

SPARKS Daytona Section Newsletter March 2019





MARCH SECTION MEETING Thursday March 28th at the Halifax River Yacht Club, 6:00 PM 331 South Beach Street, Daytona Beach, Florida 32114

PRESENTATION

A FUN NIGHT WITH THE OLD PROFESSOR

CHAIR'S REPORT



Before I talk about security, I want to briefly mention that the IEEE SoutheastCon 2019 will take place in Huntsville, Alabama, from April 11th to April 14th. If you would like to go, the conference registration rate of \$395 is only available until March 16, 2019; then it becomes \$595. I have a few more comments about this valuable conference later in this report, but before I continue, I want to move to cyber security.

Over the last four months, the Daytona Section has developed a Cyber Security theme that has been truly eye opening. Helen Hernandez, our Vice Chair, has played a major role in getting the right speakers to our

meetings to address cyber security. We have been told over and over about the threats, but to see real life examples and the video that was demonstrated showing how easily our personal data can be stolen is pretty scary. This cyber theme is impressive and will continue at future IEEE meetings.

Ron Gedney, the section's Secretary, has asked, "How secure are we?" The answer he gets from our speakers is, "Not very!" and he offered the following summary.

Our program in February was the third in a series of talks on use and misuse of the Internet and our social networks. In October, our talk centered on cyber security threats and how to guard against them.

In January, Gary Vela, founder of Daytona Internet Marketing, described his Internet business that uses personal information derived from Social platforms like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and Pinterest to assist businesses in developing a customer data base to obtain viable leads for potential sales. Gary spoke of the methods he developed for increasing a business' or organization's visibility using Search Engine Optimization.

In February, Mr. Shawn Wilkerson showed us how easy it is for a professional scam artist to find our e-mail, e-mail password, birth date as well as the security questions on our e-mail accounts. He points out that personal information provided by users has grown exponentially over recent years via social media, Website customization, online surveys, smart phones, fitness trackers, smart residential products, and a plethora of other venues. This publicly available personal information often facilitates the success of social engineering attacks on individuals, organizations, compromise of academic facilities, and theft of research. For these reasons, Mr. Wilkerson is attempting to develop a Social Engineering Exposure Index.

So far, these talks have been real eye openers on just how insecure we, individually, have all become through our (innocent) participation in Social Media. We all should review and tighten up the information we provide to social media and the permission we give for that information to be distributed. Alas, as Mr. Wilkerson pointed out, that does not take back the data that is "out there" already. But it may prohibit new information from getting out.

What comes next? Watch this space as our Vice Chair, Helen Hernandez, lines up new speakers for our fall term.

Now, back to the 2019 IEEE SoutheastCon. This conference is the annual IEEE Region 3 Technical, Professional, and Student Conference. As the premier conference for the IEEE Region encompassing Jamaica and the Southeastern United States, it brings together Computer Scientists, Electrical, and Computer Engineering professionals, faculty, and students to share the latest information through technical sessions, tutorials, and exhibits. It is the most influential conference in Region 3 for promoting awareness of the technical contributions made by our profession to the advancement of engineering and science and to the community. For more information on registration, hotels, and logistics, please Google 2019 IEEE SoutheastCon.

Rich

FEBRUARY'S PRESENTATION

WHY WE NEED A SOCIAL ENGINEERING EXPOSURE INDEX (SEXI)



Mr. Shawn Wilkerson's very imformative presentation was described in the Chairs Column. Mr. Wilkerson was presented with the Section's travel mug by Vice Chair Helen Hernandez

MARCH PRESENTATION

A NIGHT OF POTPOURRI WITH THE OLD PROFESSOR



Sticking with the style of "Tales from the Old Professor", Dr. Helfrick's presentation promises to be his usual eclectic mix. The subjects will be historical, hysterical, and sometimes nostalgic but will have a connection to technology and in particular, aviation. This is a presentation you don't want to miss as it most likely will become unscripted and cannot be repeated.

ANOTHER TALE FROM THE OLD PROFESSOR

THE MONTH OF MARCH

Did you know March was the first month of the year according to the legendary, ancient Roman 10-month calendar attributed to Romulus about 800 BC? March's early spot on the calendar was likely due to the vernal equinox or the first day of spring occurring in March. There was an attraction to making Spring the first season of the year.

A number of calendars were in use at the time Julius Caesar was proclaimed the Roman Republic's "dictator for life". These calendars were, for the most part, inaccurate and under constant change. Caesar ordered a reformation of the Roman Calendar in 46 BC and designated January the first month and March would move to the third position. Moving March to the third month had a number of advantages which included extending the Roman Gladiator's Basketball season. Today we know the 46 BC calendar as the "Julian" Calendar.



March, in addition to hosting the vernal equinox, includes St. Paddy's Day, the World Day of Prayer, and Pi Day amongst others. But, the most important day this March is the 28th when the Old Professor delivers his prize-winning Night of Potpourri at the IEEE Daytona Section meeting. We are honored to share the day with Weed Appreciation Day. (Not sure of Weed Appreciation Day? Google it.)

I hope to see many of you on the 28th, Weed Appreciation Day, at the IEEE Daytona section meeting. *Be there or be square!*

Dr. Al Helfrick, a.k.a The Old Professor

PE CORNER

YOU RENEWED YOUR LICENSE; NOW WHAT?

The deadline has passed for license renewal in Florida. Now what? If you are like many of us, you won't think about continuing education for another 20 or so months and then rush to get your hours done before the next renewal deadline. However, it doesn't have to be that way. Let me suggest a few alternatives.

- You can earn double the hours by presenting a technical seminar to your peers under IEEE's continuing education program. Every one of us has an area of expertise. Sharing your knowledge with others provides personal satisfaction, as well as earning hours toward your next license renewal. Talk to me or any IEEE officer about topics that you can present and earn some hours.
- 2. Lend your spare time to IEEE as an officer. You'll help yourself, your peers, and IEEE as a whole. You can earn four Continuing Education Hours (CEHs) for servicing as a professional society officer.
- 3. Technology changes at an ever-increasing rate. This is true not just for Electrical Engineering, but in just about every field of engineering and science. You can get out of breath just thinking about trying to keep up with it. There are many ways to update your knowledge in your area of practice, or to branch out and learn about something new and different. You can do this through seminars offered by IEEE and other technical societies, online classes, or registering for classes at your local university or community college. Some of these may be eligible for CEHs and some employers may reimburse you for some or all of the cost. But whether it is eligible for CEHs or not, you never know; you just might learn something new.
- 4. Mentoring a young engineer, or an engineer intern, is a very rewarding way to give back to the profession. There are many ways in which you can help our younger peers to advance in their careers. For example, you can encourage new engineers just out of school to take the FE (EIT) exam now while the information is still somewhat fresh. Few of us knew early in our careers where our path would ultimately lead. And those just starting out may not know at this early point in their careers whether they'll need to have a PE license someday or not. We all know that if you don't take the FE exam shortly after graduation, it's a pretty monumental task for most engineers to "re-learn" enough of what they learned in college to pass the test. Just the thought of studying all of that material in order to pass can be daunting. To help those in that situation, my department has gathered a group of engineers who didn't take the FE exam right out of school and encouraged them to study together in order to prepare to take the exam. They meet several times a week to study different topics together with the goal of taking the exam after about 12 weeks of preparation. We even bought them their review manuals. We all wish them success.

Whether you are a PE looking to attain required CEHs, or an engineer looking to learn something new or keep current with the latest trends in the profession, IEEE has seminars that will meet your needs.

Art Nordlinger, PE, Senior Member

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 \$30, including tax, for S-XL size's, 2XL size is \$3 additional. For more information or to order shirts contact: Allan Jusko 386-671-3706 or a.jusko@ieee.org.

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

The final date for the spring session is: Apr 25th

EDITORS NOTES

Visit our Daytona Section website: http://ewh.ieee.org/r3/daytona/



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2019 SECTION OFFICERS

Chair – Richard Kent 206-369-1965 rtkentjr@msn.com

Vice Chair – Helen Hernandez 386-872-0483 hhernandez@ieee.org

Treasurer - Dr. Jianhua Liu 386-226-7713 liu620@erau.edu

Secretary – Ron Gedney 386-847-8094 r.gedney@ieee.org

Awards Chair – Dr. Keith Garfield 386-226-7081 garfielk@erau.edu

Publicity/Media – John Horner 201-240-6689 jhorner@gmail.com

PACE Representative – Dr. William Barott 386-226-8973 barottw@erau.edu

Life Member Chair – Ron Gedney 386-478-1204 r.gedney@ieee.org

Computer Society Chair – Dr. Keith Garfield 386-226-7081 garfielk@erau.edu

> Student Activities, (Co-Chairs) ERAU - Dr. Keith Garfield 386-226-7081 garfielk@erau.edu

> > B-CU - Dr. Xiaohe Wu wux@cookman.edu

ERAU Student Chapter Chair- Victoria Rutenbeck Rutenbev@my.erau.edu

B-CU Student Chapter Chair – Ashim Ghimire Ashim.ghimire@students.cookman.edu

> Webmaster – Charlie Husbands 386-760-7163 chusbands@ieee.org

SRT Project Coordinator - Charlie Husbands 386-760-7163 chusbands@ieee.org

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

MARCH 2019 MEETING

Thursday March 28th 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 Streets

TOPIC– A Fun Night with The Old Professor

SPEAKER – Dr. Al Helfrick, Professor Emeritus at ERAU

AGENDA 5:30 PM Greetings & Cocktails 6:00 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Presentation

Dinner Entrée Choices

Grilled Salmon - with a cream dill sauce

Chicken Cordon Bleu - Chicken Breast stuffed with Swiss Cheese and lean Ham,

Flat Iron Steak - with a mushroom and Dijon mustard cream sauce

All entrees served Garlic Mashed and Steamed Broccoli

A **Veggie Plate** is also available upon request Dinners include a house salad, bread, coffee or tea

Members and guests \$20.00 each Students \$5.00

IMPORTANT DINNER NOTE!

The Yacht Club is requiring us to give them a dinner and menu selection count by the Tuesday afternoon before our meeting. Since the menu items are special selections for each of our meetings and are prepared to be served at the same time, this gives the chef and kitchen time to order, receive and prepare the food items.

As always, all members and guests are welcome to attend the meeting and presentations, however any dinner requests received after Tuesday afternoon may not be accepted

Please contact Allan Jusko by <u>Tuesday March 26th at noon</u> to give us a count for dinner or for further information

If you make reservations and are unable to attend, call prior to the event to cancel.

The Section is charged for all dinners ordered, please let us know if your plans change

Allan Jusko Editor 386-671-3706