



by Sandy Hunter, Section Chair

This program year has been tremendously exciting. The dedicated section and chapter officers built on last year's successes and added new ones this year. I'll highlight accomplishments in Section Meeting operations, awards, Senior Membership campaign, conferences, volunteer impact, Region 4 interaction, and section operations.

Jim Woodyard and the Program Committees for the Fall and Spring Section Meetings did a terrific job of planning, organizing, and executing the two mini-conferences. Numerous section members conveyed to me that the section meetings were extremely well-organized and the student hosts were extremely helpful. Jim Woodyard managed both meetings so that the section incurred no costs. I commend Jim and John Miller for arranging to have Wayne State University and Ford Motor Company sponsor the fall and spring meetings,

respectively. The report on the Spring Section Meeting in this issue of Wavelengths discusses the meeting results and thanks the volunteers by name.



A big thanks goes to George Peters, Sat Basu, and Dave Horvath for their efforts on the Awards Committee. They identified deserving members for the Section's annual awards program and nominated two members for Region 4 awards. I'd also like to thank Don Bramlett for taking the lead in nominating Don Silversmith for the IEEE-USA Professional Achievement Award in recognition of Don's six years as the section's Director of Professional Activities.

Continued on page 8

by Jim Woodyard, IEEE/SEM Vice Chair



The IEEE/SEM Spring '99 Meeting was held at the Ford Fairlane Training and Development Center in Dearborn on March 24th. The meeting was co-sponsored by IEEE/SEM and Ford Motor Company. The co-sponsorship with Ford Motor Company was arranged by John Miller, the current IEEE/SEM Secretary, to whom I would like to express sincere appreciation on behalf of the section.

Sponsorship of Section Meetings: One of the ways that IEEE/SEM can produce high-quality section meetings is through sponsorship from organizations that have a vested interest in the engineering profession. The funding level suggested from sponsors is at the level of \$3,000 for a single meeting. We were fortunate that the College of Engineering at Wayne State University and Ford Motor Company served as sponsors for the section's fall '98 and spring '99 meetings. With sponsorship, section meetings can be held at first-rate

facilities, student registrations subsidized, and reasonable registration fees offered to members.

The advantage to sponsors is acknowledgment in meeting publicity. Section meeting publicity includes three Wavelengths articles, and announcements sent by e-mail, snail mail and posted on the IEEE/SEM Web site. The exposure of sponsors in Wavelengths can be quantified. The circulation of Wavelengths is about 4000. Considering that two issues of Wavelengths announce a given section meeting, and one issue reports on the meeting, sponsors are acknowledged in over twelve thousand separate mailings! This is minimum that we can offer sponsors. With the changes in IEEE policies concerning the use of Web sites for sponsors of section activities, we can be creative in the use of our Web site for the mutual benefit of our sponsors and IEEE/SEM programs. The IEEE/SEM Executive Committee needs the cooperation and support of members to promote sponsorship of section meetings.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Section Year End Report	1,8	IEEE/SEM Spring '99 Section Meeting Reports & Articles:	
IEEE/SEM Science Fair Awards	2,3	Meeting Report	1
Calendar of Events	3	Program Committee	4
		Presentations & Awards	5
		Professional Activities	6
		Meeting Survey	7
		Sum. & Request for Suggestions ...	7

The 42nd Annual Science and Engineering Fair of Metropolitan Detroit (SEFMD) was held March 23 through March 27, 1999 in the Michigan Hall of Cobo Conference Exhibition Center in downtown Detroit. Judging of student projects was performed on Wednesday, March 24. For a fifth year the IEEE/SEM Section has provided a team of volunteer judges to evaluate student projects associated with electrical, electronic and computer engineering related subjects. The Section wishes to thank the 10 IEEE members, and their companies / institutions, for taking the time to volunteer and help to make the Science Fair a more pleasurable and meaningful experience for the middle and high school students who participated.



The IEEE/SEM judging team was composed of the following volunteers:

Applied Dynamics International

Selim Aissi, Ph.D.

General Dynamics

Rao L. Boggavarapu, Ph.D.

Medar

Mitch Ochten

ABB Services, Inc

Wayne Atkinson

Ford Motor Company

Scott A. Amman, PE, Ph.D

Richard E. Batty

General Motors

Bill Sprague (retired)

Wayne State University

Laurence Dishman

Detroit Edison

Satyendra Basu

Don Bramlett

The judges had the opportunity to view and evaluate some outstanding exhibits, especially some extraordinary projects in areas pertinent to IEEE-related fields. The judges and the students had the pleasure to interface and discuss in depth some of the principles, experimental results and applications pertinent to the projects.

The IEEE/SEM Section, based on the evaluations of the panel of judges, awarded two First Place Grand Awards, each consisting of a check for \$100 and a framed personalized certificate. These two awards were presented to:

Jonathan Bloom, for his project entitled, "Cryptography: Public vs Private Key."

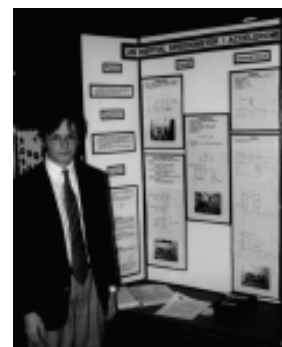
Jonathan is a first time recipient of a First Place Grand Award from the IEEE/SEM Section. Jonathan is a junior at West Bloomfield High School. In fact, one of the IEEE/SEM Section judges was so impressed with Jonathan, the judge offered Jonathan a summer intern position with



his company; though Jonathan has instead taken a summer position with the GM Truck Group. At the SEFMD, Jonathan also received a Gold First Grand Award and an Alternate Senior Grand Award. He also received professional awards from Intel, ESD-The

Engineering Society and the U.S. Navy. At the Michigan Science & Engineering Fair, held on April 17 at Lawrence Technological University, Jonathan received a 2nd Place State Award in the category of Mathematics/Earth & Space Sciences and a 4th Place Overall Award.

Joseph P. Heremans, for his project entitled, "An Inertial Speedometer/Accelerometer." Joseph is a junior at Detroit Country Day Upper School. Joseph has been a previous recipient of a First Place Grand Award from the IEEE/SEM Section; last year for a project entitled, "A Thermo-electric Relative Humidity Meter" and the year before for a project entitled "Thermo-acoustic Refrigerator."



Continued on page 3

Electromagnetic Test, Analysis & Consulting

The Eaton Detroit Center provides OEMs and suppliers worldwide with full-service test and analysis capability in more than 50 vehicle technologies, including the following electromagnetic test, analysis and consulting services:

- New Product Test, Evaluation, Problem Resolution, Validation, and Standards Certification
- Evaluation of Materials Shielding
- Customer-Site Problem Analysis and Resolution
- In-Plant Power Quality Analysis
- NVLAP/NARTE Certified
- Consulting on EMC and Power Quality Issues
 - New Product Concepts
 - Existing Product
 - Specifications
 - Revisions
 - Test Plans
 - Re-Designs

Eaton has earned more customer quality awards than any peer, and the first-ever *SAE Henry Ford II Distinguished Award For Excellence In Engineering* ... Find out why! For more information on laboratory hours and how we can support your test and developments programs, call **Scott Lytle at (800) 341-4892**.

Eaton Corporation
Corporate Research & Development
26201 Northwestern Highway
Southfield, MI 48037

EAT•N



IEEE Southeastern Michigan Section Executive Committee

Officers

Chair	Sandy Hunter	248-524-0645
Vice Chair	James Woodyard	313-577-3758
Secretary	John Miller	313-322-7486
Treasurer	Donald Silversmith	313-577-0248

Administrative Activities

Past Chair	George Peters	519-972-2727 x4447
Section Advisor	Don Bramlett	313-235-7549
Student Activities	Mohamed Zohdy	248-370-2234
Professional Activities	Tarek Lahdhiri	519-253-4232 x3436
Technical Activities	Anthony Will	810-986-9557
Educational Activities	Ece Yaprak	313-577-8075
Membership	Maurice Snyder	734-973-1300

IEEE/SEM Chapters

I Circuits & Signal Processing: Acoustics, Speech &

Signal Processing (ASSP-01), Circuits & Systems (CAS-04),
Information Theory (IT-12) and Control Systems (CS-23)

II Vehicular Technology: Vehicular Technology (VT-06)

III Comm. & Aero. Electronics: Aerospace & Electronics

Systems (AES-10) and Communications (COM-19)

IV Trident: Electron Devices (ED-15), Microwave Theory &

Techniques (MTT-17) and Antennas & Propagation (AP-03)

V Computer: Computer (C-16)

VI Geoscience & Remote Sensing: Geoscience &

Remote Sensing (GRS-29)

VII Power Eng. & Ind. Apps.: Power Engineering (PE-31)

and Industrial Applications (IA-34)

VIII EMC: Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC-27)

IX Power & Ind. Electronics: Power Electronics (PEL-35)

and Industrial Electronics (IE-13)

X Engineering Management: Eng. Management (EM-14)

Visit the following IEEE World Wide Web sites:

Section: www.ieee.org/regional/section/se_michigan

IEEE: www.ieee.org

IEEE Region 4: www.ieee.org/regional/r4/



Calendar of Events

Monday

June 7th

Event: IEEE/SEM Program Year Planning Workshop for New Officers

Time: Dinner at 6 PM (provided by the section),
6:30 - 8:30 PM Workshop

Location: Eaton Corporation
26201 Northwestern Highway, Southfield

Contact: Kimball Williams for directions at 248-354-2845

Comments: Network with fellow officers and volunteers; develop high level chapter plans for increasing member satisfaction and meeting attendance; and chapter plans for increasing member satisfaction and meeting attendance; and have a strong start for your term in office

RSVP: Contact John Miller by jmille24@ford.com by June 2 so that enough food and materials will be available.

Members are welcome to attend Executive Committee Meetings. Please inform Kimball Williams if you plan to attend.

... Science Fair Awards

(Continued from page 2)

The judges also determined that the IEEE/SEM Section would provide Honorable Mention Awards to eight other noteworthy projects. The Honorable Mention Awards each consisted of a framed personalized certificate. These awards were presented to:

Adam M. Hilss and Adam Markham, for their project entitled, "Computer Controlled Linear Acceleration Via Transient Magnetic Fields." They are students at the Macomb Math Science Tech Center.

Andrew Zundel for his project entitled, "Rocket Trajectory." He is also a student at the Macomb Math Science Tech Center.

Genet J. Griffin, for her project entitled, "Temperature Variance in Relation to the Optimum Efficacy of Fluorescent Light." She is a student at Renaissance High School.

Sameer S. Walavalkar, for his project entitled, "A Mobile Heat Detection Unit." He is a student at Detroit Country Day Upper.

Rishi Mukhopadhyay, for his project entitled, "Two New Algorithms For the Traveling Salesman Problem." He is also a student at Detroit Country Day Upper.

Jonathan V. Bastin, for his project entitled, "Effects of Various Propeller Configurations on Power Generation of a Windmill." He is a student at Western International High School.

Stephen M. Painter, for his project entitled, "Alternative Energy - Wind Power." He is a student at Flynn Middle School.

Douglas L. Li, for his project entitled, "Effects of PH and Temperature on Electrical Conduction." He is a student at Patrick Henry Middle School.

The IEEE/SEM Section plans to staff another panel of judges at the SEFMD in 2000, and subsequent years. In addition, the section intends to staff a panel of judges at the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in Detroit in the year 2000. At the International Science and Engineering Fair next year, we will provide awards from the section, possibly awards from Region 4 and a \$10,000 scholarship from the IEEE Foundation. Watch for articles in *Wavelengths* in early 2000, so you too can have the satisfying and fulfilling experience of being an IEEE/SEM Section Science Fair judge.

EDITORS

Anita Malhotra	Cindy Witkor
O: 313-845-2409	Advent Engineering Services, Inc.
H: 810-268-0249	Mark A. Hunter
amalhot1@ford.com	m.hunter@ieee.org

PRINTER

Progressive Printing
1326 Goldsmith
Plymouth, Michigan 48170
734-459-2960



COPY DEADLINE: News items are due the first day of the month for the following month's issue, e.g. April 1 is the deadline for the May issue.

ADVERTISING RATES CIRCULATION OVER 4000

Ad Size	Annual Rate (8 issues)	Single Issue Rate
1/8 page	\$525	\$85
1/4 page	\$1000	\$160
1/2 page	\$1900	\$300
1 page	\$4000	\$650

(Second color, special sizes & placement quotes may be requested.)

POSTMASTER Send address changes to:

IEEE Service Center, 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854.
Phone: 732-981-0060 x150. USPS 878-660

POSTAL INFORMATION NOTICE

The newsletter of the Southeastern Michigan Section of IEEE, "Wavelengths", (USPS 878-660), is published monthly 8 times per year except June, July, August & December by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. Headquarters: 3 Park Avenue, 17th Floor, New York, NY 10016-5997. \$1.00 per member, per year (included in annual dues) is designated for each member of the Southeastern Michigan Section. Periodicals Postage Paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices.

Registration and Attendance

There were about 108 registrations with 103 attendees and 85 dinners served. About 24 of the attendees were student members. Two attendees did not purchase dinner. Our contract with the Ford Fairlane Training and Development Center required a meal count 48 hours before the event and the meal count could be increased on the night of the event. There were no assurances that meals ordered on the night of the event could be provided. We opted for a meal count of 111. Collection of meal tickets during dinner suggested that 85 meals were served. It appears that we paid for 26 meals that were not served. There were 20 meals paid for at the IEEE/SEM Fall '98 meeting that were not served. It is the policy of the section to bill individuals who preregistered and indicated the fee would be paid on the night of the meeting but did not attend the meeting. The policy is an attempt to recover payment for meals ordered 48 hours in advance of the meeting that are not used. There are typically less than five registrations that fall into this category. Offering members the ability to pay registration fees via credit card may ease this problem. This option is being explored by the section treasurer, Don Silversmith. It appears the section is paying for about 15 to



Student Member Registration

20 meals at section meeting that are not used. This represents a cost of about \$400 and is worth recovering. The program committee needs to work with the membership to determine the basis of this problem.



Member Registration

Program Committee

The program committee expended considerable energy in the planning and execution of the IEEE/SEM Spring '99 Meeting. The committee was made up of the essentially the same members that planned and executed the IEEE/SEM Fall '98 Meeting. Several improvements in the planning and organization of the meeting were implemented. The survey results for the meeting facilities and organization were 4.1 and 4.6, respectively. The results suggest an improvement in member satisfaction with the work of the committee. There was a general feeling among the committee members that the lessons learned from the fall meeting resulted in an improvement in the spring meeting.

The members of the program committee were:

Committee Chair:	Jim Woodyard
Award Ceremony:	Sandy Hunter
Budget:	Don Silversmith
Ford Co-Sponsorship:	John Miller
Meeting Survey:	Shamala Chickamenahalli
Professional Activities:	Tarek Lahdhiri
Photography:	Rana Abrou
	Ken Lord
Registration:	Ece Yaprak
	Mark Hunter
Section Table:	Sandy Hunter
Student Activities:	Edzko Smid
Technical Sessions:	Tony Will
Web Site Publicity:	Mark Hunter
	Randy Nunez
Additional General Support:	Jim Woodyard
	Sandy Hunter
	Shamala Chickamenahalli
	Tony Will
	Mark Hunter

Wayne State University Student Hosts:

Rana Abrou, Chair	Kevin Arnold	John Bostic
Glenroy Bowe	Joseph Gajda	Sandra Gumma
Brian Hillawi	Chris Jent	Ken Lord
Marvie Nickola	Heather O'Neill	Rojan Panikker
		Mahamed Tiba



Student members during the social period

Get on track with Lawrence Tech's graduate engineering programs!

Lawrence Tech's Masters of Automotive Engineering, Engineering in Manufacturing Systems, Civil Engineering and Computer Engineering programs emphasize the vital interplay between manufacturing, engineering, research, suppliers and management. Most feature cross-disciplinary programs for mechanical, electrical and civil engineers, part of the University's commitment to enhance the growth of today's working professionals.

Evening classes designed for practicing engineers

Outstanding faculty with top academic credentials and professional experience

Classes begin August, January and May

Graduate in two years attending classes twice per week

Full service campus



21000 West Ten Mile Road
Southfield, MI 48075-1058
1-800-CALL-LTU, ext. 1
TDD (248) 204-4117
<http://www.ltu.edu>

Presentations & Awards

There were seven technical sessions and one featured presentation held during the spring meeting. The technical sessions met from 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. and the featured presentation was from 8:05 to 9:05 p.m.



Attendees enjoying the fare following dinner

The speakers, organizations and abstracts for the IEEE/SEM Spring 1999 Meeting were published in the March Wavelengths. Below is a list of the speakers and titles of the presentations. The attendance at each session is included in parentheses:

Chapter I and IV (7 Attendees)

Speaker: Hardy J. Pottinger
Title: Smart Electronics

Chapter II (15 Attendees)

Speaker: Ken Rao
Title: On Board Diagnostics for Light and Medium Duty Trucks

Chapter V and Student Track (5 Attendees)

Speaker: Nizar Al-Holou
Title: Development of Computer-Based Instruction in Electrical Engineering

Chapter VII and III (19 Attendees)

Speaker: Norm McCollough
Title: Cellemetry Communication for Control of Electric Systems

Chapter VIII (4 Attendees)

Speaker: Dennis Barberi
Title: Military vs Commercial Electromagnetic Compatibility Standards and Test Methods

Chapter IX (10 Attendees)

Speaker: Ken Krause
Title: UPS Topology

Chapter X (18 Attendees)

Speaker: Peter Banks
Title: Challenges in Managing Change

Featured Presentation (85 Attendees)

Speaker: Ross P. Witschonke
Title: Future Vehicles: Lean and Green

The average attendance for the technical sessions is eleven. Attendance is well above the average in some cases, and in others cases, there are prospects for increasing attendance. Perhaps selection of topics of greater interest to members as well as

publicity directed to members via e-mail or direct mailing may increase attendance. At any length, attendance at chapter meeting is a challenge, that if addressed, should afford the section the opportunity of meeting the needs of more of its members.

Presentation of awards following dinner



Awards: The awards program was handled in a manner that was efficient yet drew attention to the outstanding efforts and accomplishments of awardees. Photographs of the awardees were taken during the social period. The 1999 awards were announced following dinner.



Kimball Williams, left, and David Horvath, right, recipients of the Outstanding Section Involvement and Outstanding Engineer Awards, respectively.

The recipients are:

Dave Horvath, Outstanding Engineer
Kimball Williams, Outstanding Section Involvement
Brian Harrington, Outstanding Chapter Involvement
Tom Powell, Outstanding Chapter Involvement
Wayne State Student Branch, Outstanding Student Branch
University of Michigan Student Branch,
Outstanding Student Branch
Mark Hunter, Outstanding Section Achievement
John Miller, 1999 IEEE Fellow

An awards brochure describing each award winner's accomplishments was included in registration packets and referred to during the awards ceremony. Copies of the brochure may be requested from Jim Woodyard.



University of Michigan Student Branch, recipient of one of two Outstanding Student Branch Awards



*University of
Michigan-Dearborn,
University Showcase Table
Program Participant*

Professional activities for the spring meeting included the IEEE/SEM Student Table Sponsorship, Vendor Table and University Showcase Programs. The income from the programs was \$750.00.

There were two tables sponsored by companies that participated in the IEEE/SEM Student Table Sponsorship Program. Eaton Corporation and Delphi Automotive Systems through the efforts of Kimball Williams and Mark Krage, respectively, participated in the program. Both Kimball and Mark have made

many contributions to the section over the years. The IEEE/SEM Student Table Sponsorship Program brings together seven student and an engineer from a company for dinner during a section meeting. It provides students with an opportunity to discuss careers in engineering with a practicing engineer while giving a company a chance to recruit prospective employees. The cost for a table is \$200; the cost includes the registration fee for engineer from the company and a subsidy for the registration fees of the participating students.

Three companies participated in the Vendor Table Program. The participating companies were Modern Engineering, American Systems Technology Inc. and Rudolph Technologies. The cost for a table is \$50 and gives companies the opportunity to market their products at section meetings.

The participants in the University Showcase Program were the University of Detroit Mercy, Wayne State University, University

of Michigan-Dearborn and Lawrence Technological University. The program enables universities to interact with meeting attendees that have educational interests at a cost of \$50 each.



*Participants in the Student Table
Sponsorship Program
supported by Delphi Automotive System*

These programs appear to be meeting the needs of both our members and the broader engineering community in southeastern Michigan. IEEE/SEM is indebted to the organizations that participated in the programs. Please contact Tarek Lahdhiri, TL007@ieee.org, for additional information on these programs or with suggestion for prospective participants.



*Lawrence Technological
University, University
Showcase Table
Program Participant*

ENGEL - KLAES COMPANY

32540 Schoolcraft Rd., #130 Livonia, MI 48150

Power Equipment Sales for the following Products:

ABB Cast Coil Transformers, ADALET-PLM Cast Enclosures & HV Cable Accessories, C&D Stationary Batteries, DELTA UNIBUS Isophase Bus, DOBLE Test Equipment, FISHER-PIERCE Photo Electric Controls, HUBBELL/FEMCO Remote Control Systems, METHA TECH Fault Recorders, GEC ALSTHOM Breakers, GE MULTILIN Protective Relays, OLSUN Dry Transformers, PAUWELS Liquid filled Transformers, POWELL Switchgear, PRINGLE High Current Switches, SANTANA Insulators, SOLIDSTATE CONTROLS UPS Systems, SOUTHERN STATES HV Switches, UNIBUS Bus Duct Systems.

For Technical Information : P(734) 513-0330 F(734) 513-0335

FCC Class A and B Testing of Computing Devices and Systems

**Radiation Laboratory
University of Michigan
(734) 764-0500**

*Fast, accurate, local testing for
compliance with FCC Regulation Part 15
Subpart J.*

The program committee distributed a survey form at the meeting via registration packets. Thirty-three forms were returned for a return rate of 32%. The survey resulted in the names of seven volunteers who indicated an interest in assisting with programs and assuming leadership roles in IEEE/SEM. Solicitation of topic preferences for section meeting resulted in the following responses:

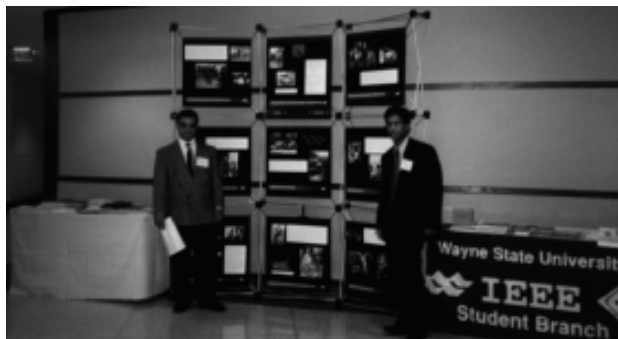
	Yes	No
1) Embedded Controllers	13	4
2) Intelligent Signal Processing	11	3
3) Future of JAVA	14	6
4) Artificial Intelligence	13	3
5) Integrated Sensors, Microactuators & Microsystems	18	2
6) Multimedia Systems of the Future	13	3

The responses show an interest in Integrated sensors, microactuators & microsystems for a featured presentation. This information should be considered by the program committee for the 1999-2000 program year.

The survey requested respondents to evaluate the meeting content and format using 1 for poor, 3 for ok and 5 for great. The average responses were:

- Chapter presentations - 3.8
- Featured presentation - 4.5
- Meeting facilities - 4.7
- Organization of meeting - 4.6

The responses suggest attendees are pleased with the featured presentation, meeting facilities and organization of meeting. There is evidence that more interaction with chapter members may led to suggestions for ways of improving technical meetings. It is suggested that the IEEE/SEM Executive Committee begin discussions with chapters to determine ways in which members may become more involved in the planning of technical meetings in efforts to meet their expectations.



*Wayne State University Student Branch
Showcase Table*

This article did not deal with all the issues related to the IEEE/SEM Spring '99 Meeting. There are issues related to student and technical activities that I will encourage members of the program committee to present in future issues of Wavelengths. The issues discussed in this article suggest that there are challenges, that if addressed, will strengthen our section. These include the administration of the number of meals served, member satisfaction with chapter meetings, attendance at chapter meetings, and section meeting sponsorship.

I will greatly appreciate hearing from the membership concerning suggestions on these and other matters. Please me contact at 313-577-3758 or woodyard@eng.wayne.edu with suggestions. Many thanks!



*Scenes of the
registration*

**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY**

**Free Preview of a
New Web-Based
On-Line Course**

Internet and Technology

<http://www.vu.msu.edu/preview/egr124/>

**the
talbot
corporation**

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS

11887 Belden Court
Livonia, MI 48150
734-261-3440
IEEE, NECA, IBEW, IAEI

Specializing in :

- Commercial and Industrial Electrical Construction
- Standby Emergency Generating Systems
- Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS) Systems
- Computer Room Electrical Distribution Systems
- DTE Energy Services Contractor for High Voltage Work

Please Contact: Stephen W. Talbot, P.E. Vice President
Michael B. Saldana, P.E. Project Engineer



Continued from page 1

The section conducted a high profile campaign to identify deserving section members for advancement to IEEE Senior Member Grade. As a result, 17 members became Senior Members in just 10 months! That's a tremendous achievement considering the Chicago section, which has about 2,000 more members than IEEE/SEM, only had five new Senior Members. Senior Member Grade is awarded to signify 10 or more years of professional conduct and does not affect the member's IEEE dues. I encourage more members to apply for this honor.

The section has benefited from a number of new volunteers this year. Four people have offered to help develop and maintain the section web site in addition to several seasoned volunteers. Look for the web site to continue to improve! Don Bramlett reported that nine members volunteered to judge the Future City Competition in January and an impressive number judged the Science Fair entries in March. These volunteer roles are especially important since they give students role models and new perspectives on careers in engineering. Thanks go to Dave Horvath for serving as the section's Volunteer Coordinator this year and matching willing volunteers with performing duties. I'd be remiss to forget the numerous new volunteers at the chapter level who have helped find speakers for technical sessions and stayed late to clean up after meetings. All volunteer efforts make the section a more vibrant organization.

Fathi Salam, Chair of the Circuits & Signal Processing Chapter, announced in September that he is the General Chair for the Circuits and Systems Symposium in August of 2000. This will bring a global conference to Michigan. Several officers in the section are serving on conference committees. Make plans to attend if you are interested in Circuits and Systems!

The section can also be proud of its members who serve at the IEEE Region 4 level. Don Bramlett, Sat Basu, Chuck Severance, and Mark Hunter put in many hours of service to make sure that the Region supports sections like ours and, especially, supports members like you. These Region 4 volunteers participated in five officer-training sessions last fall sponsored by the Region from Toledo, Ohio, to Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Lastly, the 1998-1999 officers deserve thanks for their service over the past year. The chapters all held at least two meetings during the 1998 calendar year, and several chapters far exceeded that number. The section submitted its meeting reports and financial statements to IEEE headquarters before the February deadline, which means the section will earn a bonus in addition to the normal rebate based on the number of members and chapters. Additionally, the majority of Executive Committee meetings ran efficiently and finished in under two hours.

I am looking forward to serving as Past Chair during the 1999-2000 program year. I hope I can count on you to provide nominations for section and chapter officers as well as suggestions for award nominees in the November timeframe. My duties as Past Chair include heading the Elections and Awards Committees. Think about your peers who have the vision and dedication to make the chapters and section more responsive to members' needs. Pause during your lawn mowing or barbecuing to note which of your peers deserve recognition for their accomplishments.

Feel free to contact me at 248-524-0645 or s.e.hunter@ieee.org if you would like more information about elections or awards.