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THE SUNCOAST SIGNAL

THE INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS, INC.

Volume 60— No. 4 <http://www.ieee.org/fwcs> **April 2015**



Inside This Signal...

Page 2

* *This May be your Final Signal
Newsletter*

Page 3

* *2015 Engineering Week
Banquet*

Page 4

* *So What do You Know About
Projects?*

*IEEE Computer Society Conference
– Local Computer Networks (LCN)*

Page 5

* *Windfreak Dual Channel Signal
Generator Meeting
3D Printing Introduction*

Page 6

* *At the DeSoto FPL Next Generation
Solar Energy Center*

Page 7

* *Joint ISA / IEEE Meeting -
Electric Vehicles*

Page 8

* *IEEE Plain Talk*

Page 9

* *MILCOM 2015
Advertising Section

Page 10

* *Calendar*

This Month's Meetings

***Tuesday, April 7: EXCOM Meeting, 5:30PM at TECO Plaza
Register online at <http://time2meet.com/fwcs-excom/index.html>***

Open to all FWCS Members

***This May be your Final Signal Newsletter
[Details on page 2](#)***

***2015 Engineering Week Banquet
[Details on page 3](#)***

***So What Do You Know About Projects?
IEEE Computer Society Conference - Local Computer Networks (LCN)
[Details on page 4](#)***

***SP/Comm presents: Windfreak Dual Channel Signal Generator Meeting
3D Printing Introduction
[Details on page 5](#)***

***At the DeSoto FPL Next Generation Solar Energy Center
[Details on page 6](#)***

***Joint ISA / IEEE Meeting – Electric Vehicles
[Details on page 7](#)***

***IEEE Plain Talk
[Details on Page 8](#)***

***MILCOM 2015
[Details on page 9](#)***

***Calendar
[Details on page 10](#)***

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THE SUNCOAST SIGNAL is published monthly by the Florida West Coast Section (FWCS) of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE). THE SUNCOAST SIGNAL is sent each month to members of the IEEE on Florida's West Coast. Annual subscription is included in the IEEE membership dues.

The opinions expressed, as well as the technical accuracy of authors, advertisers or speakers published in this newsletter are those of the individual authors, advertisers, and speakers. Therefore, no endorsement by the IEEE, its officers, or its members is made or implied.

All material for THE SUNCOAST SIGNAL is due in electronic form by **1st Sunday after the 1st Tuesday** of the month preceding the issue month.

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This May Be Your Final Signal Newsletter!

If you have not renewed your membership, please do it now. Next month we will begin using the new mailing database, which does not include those that have not renewed.



Your IEEE Florida West Coast Section Needs your Help!

We are looking for a volunteer who want to invest just a few hours a month to be the new Signal Editor. Basic word processing knowledge and willingness to Help!

*Please participate in your section
success!*

<p>Wayne Ellis President</p>		<p>Steve Antman Sales Engineer Cell: 813-523-3161</p>
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2015 Engineering Week Banquet

We returned to the A La Carte Event Pavilion in Tampa for the *TBEWB Banquet* on February 27th, 2015. This year's theme was "Discover Engineering-Let's Make a Difference."

Those in attendance included the former IEEE USA President Gary Blank. It was amazing to note that over 300 attendees were there to help us celebrate Engineers Week.

Each Engineering Society Chair was called to the stage to present the plaques and awards for their Societies and the first IEEE award was to Anthony "TJ" Ross as Student Engineer of the Year. Other societies also had Students of the Year awards to distribute, and some of the societies also had awards for "Young Professionals of the Year."

The Outstanding Teachers included: Missy Allison (Durant High School Biology Teacher), Jim Reve (Lennard High School Robotics Coach) and Cheryl Reve (Lennard High School Environmental Teacher) who each received the well-deserved Lignell Awards for their work with students.

Jessica McRory, chair of this year's TBEW banquet committee introduced the Keynote Speaker: Dr. Story Musgrave. Some of the main points in his biography included: Growing up on a farm and operating heavy farm equipment as a child and joining the Marines and flying bomber planes in the Korean War, after which he attended Syracuse University and became a neuro-surgeon. Then, in the late 1970s, he became an astronaut and helped launch the Hubble Telescope.

After Dr. Musgrave's outstanding talk, the "Engineer of the Year Awards" was presented. The IEEE FWCS immediate past chair, Serge Beauzile, was the 2014 IEEE Engineer of the Year. Other noteworthy Engineers of the Year Awards for each Society went to: Jessica McRory (ASCE), Larry Josephson (ASHE), and Stephen Elting (ASME).

Overall it was another outstanding and successful event and the TBEW Committee should be congratulated for volunteer work to make this event happen.

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So What Do You Know About Projects?

Yes, we all work on projects and we know that they get funded, we get assigned to them, and that we are expected to deliver our work according to the project's schedule, but who plans all of this stuff? Just exactly how do they determine how much a project is going to cost the company? Who approves it? By the way, who comes up with that almost-impossible-to-meet schedule?

Good news – all of the project related questions that have been running around in your head are going to get answered. Your local IEEE Section's PACE Group is sponsoring a seminar in which you'll have an opportunity to meet with a panel of honest-to-goodness project managers who will reveal all.

We're going to start at the beginning – where projects come from, how they are funded, and who gets to pick how they'll be staffed. Next we'll take some time and get a better understanding of how project managers stay on top of a project when it's in flight. Just exactly what are they doing with all of that status data that they are collecting? Finally, we'll look at what it takes to wrap a project up. What makes a project a success / failure and does anyone every learn anything from a project?

P.S.: If you've ever considered becoming a project manager, then this is the seminar that you need to come to. These working project manager professionals can answer all of your career related questions.

This seminar will be held on Wednesday evening, April 15th starting at 6:00pm at TECO Hall. The price is a low, low \$17 / member, \$25 / non-member, \$5 / student, and \$2 / Life member.

Go here <http://goo.gl/hLUyhg> to register online and I'll see you there!



IEEE Computer Society Conference - Local Computer Networks (LCN)

Sheraton Sand Key Resort -Clearwater Beach, FL - October 26-29, 2015

The IEEE LCN conference is the premier conference on theoretical and practical aspects of computer networking. LCN is highly interactive, enabling an effective interchange of results and ideas among researchers, users, and product developers. Major developments from high-speed networks to the global Internet to specialized sensor networks have been reported at past LCNs.

Conference registration will be available via the IEEE online conference registration Web site during the summer of 2015.

Please visit <http://www.ieeelcn.org> for more information about the 40th Anniversary of this conference.



SP/Comm presents: Windfreak Dual Channel Signal Generator Meeting

Date: Thursday April 9th, 6:30 PM

Location: Largo STAR Center Corner of Bryan Dairy and Belcher
7887 Bryan Dairy Road Largo, FL 33777

Abstract: Windfreak is a company that was started by David Goins in 2008 after he realized that the cube life was not for him. He is excited to share his experiences in life after the cube and how that transition has played out for him. His latest product is a Dual Channel Signal Generator and there are plans for hardware, spectrum analyzer, and a live demonstration.

Here is a link to the product:

<http://www.windfreaktech.com/rf-microwave-dual-channel-signal-generator.html> And datasheet:

<http://www.windfreaktech.com/docs/synthhd/SynthHD-dual-channel-microwave-signal-generator.pdf>

Speaker: David Goins is Owner of Windfreak Technologies, LLC in Holiday, FL.

David graduated from Texas A&M with a BSEE in 1994 specializing in Analog Circuit Design. Since then he has worked at many small companies as an RF design engineer. Recently he worked for NASA – Johnson Space Center until 2010 where he was very bored, unhappy with corporate life, and had plenty of time to play with circuits he liked. On a lark he put a simple homemade RF signal generator on eBay. It was a huge surprise and endorphin rush when it sold and that was the start of Windfreak Technologies, LLC.

Organizer: For more specific information please contact:

Chris Lambrecht e-mail: chris.lambrecht@ieee.org, Phone: 727-458-9061

Cost is \$2 for Students and Life Members, \$4 for IEEE Members, and \$6 for Non Members.

Food and beverages will be provided. Please sign up at: <http://time2meet.com/fwcs-mtt/index.html>



3D Printing Introduction

Date: Thursday May 14th, 6:30 PM

Location: Largo STAR Center Corner of Bryan Dairy and Belcher
7887 Bryan Dairy Road Largo, FL 33777

Speaker: Isabelle Laureyns is VP of Manufacturing at Fill-Tech Solutions, Inc. in Largo, FL.

Organizer: For more specific information please contact:

Chris Lambrecht e-mail: chris.lambrecht@ieee.org, Phone: 727-458-9061

Valerie Tur Phone: 813-334-2317

Cost is \$2 for Students and Life Members, \$4 for IEEE Members, and \$6 for Non Members.

Food and beverages will be provided.



FWCS PE/IA Hosts Another Great Tour

At the DeSoto FPL Next Generation Solar Energy Center

Planned to last over 30 years, this is a very impressive 25 MW PV plant. Our visit included a presentation by the engineers working at the plant, as well as a roof-top view of the overall facility.

FPL has plans to triple the center in the coming years to provide 75MW to their Customers from this location.

We learned a lot about the technical aspects of the plant, including maintenance, output vs. clouds, etc. With over 30 our of members and their guests attending there were a great deal of questions asked of our hosts, and they took the time to answer them all.

A special thanks to Steve Antman of Electrical Engineering Enterprises, for volunteering to set up this meeting, and to the FPL staff who helped coordinate and host the group.

Special thanks to Rae Dowling of FPL and to the other FPL employees who helped make this a successful meeting and tour.

We look forward to returning to tour this plant again in the not to distant future!





Joint ISA / IEEE Meeting – Electric Vehicles

Date: Thursday April 9, 2015

Time: 6PM to 7:00PM

Location: Big Bend Power Station

13031 Wyandotte Road, Apollo Beach, FL 33572

Space is limited to 35 attendees.

Cost: Free

Reservations: Reservation is required.

Please Contact Shaun Cross @ 813-228-1111, ext 48306 or by email at sfcross@tecoenergy.com to reserve a space.

Have you ever wondered how you could convert your gas powered car into an electric car? Or do you have an electric or hybrid car and always wanted to meet with others in the area with the same interest? Have you been thinking about possibly owning an electric vehicle and want to learn more about the technology?

Your local ISA and IEEE sections are hosting a joint meeting on electric vehicles. We plan to have two electric vehicles at the meeting to demonstrate the current technology. We will have a Nissan Leaf provided by Tampa Electric (<http://www.tampaelectric.com/company/electricvehicles/ourgreenfleet/>) and we will have a Honda Del Sol that was converted from gas to 100% electric. We will compare the differences between an OEM built electric vehicle and a converted project car. We will discuss the benefits and limitations of electric vehicles and share our experiences driving these automobiles with the group.

This is our second joint meeting between ISA and IEEE and we look forward to another interesting meeting. If you have an electric vehicle or hybrid vehicle we would encourage you to bring to our meeting so we can discuss differences in technologies and our experiences operating these machines.

Please have a current photo ID with you to gain access to the facility. Any questions, please contact Shaun Cross (@ 813-228-1111, ext 48306) or Thomas H. Blair (@ 813-228-1111, ext 48179).

PLAIN TALK

The IEEE Power & Energy Society's Practical Education Courses for Industry Professionals.



Electric Power Education for Industry Professionals!

- Are you a professional working in or with the Power Industry who would like to learn more about the Electric Power System?
- Would you like to learn more about the technical aspects of the industry in a format that is geared to non-technical professionals?
- Are you an engineer new to the industry, or working in another industry who would like to transition to the Power Industry?

If you answered YES to any of these questions, register NOW for "Plain Talk about the Electric Power Industry." These courses will provide you with the practical knowledge you need to help you understand the electric power system and enable you to apply that knowledge to your job so you can work more effectively.

For Course Brochures and To Register:
Visit www.ieee-pes.org/plaintalk

Contact LaToya Gourdine, Education Administrator, IEEE Power & Energy Society
at (732) 981-2876 or via email l.gourdine@ieee.org

SAVE THE DATE FOR ONE OF OUR 2015 EVENTS:

Knoxville, TN
March 24-26

Little Rock, AR
June 2-4

Denver, CO
July 28-30

Boise, ID
Sept 2-4

Pittsburgh, PA
Oct 6-8

Charlotte, NC
Nov 10-12

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April 2015 Calendar of Events (For more information see P. 1) *inside this Signal...*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1	2	3	4
5	6	7 <i>EXCOM Meeting, 5:30 TECO Plaza</i>	8	9 <i>SP/Comm Seminar Joint IEEE /ISA Meeting</i>	10	11
12	13	14	15 <i>Project Management Meeting, 5:30 TECO Plaza</i>	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30 <i>PES/IAS EXCOM Village Inn - 6am</i>	1	2