

AREA 9 REPORT FOR FEBRUARY 13, 2012, REGION 3 EXCOM

Introduction

The Jamaica Section convened its Annual Retreat and commenced our planning of goals and objectives for 2012 on January 18, 2012. The Jamaica Sections plans to actively participate in Region 3 Meetings this year as we have in past years to achieve the goals of the Section and of the Region.

Goals & Objectives:

- 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 Meeting

The Section held its monthly meeting on Wednesday February 1, 2012, 6:00 p.m. at the Engineering Conference Room, Faculty of Engineering, UTech. Our special guest presenter was Mr. Percy “Butch” Shadwell, International Chair of the IEEE Humanitarian Technology Challenge - Reliable Electricity Committee & Member of IEEE Region 3. Mr. Shadwell presented on “Section Leadership Training and work done in new Technology R&D”. The meeting was well supported and the response of the members was very good.

UTech Student Branch

The UTech Student Branch held a very successful SPAC. The presenter was Mr. Percy “Butch” Shadwell, International Chair of the IEEE Humanitarian Technology Challenge - Reliable Electricity Committee & Member of IEEE Region 3. He presented on the Engineer as an Entrepreneur and Engineers Career Strategies. Lectures and students from the Northern Caribbean University (NCU), students from the University of the West Indies (UWI) and UTech student members attended. He was well received by the participants and enjoyed his time here on the beautiful island of Jamaica.

e-Membership

As you are aware Jamaica is now eligible for the IEEE e-membership programme.

The full list of members was extracted from SAM IEEE with the view to contacting members whose IEEE membership was no longer active as well as members whose membership fees were in arrears. These persons have been contacted by email and the plan is to also contact by telephone and encourage them to renew their membership and take advantage of the e-membership rates. We plan to focus on this during the remainder of the year to improve our membership.

Website - IEEE Jamaica Section

Webmaster Milverton Moore continues to keep the website current and provides valuable information for the Jamaica Section and Region 3. Milverton is now spearheading the change from the current IEEE web template to the new one. 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.

Subsequent to our meeting with members of the Region 3 Conference Committee in San Francisco we visited Sunset Jamaica Grande to renegotiate the energy charge. However the negotiations were not encouraging. As a result we initiated discussions with The Hilton Rose Hall as an alternate location for hosting SoutheastCon 2015. The Hilton confirmed that the dates for the Conference are available and have submitted a proposal to the Section. The committee is now in the process of reviewing the proposal which appears favorable.

Barriers:

At present the Section has a few core persons who are members of the ExCom that are very active, however, there are positions within the ExCom that need to be filled and the challenge is to have other IEEE members take on these leadership positions.

Respectfully submitted:

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