



SPARKS

Daytona Section Newsletter September 2012



FROM THE HIGH CHAIR

Hope you all enjoyed a great summer! Before the summer break, we had the last spring meeting in April. Robotics teams from ERAU and BCU both talked about their experiences at robotics competition during SouthEastCon 2012 in Orlando. Also, we recognized two winners of IEEE Special Awards for Tomoka Regional Science Fair: senior division winner Ms Allison White, and junior division winner Ms Kaitlyn Thompson.

Our bylaws require elections of next year's officers at our last meeting in 2012. Our nominating committee, consisting of Roger Grubic (roger_grubic@ieee.org) and Ron Gedney (r.gedney@ieee.org), requests that anyone interested in a position contact them soon. A section officer's position is a great way to enhance your professional experience, gain new contacts and serve our membership. Most positions require less than a few hours per month of your time.

In August, your annual election ballot package should arrive via first-class mail. Please cast your vote by 3 October, the last day for members' marked ballots to be received by IEEE. You may return the ballot by mail or electronically.

2012 is IEEE's 50th year. IEEE was founded on January 1, 1963, through the merger of the AIEE (American Institute of Electrical Engineers, founded 1884) and IRE (Institute of Radio Engineers, founded 1912). There are about 9400 of members who have been with IEEE since 1963. This year they all received a pin identifying them as a "Member 1st 50 Years". In our section, we would like to recognize 28 such members for their loyal affiliation with IEEE. They are: Alvarez, J; Barker, W; Baxter, Frank; Cutler, M; Deloach, B; Elden, Walter; Gauper, Harold; Gedney, Ronald; Gibbons, E; Green, P; Grubic, Roger; Habermann, R; Heidrich, Arthur; Henderson, Robert; Husbands, Charles; Ingels, Frank; Lane, J; McGill III, William; Medley, Robert; Morris, C; Peterson, R; Ross, I; Schickofke, Robert; Warzecha, L; Wichmann, Tracy; Wolfe, Michael; Yaeger, Theodore; and Yodice, Dominick. We are proud to have you all in the Daytona Section!

The Proceedings of the IEEE is publishing its volume 100 this year. There is a special 13th issue in vol. 100, which includes some interesting papers reviewing the past and looking forward to the future. I trust that you will find papers that interest you, regardless of your technical background. The special issue is available free of charge through IEEEExplore.

Last but not the least, I would like to call your attention to an important issue IEEE is working on in the international policy arena. In January, the IEEE Board of Directors endorsed the United Nations' declaration of 2012 as the International Year of Sustainable Energy. To date, 45 other organizations, with a combined membership of over 2 million members, have joined IEEE in a supporting statement, which is available at http://www.ieee.org/about/news/2012/sefa_18june.

Thomas Yang, Ph.D.

SEPTEMBER PROGRAM

PREHISTORIC ANIMAL DISCOVERIES IN THE DAYTONA BEACH AREA

Zach Zacharias will speak about the Prehistoric animals that roamed this area during the last ice age. Daytona Beach and the area around Nova Road was a hotbed of animals like the Giant Ground Sloths, Mastodons and Mammoths. Several years ago during a graveling operation, the bones of a number of South American Giant Ground Sloths were found near the corner of Reed Canal Road and Nova Road. Last year during the evacuation of a retention pond in Holly Hill, near the corner of Mason and Nova Roads, the remains of an Ice Age Mastodon was unearthed. Zach will talk about these discoveries, the evacuation of the fossils, the significance of these finds, and the preservation of the remains. He will also bring along some of the fossilized bones, from these evacuations, for closer inspection.

OUR SPEAKER

The Speaker for the September Meeting will be James "Zach" Zacharias a graduate of Florida State University and currently serves as the Senior Curator of Education and Curator History at the Museum of Arts and Sciences in Daytona Beach Florida.

TALES FROM THE OLD PROFESSOR

YOU WANT IT WHEN? (Part 1)

A few months ago I got a call from Kennedy Space Center asking if I could give a 3 hour tutorial on radio communications for engineers at the Center. After discussing what subjects and at what level I asked when they wanted the course. The answer? Next week! This would be a formidable task so I wondered if there would be a reward. "Is there any remuneration for this?" I asked. "No". "What about travel expenses?" "No, but we would be happy to provide a tour of the facilities".

I have had special tours not available to the public of areas of the Space Center and they were very informative and enjoyable, so I didn't turn down the request. Someone at the University told my contact that I was able to do the impossible so for the reputation of the University I accepted the challenge.

The course went fine. The attendees asked a lot of questions and were obviously interested and learned a lot. Now it was time for my expected tour. But there seems to be a problem. My contact said the person who was to give me the tour was at an all-day meeting; could I come back some other time? It is a 150 mile round trip and I was truly annoyed and pointed out the length of the trip.

A fellow who was standing with my contact said "I can take him". "In your car?", my contact exclaimed. "Yes". "In your car?", was repeated with the same answer. Now, this fellow was wearing a Citroen Polo shirt and I asked, much to the surprise of my contact "Is your car a Deaux Chevaux". Yes was the answer.

Deaux Chevaux is French for 2CV which is a Citroen model that is in the opinion of your humble correspondent the ugliest car ever designed. Almost 9 million were made and used throughout Europe and provided inexpensive transportation for decades. Inspector Clouseau drove them in two of the Pink Panther films. Need I say more about style?

The Deaux Chevaux is an odd car inside and out. The shift lever comes out of the dash board which is at arm's length in this very small car. Automatic transmission? Ha, ha, ha, no way. The interior is Spartan at best. Only the front windows are roll-up. The seats are hardly padded. Sound deadening? Same as automatic transmission. The 2CV had its good points in that it was nearly indestructible and affordable for the European middle class. It also had its bad points, one of which was it consumed oil. The Citroen fix for this was a clip under the hood that held a liter bottle of oil.

The original 2CV had a 9 hp engine and a top speed of 40 mph. An export version made for US freeways

had a 29 hp engine and could top out at 71 mph and was imported until 1981 when US Federal standards excluded the car from import. Owners said the car could go from 0 to 60 mph "in a day" and they had to call ahead for an appointment to merge into US interstate traffic.

Having always wanted to experience how millions of Europeans fared in the Deaux Chevaux I accepted my volunteer tour guide's offer and we headed to the parking lot to begin the adventure.

"It's over there", my tour guide pointed out. "I know; I can see it". It was yellow and black and stood out like a beacon in the night. It looked like a giant bumble bee on wheels. We got in and started the bumble bee with a roar, smoke and a lot of rattling and backed out of the parking spot and headed out for the tour.

...to be continued.

Al Helfrick, Ph.D.

DAYTONA SECTION SHIRTS

We are pleased to offer Daytona Section polo shirts for our Section members. The shirts are embroidered with the IEEE logo and DAYTONA SECTION on the left and your name and grade, if desired, on the right.

The shirt is a high quality 5 oz, 65/35 poly/cotton pique in Royal Blue with white embroidery. Available in S - 2XL in men's as well as ladies sizes. Price is \$28, including tax for S-XL size's, 2XL size is \$4 additional.

For more information or to order shirts contact

Allan Jusko
3706 Longford Circle
Ormond Beach, FL 32174
386-671-3706 or a.jusko@ieee.org

Indicate shirt size and name and grade if desired. Shirts must be paid for before ordering, typical turn around time is 2 weeks. Arrangements can be made for shirts to be picked up or shipped to you at an additional charge.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

SouthEastCon- Jacksonville 2013

EDITORS NOTES

The **SPARKS** newsletter is also available on our website. The website address is shown below.

Region 3 website

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/3/>

Melbourne Section website

www.ieeemelbourne.org

Orlando Section website

www.ieee.org/orlando

Website address for the Daytona Section

<http://www.ieee.org/go/daytona>

FUTURE MEETING DATES

The dates for the fall session are Oct 25 and Nov 29

NOTE - DINNER PRICE CHANGE

We have held our dinner price at \$18 for over 5 years. Unfortunately, cost increases now make it necessary for us to raise the entrée price to \$20 and the Veggie plate to \$12. The student price will remain at \$10.

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SEPTEMBER 2012 MEETING

Thursday September 27th at the Halifax River Yacht Club
331 South Beach Street, Daytona Beach, Florida 32114
Just south of the Fire Station at the corner of Beach and Orange

AGENDA

6:30 PM Cocktails
7:00 PM Dinner
8:00 PM Program

OUR SPEAKER - James "Zach" Zacharias
Museum of Arts & Science, Daytona Beach
TOPIC - Prehistoric Animal Discoveries In The
Daytona Beach Area

September Dinner Menu

It's BBQ Night
BBQ Ribs and Chicken,
Vegetables De jour, Roasted Red Potatoes,
Rolls & Butter, Coffee/Tea

Unless noted, dinner entrées are \$20.00 each. Students \$10.00 each
A Veggie plate is available on request for \$12

Dinner reservations must be in by Wednesday the 26th at noon so the club has time to order and prepare

Please contact Allan Jusko with your dinner selections or for program information.

Allan Jusko Editor 386-671-3706 a.jusko@ieee.org

IMPORTANT: If you make dinner reservations and are unable to attend, call at least 12 hours prior to the meeting to cancel. The Daytona Section is charged for all dinners ordered.
