IEEE R3 Area 1 Virginia Report for July 20, 2020

ISSUES NEEDING ATTENTION by the ExCom or Region Committee – None, but see suggestions on p.2.

SECTIONS in Area 1 -- Central Virginia, Hampton Roads, Richmond and Virginia Mountain

Goals and Objectives, including proposed initiatives and projects for 2020
- **Goals --**
  - To improve the Section-Region relationship in support of IEEE
  - To improve the robustness of each Section's organizational structure
  - To improve the Member-IEEE Value relationship—it's a partnership
  - To improve Member Retention and Recruitment for each Section
  - To improve member engagement within each Section (Note: each new OU adds 4+ engaged member-volunteers, which builds an experience pipeline)
  - To improve member grade elevation (all scenarios, Associate/Affiliate, Member, Senior, Fellow, while Life Member just happens)
- **Objectives –**
  - Offer each Section focused support in matters not effectively addressed by IEEE or Region
  - Determine, by request/survey, those issues in need of support for each Section
  - Engage Section chairs or their delegate(s) in Region Meetings
  - Assist Sections in filing timely Region reports
  - Assist Sections in adding Organizational Units (OU)s, including Technical Society Chapters, Affinity Groups and Student Branches, where possible
  - Hold a regular (monthly/bi-monthly/quarterly) Area-Section conference call
  - Maintain regular personal outreach to Section chairs (by telephone and email)

Plans for the Year
- **To visit each Section/Section Chair/Section Officers at least once per quarter (4 visits per Section)**
  - To demonstrate the value of an Area Chair and to add a resource for the Sections
  - To visit each Section chair
  - To attend a Section meeting
  - To be available for a Section WebEx/meeting for each
  - To set up an all-Sections WebEx for information exchange
  - To identify issues that impede effective organizations and to practice and share those items that enhance organizations
- **To enable each Section to form at least one additional OU**

Notable accomplishments and problems of Area 1 not covered in the above
- **Accomplishments**
  - Asked all Sections to verify their web presence on IEEE, Region 3 and local Section, for all Section, Chapter, Affinity Group and Student Branch websites/pages and check for correct links from organizations above and broken links in the local material
  - Asked all Section Chairs to attend the Region 3 meeting or have a substitute represent their Section
  - Asked all Section Chairs to file a brief Section Report to be posted in the Region meeting record
  - Added pro-forma global event searches to Richmond website—a very powerful improvement!
- **Problems**
  - COVID-19 compliance –unexpected benefit—an opportunity for better networking!
  - Civil disorder & disruption (Richmond has been forever damaged, much destroyed)
  - Overcommitted to other outside, but related activities

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Suggestion:
1. To reserve the Region 3 Calendar for <u>Region 3</u> events only and not those of it's component committees and OUs
2. Perhaps a Region 3 Committees calendar can be used for R3 Committee meetings and a Region 3 Sections or Region 3 OUs calendar could be used for organizational unit events within Region 3.
3. I find the current posting of OU events to the R3 Calendar to be cluttered and distracting. Anyone wishing to post an event with Region-wide appeal could place an entry in one of these sub-calendars to good effect.
4. And, maybe a variant of the item below might be incorporated in the Region 3 website.

New feature (e.g., in the IEEE Richmond Website):
1. Now, one can easily explore the global IEEE Events efficient frontier through a new feature. In www.ieee.org/richmond, one can explore under the "Meetings and Events" tab for "All IEEE Virtual" or "All IEEE (with WebEx in Title)" and get a list of ALL upcoming Events.
2. If one wishes to perform such a search by Technical Society, such a feature is available under the 'About' tab, then "Other Organizational Units" and then click the hot-link "Events" for any of the Technical Societies (which are listed in order of numbers enrolled by IEEE Richmond members). The SPOID for each Technical Society is pre-populated on each list, making it easy to breeze through the material. These codes are not easily found within the IEEE website.
3. These features can be easily incorporated on any website and can be pre-populated with an additional Region 3 constraint, or left open for the viewer to do so.
4. The use of this feature greatly facilitates networking and interactions across the entire IEEE organization, adding greatly to value. The feature has been available within vTools, but it has been cumbersome to use. This new approach is a step in the right direction.