

## Celebrating 50 years of IEEE ENCS: 1965 – 2015

### Part 7: IEEE Eastern North Carolina Section – A History of “Firsts”

The Eastern NC Section has contributed richly to the IEEE and the industry. We have provided leadership at all levels of the IEEE, including one President (Dr. Troy Nagle, 1994) and one Executive VP, the last one to hold that position (George Abbott, 1989). We have also provided two Region 3 Directors, George Abbott, and of course our current Director, Mary Ellen Randall. Along with numerous leaders in the technical activities, publications, and standards areas, many NC Council Chairs have come from the ENCS including our current Chair, Paul Goodson.



L. to R.: Dr. Troy Nagle, Mary Ellen Randall, Paul Goodson

We have also been a leader in conferences. The long-running regional conference, SoutheastCon, was born from a technical and student meeting in Raleigh (North Carolina Symposium and Exhibition) in 1965. Officially named SoutheastCon three years later, the conference has been hosted by our section in 1969, 1985, and 1995. We have also had other “firsts”: In 1994, we held the first MPAC (Member Professional Activities Conference) in the IEEE. In 1997, we hosted the only SOUTHCON trade show ever held outside of Florida or Atlanta. The long-running North Carolina Symposium and Exhibition was hosted numerous times by our section.



SoutheastCon (2016)



ECCE (2012)



TechForLife Symposium (2004)

Some of our other firsts:

- First Consultants Network in Region 3, begun 1994;
- First Embedded Systems Special Interest Group in an IEEE section;
- First section-level BBS in Region 3 (ca. 1990);
- First IEEE/Industry Roundtable (1994).

Contributed by Charles J. Lord, PE



ENCs Chair 1993, 1998; Vice Chair 1992; Treasurer 1990-91; Organizer and Past Chair, Triangle Consultants Network; Past Chair, Computer Society Chapter; Past Chair, Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society Chapter; Membership Development Committee Chair 1990-95; Newsletter Editor 1995-2001, 2003; PACE Committee Chair; Professional Development Institute.

As well as many positions at the NC Council, Region, and Institute level.