system. This will be a joint meeting with the Music City Power Quality Group</p>	NES
3/12/03	11:30am Lunch Program 12:00pm - 1:00pm	"Broadband Internet Communications via Power Distribution Networks" - Dr. Wayne Sanderson with Powercomm Systems	TN Engineering Center (TEC)
4/09/03	TBA	"New Hands-On Science Center at Arnold Engineering Development Center (AEDC)"	AEDC - Tullahoma, TN
5/15/03 (tentative)	TBA	Year-end social and general topic	TBA

New Program Chairman

BJ Safdie has accepted the position as section Program Chairman. BJ Safdie has worked in the software industry for more than 18 years, and has held positions from software developer to CTO of Services of a \$150 million software company. His company, MetaManagement Solutions, provides Project Management, Organizational Development and Management Consulting to companies involved with computer technology and software development. While BJ grew up in Tennessee and attended both Tennessee Tech and Vanderbilt, he spent thirteen years in the New York area, and recently returned home to Tennessee. BJ will be the main contact for any questions or suggestions regarding programs. BJ can be reached at bjs@MetaManagement.com or by phone at 615-646-5899.

Meeting Reservations

As you have probably noticed, we've been requesting RSVP reservations for most of our meetings. The reason for this is the fact that our meals are being catered. The Section must pay for the entire headcount given to the caterer, so it is more important to have an accurate headcount to avoid waste. Therefore, we have been asking people to RSVP if they are planning on attending. We have setup an RSVP email address (rsvp.centraltn@ieee.org) for confirming attendance for a meeting. However, if you forget to make a reservation or decide to come at the last minute, please feel free to still attend. We always factor in for some latecomers and have last minute cancellations.

2003 Officer Election Results

The following are the election results for the 2003 Central TN Section Officers. Congratulations to these individuals and thanks for their volunteer support of IEEE.

Chairman: Chris M. Finen, P.E.
(cfinen@ieee.org)

Secretary: Andy Dozier
(andy.dozier@vanderbilt.edu)

Vice Chairman: Mike Puckett, P.E.
(m.puckett@ieee.org)

Treasurer: David Tiller
(DTiller@News4Nerds.Net)

Tennessee Engineering Center Update

Efforts continue on the capital campaign for the new Tennessee Engineering Center. More than 250 people attended the official dedication ceremony of the new Tennessee Engineering Center on July 30th. The TEC is a \$1.85 million project that is dedicated to raising the level of visibility of the engineering profession in Tennessee. The center is located at the Cumberland Science Museum in Nashville and will be seen by the over 200,000 visitors that attend the Museum each year. One of the goals is to use the TEC to encourage young people to enter the engineering profession.

The center consists of a beautiful, state-of-the-art multimedia conference center with a capacity of 120, an executive board room with capacity of 25, offices for the ACEC staff, and storage areas for each of the founding societies. Six professional societies took on the task of funding the project: IEEE, ACEC, TSPE, ASCE, ASHRAE, and SAME.

Golf Tournament - In October, an annual TEC Golf Scramble was hosted to raise funds for the remaining capital needed to pay off the construction. The event was successful in raising over \$15,000 for the TEC. This reduces the outstanding balance to less than \$70,000.

Additional Contributions Needed - There are several ways to contribute to this very worthwhile facility:

1. Sponsorship of a "Distinguished Engineer" - Outside the front doors of the TEC is a recognition wall of Distinguished

Engineers from Tennessee. For a donation of \$25,000 a firm or individual can have a permanent recognition of a Distinguished Engineer added to this display.

2. Designate 2003 United Way Contributions to the TEC - Many individuals and companies make annual contributions to the United Way. These contributions can be designated to help complete the funding for the TEC. Simply designate your contribution to the Cumberland Science Museum, Agency #7217. Also, send a copy of your pledge card to:

Ray White - TEC Treasurer

Garver Engineers

P.O. Drawer 1847

Brentwood, TN 37024-1847

3. Individual donation - an individual or company can make tax deductible contributions to the Cumberland Science Museum c/o the TEC. Please forward contributions to Ray White at the address listed above.

Any donations of \$1,000 or more will be permanently recognized in the lobby of the Museum.

Museum Gets New Name - The Cumberland Science Museum (location of the TEC) is getting a new name. The Museum will now operate under the name, Adventure Science Center. This new name more accurately indicates the true identity of the facility.



Becoming a Senior IEEE Member

Many members are eligible for senior member upgrade but just don't realize it. If you have at least 7 years of professional experience, you most likely will qualify for Senior Membership. A couple of the benefits of Senior Membership include the professional recognition of your peers for technical and professional excellence and an attractive fine wood and bronze engraved Senior Member plaque. One way that Senior Membership can benefit the section is through higher rebates per member, which is the section's primary source for funding. It's very simple to apply for the upgrade. You can apply online or download the forms at <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/md/smelev.htm> and then fax or mail them. Also, applications will be available at the section meetings. Three references are required; each of which must be a Senior, Fellow, or Honorary Member. If you are unsure of which members hold the elevated member grades you can ask the members themselves or contact Mike Puckett at m.puckett@ieee.org.

2002 Sections Congress Report

In October of 2002, IEEE hosted the 2002 Sections Congress in Washington D.C. Sections Congress is an event held every (3) years to bring together the leadership of all the Sections across the world. With 70 countries and 262 out of the 298 IEEE Sections around the world represented, the Sections Congress theme of "Creating a Global Community" became a reality. 605 delegates, approximately 200 partners and 72 staff were in attendance at the event 18-21 October in Washington, DC, USA. Chris Finen and Mike Puckett attended Sections Congress as the delegates from the Central TN Section.

The purpose of Sections Congress is to educate and stimulate the Section leadership and to develop recommendations for IEEE Headquarters to enhance the entire organization. A "Core Training" program was presented in order to give Section leaders the basic information needed to run their Section. Other breakout sessions were offered on a variety of topics to aid Section delegates in organizing and enhancing their Sections. Breakout topics included: Membership Benefits, Electronic Services, Programs for Section Growth, Industry Relations, Career Development, IEEE Engineering Ethic, and many more. Copies of all the topics and presentations can be found at <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/sc/2002/Presentations>.

For the final day of Congress, Section delegates were organized into their prospective Regions to develop recommendations for IEEE Headquarters. Each Region developed (4) key issues that face IEEE to be addressed by IEEE in the next few years. The primary delegates for each Section were then brought together to vote on the priority of each of the recommendations. Many leading recommendations had to do with improving electronic communications, addressing student dues, improving relations with industry, developing educational tools, etc. A complete list of the (40) recommendations developed at Sections Congress 2002 can be found at <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/sc/2002/recommendations1.pdf>

Overall, SC2002 was a tremendous success. Both Mike and Chris were amazed by the amount of valuable resources and benefits that IEEE membership offers. Most of these resources and benefits were not known prior to the Sections Congress. They learn much about the organization of IEEE and how the various Chapters, Regions, Sections Societies, etc relate. They also picked up many ideas on how to help stimulate the Central TN Section and to increase member value. Mike and Chris will be sharing their ideas with the Section throughout the year as they serve as Vice Chairman and Chairman. The next IEEE Sections Congress will be in 2005 in Tampa, Florida.

IEEE Life Members

IEEE Life Member is a special membership designation to recognize extended service to IEEE. The designation "Life Member" is applicable only to a member who has attained the age of 65 years and who has been a member of IEEE or one of its predecessor societies for such a period that the sum of his/her age and his/her years of membership equals or exceeds 100 years.

The Life Member Group is dedicated to:

- 1) Sponsoring activities at the secondary and college level to enhance interest in electrical and electronic engineering.
- 2) Encouraging the promulgation of the history of electrical and information technologies.
- 3) Working to identify activities that encourage IEEE Life Members to utilize their vast experience to educate the general public in engineering matters and to encourage the study of engineering, science, and mathematics.

The TN Engineering Center (TEC) offers Life Members an opportunity to do several of these items. Bill Sims has been instrumental in the creation of this center and invites all IEEE Life Members to join him in helping grow IEEE by participating in events at the TEC. If you are interested please contact Bill Sims at 615-331-7521 or e-mail b.sims@ieee.org.

Additional IEEE Volunteers Needed

You may or may not realize it, but IEEE is completely a volunteer based organization. There are very few actual IEEE employees. The greatest majority of IEEE leadership is volunteered base. This also includes local Section leadership. The Central TN Section is in need of additional volunteer support to help fulfill the goals of the Executive Committee and to strengthen the position of IEEE in our area. The ExCom has numerous initiatives and ideas that will need additional volunteer support to accomplish. Below are a just couple of the positions in the Section that need volunteer support.

GOLD (Graduates Of the Last Decade) Program Chairman - The mission of the GOLD Program is to serve the interests of the IEEE affinity group characterized by members in their first ten years (approximately) after graduation.

Publicity Chairperson - The Publicity Chair is responsible for helping to increase the visibility of IEEE. Promoting the activities of IEEE through advertising, article submission, announcements, etc. in area periodicals, newspapers, radio, and television will all greatly benefit the efforts of IEEE.

If you are interested in volunteering for either of these or other positions in the Section, please contact a member of the Executive Committee.

SoutheastCon - April 4-6, 2003 - Ocho Rios, Jamaica



www.southeastcon.org

SoutheastCon is the annual IEEE Region 3 Technical, Professional, and Student Conference. It brings together Electrical, and Computer Engineering professionals, faculty and students to share the latest information through technical sessions, tutorials, and exhibits. It is the most influential conference in Region 3 for promoting awareness of the technical contributions made by our profession to the advancement of engineering science and to the community. As usual, attendance and technical program participation from areas outside IEEE Region 3 are encouraged and welcomed.

The Central TN Section is always well represented at SoutheastCon, primary through the student chapters. Students compete in a number of design events in hardware, software, webpage, t-shirt, etc. With this year's location being in Jamaica, the travel and lodging expenses will be considerable. If you or your company would be interested in supporting our Student Branch's participation in SoutheastCon, please contact Andy Dozier (andy.dozier@vanderbilt.edu) or Chris M. Finen (cfinen@ieee.org). Your support will help assure that the Central TN Section is well represented at the Conference.

IEEE Government Fellowships

Are you aware that IEEE-USA sponsors IEEE members to work in Washington D.C. for a year as advisors to Congress and as Engineering and Diplomacy Fellows in the U.S. State Department? The Fellowship program provides an opportunity for engineers to experience our nation's legislative process firsthand and to explore how scientific, technical, and engineering knowledge can contribute to development of public policies. Fellows receive a stipend plus relocation assistance. Applications are now being accepted through 2/24/03 for each of these positions in 2004. For more information visit www.ieeeusa.org/forum.govfel, contact S. Richardson at s.richardson@ieee.org, or call 202-785-0017.

E-mail and Web Site Key to IEEE Communication

In today's information age, it is imperative that our Section of IEEE use all available tools to help communicate with the members. The proliferation of e-mail and the world wide web has made the exchange of information faster, cheaper, and much more efficient. IEEE has invested heavily in taking advantage of these forms of communication. It is imperative that IEEE members embrace these new tools and forms of communication to get the maximum from their IEEE membership.

IEEE Webpage (www.ieee.org) - This is the main website for IEEE Headquarters. It houses tremendous links to information, member services, publications, etc. IEEE has made significant investment in keeping information up to date, and well organized.

Create an E-mail Alias - As an IEEE member you have the privilege of establishing an @ieee.org e-mail alias. This alias will allow you to have e-mail messages sent to *youralias@ieee.org* automatically forwarded to your real e-mail account. This service also provides automatic virus protection for all incoming mail. The virus protection is updated daily and ensures that messages don't corrupt your critical data. To create an alias simply complete the quick and easy setup by going to www.ieee.org/membership and click on the E-mail Alias link.

Central TN Section Website (www.ieee-nashville.org or www.ieeecentraltn.org) - The Central TN Section web site will be continually updated with all of the latest information for the local Central TN Section of IEEE.

Keep your profile updated - In order to ensure that you continue to receive e-mails and mailings from IEEE, make sure that you keep the SAMIEEE database updated with your latest contact information. This can be accessed at www.ieee.org/membership.

Valuable Member Services - The IEEE Home site (www.ieee.org) is full of useful information such as careers, employment (for both job seekers and employers), member benefits, educational resources, conferences, and more. Make sure you take advantage of all of these great benefits to maximize the value of your IEEE membership.



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**Membership Benefits:
Did You Know?**

"Did You Know" is a new section of the IEEE Central TN quarterly newsletter dedicated to highlighting certain membership benefits that a person may not know about. The value of IEEE membership is tremendous if a person takes advantage of just a fraction of the available resources, tools, programs, contacts, etc. that are available.

DID YOU KNOW...IEEE hosts a variety of Career and Employment tools that includes a Job Site webpage powered by e-Recruiter. This site allows members to search for available jobs or post job openings if seeking employees. The job site webpage can be accessed at <http://jobs.ieee.org/>.

Job Seekers can create and post their own personal profile, including your skills, desired salary, and location. The e-RecruiterTM webpage will notify you with a confidential email when an employer posts an opening that matches. Plus you can search the job postings, post your resume, and learn more about companies looking for innovators like you. Employers seeking employees from the over 365,000 talented members of IEEE worldwide can post job listings on the webpage and/or in various IEEE publications. Student members can also search the site for internships and entry level job opportunities.

This is a free service to IEEE Members and is one of many powerful benefits or membership. For more career and employment options, click on "Careers and Employment" link from the main <http://www.ieee.org> webpage.