

## Chair's Corner

It's already August, and I hope everyone had a productive first part of the year.

Back in April, the section had its annual spring picnic at Wekiva Island. I want to thank Raj Gurupur who represented your executive committee for attending and greeting the members who were in attendance.

Our section, along with Canaveral and Melbourne, attended Apollo 50 events in Cocoa Beach and at the Kennedy Space Center last month. IEEE-USA was a sponsor of the Apollo 50 celebrations. Our local sections members, like Life Fellow David Flinchbaugh, Ph.D., have been key contributors to the Apollo program in the 1960s, and the Space Shuttle program from the 1970s to 2000s, and now with SpaceX and Boeing Commercial Crew programs and the Space Launch System programs. This was a time to reflect on the achievements of our members during the last 50 years and to look forward their contributions to future spaceflight missions.

Our section has some exciting upcoming events for the second half of the year.

First, we plan on hosting our first Section's Conference in October. This conference, hosted at the University of Central Florida, will bring all our society chapters together to present around a theme of mobility and the Internet of Things. Sephandaro Reach is on point from the Section, and he's working with UCF Student Branch Chair Andrew Kwong to pull this off. We're targeting October 12 or October 25 as the date of the conference.

If you would like to help with the conference, please attend our working sessions that will be held from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Fridays, August 9 and 23, September 6 and 20, and October 4 at UCF's Harris Engineering Center Room 356. You can also attend via Webex at <https://ieeemeetings.webex.com/ieeemeetings/j.php?MTID=m26a20ac04b77758b6f35166e64e72f44>.

Second, our joint chapter of the Communications and Signal Processing societies is bringing [Ashutosh Dutta, Ph.D.](#) to Orlando as part of the Communications Society Distinguished Lecturer Program. Ash will speak on Next Generation Mobility Networks. This program will coincide with our October Executive Committee Meeting on October 15. Send me an e-mail if you are interested in attending.

Finally, we have our Annual Banquet in planning at this point, with an October or November target date. More information to follow.

Speaking of the Annual Banquet, our awards timing has moved up this year. If you are submitting a nomination for an award or scholarship, those are due by midnight on Sunday, September 22, 2019. Information about the awards and scholarships, and the nominations process can be found at [http://ewh.ieee.org/r3/orlando/2019/Apr/Star\\_Search.html](http://ewh.ieee.org/r3/orlando/2019/Apr/Star_Search.html).

In the meantime, we are growing our social media presence. Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/IEEEOrlandoSection>, on Twitter @IEEEOrlando, and on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8654043/>. We'll post our upcoming events on our web page at

<https://www.ieee.org/orlando> as well as on our groups. Also, feel free to ask questions or start discussions on our social media pages.

That's it for this month. Follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/IEEEOrlandoSection>, on Twitter [@IEEEOrlando](https://twitter.com/IEEEOrlando), and on LinkedIn at <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/8654043/>. We'll post our upcoming events on our web page at <https://www.ieee.org/orlando> as well as on our groups. Also, feel free to ask questions or start discussions on our social media pages.