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IEEE R3 Richmond Section Report

August 17, 2020

Issues requiring action by the Region 3 Committee or ExCom

The assistance that Jill Gostin, Steve Kemp, and the IEEE staff are providing to help clear up the problems that the Industry Applications Society has had with its Chapter Formation Petition are greatly appreciated.

Successes/Opportunities for Engaging the member, volunteer, non-member, public

- The Industry Applications Society is in the final stages of getting its petition to form a local Chapter approved. Within the next few days we expect to hear the official news that it has been created. This group has already been quite busy. If they were currently a Chapter, they would have already satisfied their meeting requirements for the year.
- A local film producer has been working with the IEEE Foundation to create a film on Frank Sprague, the Father of Electric Traction. Sprague's work made electric streetcars and electric traction elevators possible. The Richmond Section has been given the opportunity to host an initial limited screening of the film because Richmond was the site of Sprague's first successful system in 1888. The screening will be limited to preserve the filmmaker's distribution rights. We are currently planning to have the screening on or around IEEE day. It is too early to say for certain whether the screening will be in person or virtual only.

Notable section activities (positive and negative)

- Most other activities, other than virtual ExCom meetings, are temporarily on hold due to the virus.
- The Industry Applications Society ran into significant challenges getting their petition through the process, but with the help of various IEEE members and staff the problems have been identified and the process should go smoother for other groups in the future.

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