This Month’s Meetings

Tuesday, April 5th: EXCOM Meeting
Meeting starts at 5:30PM At TECO Plaza
Register online at http://time2meet.com/fwcs-excom/index.html
Open to all FWCS Members

Robotics and Automation Society Meeting
Meeting is April 19, 2011
Go to the RAS Page of FWCS Website for Latest Info!

Tour of GE Instrument Transformer Plant
Meeting is April 18, 2011
9:00AM to 12:00PM
Limited to 30 Registrants!
Details on page 5

Become an E-mail Ninja!
Meeting is April 20, 2011
Location: TECO Hall
Meeting Starts at 6:00PM
Details on Page 3

Upcoming Event!
Landfill Gas Recovery and Energy Technology
Friday May 20th, 2011
Registration 11:30AM-12:00PM
Speaker from 12:00PM-1:00PM
Details on Page 6
This Month…(Editor’s Column)

Recently, Bill Gates was on television speaking about the state of education in the US and calling for ways to improve it to keep students competitive with other countries. His forum was the TED Conference held in Long Beach, CA (http://ted.com). TED stands for Technology, Entertainment and Design and is a non-profit that has been around since 1984. TED conferences are held in other locations around the world form time to time. Topics range from technology, business, design, science, culture, art and global issues. There are a few requirements placed on presenters like an 18 minute time limit and the presentation can't get political. I watched one by Burt Rutan, one of the most inventive and successful aircraft designers of all time and another by Chef Jamie Oliver on nutrition in the US and UK. The presentations don’t take long and are well worth the time and there are topics that will appeal to everyone.

Software Technology Lecture Series for April
Florida Gulf Coast University
Software Technologies Distinguished Lecture Series 2011
http://lectureseries.fgcu.edu/

Academic Bldg 7 – Auditorium 114
Thursdays 6:00-7:00pm

- April 7, 2011
  Product Development at METI: Experiences of a Young Software Engineer
  Neven Skoro, Software Engineer II
  METI, Sarasota, Florida

- April 14, 2011
  Software Engineering with Web Technologies: Aligning Educational Goals with Business Needs
  Rick Szatkowski and Victor Elci, Programmer Analysts
  Pegasus Solutions, Bonita Springs, Florida

- April 21, 2011
  From FGCU to NASA: A Graduate’s Journey to Becoming a Software Engineer
  Jaime Zabala, E1 Level Software Engineer / Flight Software Tester
  Vantage Systems, Inc., at NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Lanham/Greenbelt, Maryland
Teacher in Service Report

Dear Friends,

The following are important announcements for education and engineering around the Tampa Bay Area.

Please continue to browse the Teacher In Service Lesson Plans at the following URL for topics: http://www.ieee.org/web/education/preuniversity/home.html or www.tryengineering.org. We want to assign an engineer to a project that is appropriate for your science educators. We encourage every school to take a look at the lesson plans. I need you to pick a lesson plan most appropriate for the event. Please contact me at venner20@ieee.org to ask an engineer to do a presentation for your school going forward. We ask all IEEE members and Certified Engineers to volunteer with your local schools. Please let me know if you are volunteering so that I can provide you with IEEE surveys that need to be given and collected. The IEEE is dedicated to also helping your districts as well. I have attached the IEEE TISP surveys to the email. We can arrange to do these any time at the convenience of the schools and the engineers. We are offering effective and economical alternatives to promote engineering. This is to inspire the educator to perform these activities themselves while enriching their Students. If the teachers and the volunteers work together, students have a better chance at successful careers in engineering. In the long run, it helps "the technological literacy of tomorrow’s leaders."

I know a pair of Engineers, who serve on our Executive Committee, are prepared to do a presentation on "Making Sense of Sensors" for a Professional Study Day of your choice. Please contact me to arrange their availability.

On April 29th, the Florida Engineering Education Conference will be held at the University of Central Florida campus. Central Florida STEM Education Council Director, Bruce Furino said, “Interested supporters of engineering education in Florida are invited to attend. This year’s focus is on space science STEM Programs with an engineering focus. NASA-KSC is our conference partner and we just learned today a past astronaut will be our Keynote Speaker. More details will follow”.

How to Become an Email Ninja!

How many emails do you send every day: 10, 50, 100 or more? These days email seems to be the #1 way that we engineers both send and get information. Too bad you never took a class in high school on how to do email right.

When you send an email to someone, what do you want them to do? You'd like them to open your email, read it, and then do what you want them to do -- right? Now how often does that actually happen? I'm willing to bet that all too often you send an email off and it just vanishes never to be heard from again.

We're going to change all of that. During this one hour meeting we're going to share with you the secrets that you need to know to create powerful emails that cause things to happen.

You're going to learn the ORCA technique: get readers of your email to Open, Read, Comprehend, and take Action. You'll learn what not to do and why people may be ignoring or deleting your emails before they even open them -- and how to stop this!

This meeting is one that you just can't miss. Considering how many emails you send every day, this may well be the most valuable hour that you spend all month long. I guarantee that you're going to come out of this meeting with the ability to write emails that cause things to happen. You'll be an email ninja!

This meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 20th at TECO Hall. The meeting starts at 6:00PM. For more information and to reserve your spot at this meeting, visit us on the web at: http://time2meet.com/fwcs-section/index.html

If you have any questions, please send an email with your question to Dr. Jim Anderson (jim.anderson@ieee.org).

Dr. Ralph Fehr Receives the IEEE Region 3 Joseph M. Biedenbach Outstanding Engineering Educator Award

During the Awards Ceremony held on Saturday, March 19th, 2011 at the IEEE Region 3 SoutheastCon conference in Nashville, TN, the FWCS own Dr. Ralph Fehr was honored for his continuing work in teaching and sharing his knowledge. The Joseph M. Biedenbach award is presented "To recognize a member of Region 3 who has shared technical and professional abilities through teaching in industry, government, or in an institution of higher learning and in so doing has made an outstanding contribution to the electro technology profession."

We want to take this opportunity to add our congratulations to Ralph and to thank him for all his support of our local FWCS.
Career Opportunities at Beckwith Electric!
Products defined by you, refined by Beckwith

Beckwith Electric Co., Inc., located in Largo, Florida, is a leading manufacturer of innovative high quality products, technical services and solutions for the electric utility industry

Quality Assurance Engineer
Coordinates and manages all Quality functions and ensures developed products meet design specifications and are within TQM limits and standards. Responsible for maintenance of Quality management system and ISO 9001 requirements. BS in Engineering, Physics or related and minimum of 10 yrs experience in electronic manufacturing in the QA management area.

Products Engineer
Technical liaison between Engineering and the Manufacturing, Quality Assurance, Sales, Marketing and Customer Technical Support departments. The Product Engineer will answer questions concerning assembly, test and functionality. Also, this position will provide technical support concerning manufacturing techniques, materials, properties, and limitations that affect the product. BSEE or equivalent with 2-4 years related experience and/or training. 2-3 years experience in an electronic manufacturing environment. Knowledge of electronic circuit analysis (both analog and digital).

Senior Software Engineer
Researches, designs, develops, and debugs embedded and Windows programs, in conjunction with hardware product development, by performing various duties. BSEE or university program certificate with 12 or more years related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience. At least 12 years in software coding using "C", "C++", and/or Assembly language. 12 years experience on C++ Windows Graphical User Interface (GUI) programming with object oriented methodologies.

Our Compensation Package includes a Competitive Salary, Paid Vacation and Holidays, 401(k) Plan, Health, Dental and Vision Insurance; Life, Short and Long Term Disability; Long Term Care Insurance and Educational Assistance.

Beckwith Electric, founded in 1967, is a premier provider of innovative and high quality products, technical services and solutions that meet the needs of customers involved in the production, transmission, and distribution of electric power.

Products Provided
Beckwith Electric's products include tap changer, regulator, and capacitor controls, protective relays, custom services and solutions, and equipment for synchronizing and motor bus transfer. Customers include electric utilities, large industrial companies, original equipment manufacturers and owners of alternative sources of energy.

6190 118th Av. N., Largo, FL  33773
Fax: (727) 544-2015
jobs@beckwithelectric.com
www.beckwithelectric.com
Drug Free Workplace      EOE
Tour Of GE Instrument Transformer Plant

Date: Monday, April 18, 2011
Time: Tour: 9:00AM – 12:00PM
Speaker: GE Design Engineer Team
Location: 1907 Calumet St. Clearwater, Fl 33765
Cost: Free for IEEE Members, $20 Non-Members, (Includes Lunch)
RSVP: Online at: http://time2meet.com/fwcs-pes2/index.html
Make checks payable to: IEEE FWCS
Send checks to: John Stankowich, IEEE PES/IAS Treasurer
2593 Forest Run Court
Clearwater, FL 33761-3716
Space limited to the first 30 registrants!!!
Cancellation must be submitted online 24 Hrs prior to the event at:
http://time2meet.com/fwcs-pes2/index.html
No shows will be invoice for the total cost of the event.
Questions: Serge Beauzile at 863-834-6511 or Serge.Beauzile@ieee.org

Come join your PE/IA Chapter for an educational Tour of the GE Instrument Transformer Plant in Clearwater, Florida. In this fascinating facility, GE manufactures everything from 200 amp metering CT’s for your meter shop to 25,000 amp bushing transformers for your generators and switchyard equipment. You will see 600V through 38kV CT’s and PT’s for your enclosed gear, test switches, and even rotary selector switches. Transformer design engineer eager to address your technical question will host the tour

Directions to GE Instrument Transformer Plant Clearwater, Florida

**Directions:** From Courtney Campbell Causeway, heading west. Turn right (North) on Hercules Ave. Follow Hercules Ave., passing Drew St., the small Air Park, and railroad tracks. Pass light (Calumet St); turn left at Chevron Gas Station (Calumet St. also). Follow around to entrance. See Security Guard.

From Courtney Campbell Causeway, heading west, turn right (North) on Hercules Ave. Follow Hercules Ave. passing Drew St., the small Air Park, Raymond Hyatt, Pass light (Calumet St. also). Follow around to entrance. (See Security Guard)

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IEEE

April 2011

FWCS SunCoast Signal
Landfill Gas Recovery and Energy Technology

Date: Friday, May 20, 2011
Time: Seminar: Registration 11:30am-12:00pm, Speaker 12:00pm-1:00pm
Speaker: Dan Cooper SCS Project Manager and Leader
Location: FRCC 1408 N. West Shore Blvd., Suite 1002, Tampa, Florida 33607
Cost: $10 Members, $20 Non-Members, $5 Students. (Includes Lunch)
Make checks payable to: IEEE FWCS
Send checks to: John Stankowich, IEEE PES/IAS Treasurer
2593 Forest Run Court
Clearwater, FL 33761-3716
Space limited to the first 30 registrants!!!

Cancellation must be submitted online 24 Hrs prior to the event at:
http://time2meet.com/fwcs-pes1/index.html
No shows will be invoice for the total cost of the event.

Questions: Serge Beauzile at 863-834-6511 or Serge.Beauzile@ieee.org

The presentation will familiarize the participants with the basics of landfill gas generation and recovery and the control of landfill gas to reduce local and regional air pollution, to generate electricity, and for other beneficial end uses. The class will cover methods of construction, design elements, and permitting issues.

Dan Cooper, P.E. Mr. Cooper is currently a Project Manager and leader of the Florida landfill gas group with SCS Engineers in Tampa. Mr. Cooper has a Chemical Engineering Degree from University of Colorado at Boulder and Masters Degree in Environmental Engineering from the University of South Florida. Mr. Cooper has worked in environmental consulting for the past 6 years. Prior to entering consulting Mr. Cooper worked for an environmental instruments manufacture in their new product development division. Since joining SCS Engineers Mr. Cooper has performed a variety of engineering designs including landfill gas collection systems, solid waste transfer stations, municipal and industrial landfill closures and many general solid waste and environmental engineering projects.

PACE Network
being technically proficient is only part of what it takes to become successful in the ever-changing global economy. More and more companies are beginning to recognize the added benefits of improving their workers' professional development skills and are opting to provide increased training for it. IEEE-USA is also aware of this increased need and is working to provide seed funding for professional activities in addition to increasing awareness of existing programs such as Professional Development Seminars.
PACE (Professional Activities Committees for Engineers) is a grassroots network of IEEE volunteers and committees organized at the section and chapter level in the United States with support from their respective regions and IEEE-USA. The goal of the PACE Network is to promote the professional interests of IEEE's U.S. members as well as provide a mechanism for communication of members' views on their professional needs. IEEE-USA's success is attributed largely in part to all the hard work out forth by volunteers from the PACE Network. In return, the IEEE-USA National PACE Committee is working to better serve your interests with more programs, better communication, and more opportunities for professional development.
IEEE-USA Unemployment Survey

The IEEE-USA Employment Assistance Committee has continued its interest in developing a better understanding of the problem of unemployment among older engineers by conducting a survey of unemployed engineers. This report of results is organized into four sections. The first section reports the percentage distribution or means response for each of the questions in the survey. The second section reports the results of selected cross tabulations that focus on age and various aspects of employment status. The third section reports the results of a multivariate analysis that focuses on the impact of age on the duration of unemployment, when other factors are held constant. The final section compares some of the current results to those in 1995, 1996, 1998, 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008. Price is 19.95. [http://www.ieeeusa.org/](http://www.ieeeusa.org/)
April 2011 Calendar of Events (For more information see P. 1) *inside this Signal*...

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