



# THE POCKET SCOPE



*The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.*

Volume 52, Number 10

June 2002

## SCOPE NOTES

### June Houston Section News

**Where:**  
HESS (Houston Engineering and Scientific Society)  
5430 Westheimer @ Yorktown

**When:**  
Thursday, September 26, 2002  
6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Social  
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Dinner  
7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Speaker

**Cost:**  
\$FREE - IEEE Members with 48-hour advance reservations.  
\$20.00 - non-members  
\$5.00 - students  
Call (713) 207-IEEE to make your reservations.

See Page 2 for the Continuing Education Schedule!

IEEE WEB ADDRESS  
[http://\(www.ieee-houston.org\)](http://www.ieee-houston.org)

IEEE Houston Section  
P.O. Box 460014  
Houston, Texas  
77056-8014



## The Chairman's Message

Donald Dunn

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I want to extend our congratulations to **Michael David Servat** from the Houston Section who was elected to the IEEE Senior Member Grade in June. In 2001 the Houston Section lead Region 5 with the most members upgraded to Senior Member. We would like to hold that distinction again this year. Contact one of the Excom members for more information on upgrading your membership.

The Houston Section staffed booths at the SWEE-May 2002 and OTC-May 2002 Conferences this year to promoting the value of IEEE. This year booth conferences were ran in parallel, which created a man power shortage. I would like to personally thank the many volunteers who took time from their scheddules to help us staff the booths. In addition, I would like o thank Jim Bowen and Roy Cosse' for presenting the seminar on "New ANSI Medium Voltage Switchgear Ratings and their impact on Design and Type Testing" at the SWEE conference.

If you are interested in getting involved in the local IEEE section volunteers are always needed. It is a great way to network with professionals within electrical engineering disciplines. The Houston Section has nine technical chapters, one sub-section and ten student chapters. We are one of the larger sections within IEEE with almost 4000 members. Take a moment and join us at one of our next meetings, we look forward to meeting you. As always the Executive Committee and I look forward to your feedback and comments. If you have suggestions and/or are interested in becoming active within the section or a local society chapter, contact one of us. Without the active participation and feedback from you the members, the programs and content of the IEEE would diminish.



## Educational Activities E-digest June 2002

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MINNESOTA TEENAGER WINS \$10,000 IEEE PRESIDENTS' SCHOLARSHIP

CONTRIBUTE TO DLNET

ACCREDITATION EVALUATORS NEEDED

IEEE MEMBERS ARE NEARLY ONE QUARTER OF VOLUNTEERS FOR GSTW "ASK A SCIENTIST OR ENGINEER"

THE IEEE HISTORY CENTER ON YAHOO!

MINNESOTA TEENAGER WINS \$10,000 IEEE PRESIDENTS' SCHOLARSHIP

On May 16, 18-year-old James J. Jefferson from Winona, Minnesota USA won the IEEE Presidents' Scholarship presented at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair held this year in Louisville, KY. For his winning project, "Automatic packet reporting system (APRS): building a large scale geospatial database," he collected and cataloged the entire APRS Internet stream into a relational database. The techniques he designed and built can be used for applications such as rerouting emergency or hazardous materials vehicles due to traffic problems, improving highway design, or reducing the cost of deploying cellular telephone infrastructure. Additional information at <http://www.ieee.org/eab/newswire84.htm>.

CONTRIBUTE TO DLNET

Assist with your colleagues' professional development. Contribute your online educational materials in any engineering field and discipline to The Digital Library Network for Engineering and Technology (DLNET), a project funded by NSF and hosted at Virginia Tech. Educational materials (called learning objects) include MS Word files of course modules, PowerPoint presentations, applets, video clips, graphs, and illustrations. IEEE is willing to create the metadata record of your learning objects and submit it to DLNET. Or contribute directly by following the guidelines at <http://www.dlnet.vt.edu>. Designed to complement engineering and technology education as well as to facilitate lifelong-learning, these learning objects will be accessible to the public at no cost. Currently only those collections and contents without copyright restrictions will be accepted for hosting at DLNET.

Find out more on how to contribute through IEEE by contacting: Peter Wiesner, Ed.D., IEEE Educational Activities, [p.wiesner@ieee.org](mailto:p.wiesner@ieee.org) and Amanda Lopes, [a.lopes@ieee.org](mailto:a.lopes@ieee.org).

ACCREDITATION EVALUATORS NEEDED

Contribute to the engineering professional and public good. The IEEE Educational Activities Board seeks engineering professionals from industry, government, and academe to serve as program evaluators for accrediting engineering and engineering technology programs at U.S. universities. Nominations for the five-year term starting 2003 will be accepted through 31 October 2002.

Information packages, including the application and nomination forms, will be available on the web as of 15 June 2002, at [www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/apc/ceaa/engapplication.htm](http://www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/apc/ceaa/engapplication.htm) (engineering programs) and [www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/apc/ctaa/techapplication.htm](http://www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/apc/ctaa/techapplication.htm) (engineering technology programs). Get a flavor of what it's like to be an evaluator by reading comments from a first-time evaluator at [www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/apc/news5.htm](http://www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/apc/news5.htm). For more program information, contact [eab-accred@ieee.org](mailto:eab-accred@ieee.org).

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## Educational Activities E-digest June 2002 - Continued

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### IEEE MEMBERS ARE NEARLY ONE QUARTER OF VOLUNTEERS FOR GSTW "ASK A SCIENTIST OR ENGINEER"

IEEE members responded enthusiastically to the call for volunteers for the "Ask a Scientist or Engineer" email project in conjunction with Global Science and Technology Week (GSTW), April 28-May 4. IEEE volunteers account for approximately a quarter of the people willing to answer questions for this project which is coordinated by the National Science Foundation.

GSTW was a national campaign designed to excite elementary, middle and high school students about math and science. Activities and materials to help parents, teachers, and engineers raise student interest in science and technology can be found at [www.ostp.gov/html/gstw.html](http://www.ostp.gov/html/gstw.html).

### THE IEEE HISTORY CENTER ON YAHOO!

Congratulations to the IEEE History Center, [www.ieee.org/history\\_center/](http://www.ieee.org/history_center/). Yahoo! search engine has placed it at #3 on its Most Popular Science History Site List (as of June 2002). According to Yahoo!, the listings in the Most Popular Sites feature are determined by using a "complex ranking algorithm based on relevance." The algorithm also determines the placement of a site on this list. The IEEE History Center is in good company with the Smithsonian and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration History. Check out the newest addition to the IEEE History Center, Legacies, [www.ieee.org/history\\_center/legacies/legaciestoc.html](http://www.ieee.org/history_center/legacies/legaciestoc.html). Biographies of 150 leading engineers who have been honored with the IEEE Medal of Honor or IEEE Edison Medal are now posted.

Lynn Murison

Outreach Administrator, IEEE Educational Activities

ph: 1.732.562.6526

[www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/](http://www.ieee.org/organizations/eab/)

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE) is the world's largest technical professional society, serving the interests of more than 375,000 members in the information and electrotechnology communities in approximately 150 countries. The Educational Activities Board (EAB) of the IEEE recommends educational policy to the IEEE Board of Directors, and coordinates the Institute's educational activities, programs, and products.

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## What's NEW @ IEEE for Members

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WHAT'S NEW @ IEEE FOR MEMBERS

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 6 JUNE 2002

An HTML version of this newsletter can be viewed on our online archive at <http://www.ieee.org/products/whats-new/wmmem0602.htm>

### CONTENTS:

1. Cambridge Hosts Engineering Management Conference in August
2. CAS Society Offers Free Society Membership to Active IEEE Members
3. Locating Lost Planes - NASA is on a Mission
4. Plug Into Home Networks: An IEEE Spectrum Special Feature
5. Mobile Web Services May be in the Distant Future
6. Text Offers Insight on Wireless Communications
7. IEEE-USA Salary Survey Sale
8. New Release: Proceedings of 2001 Conference on Microelectronics
9. IEEE Standards Web Area Incorporates Enhancements
10. Member Discounts Available for Harvard Business School Online Courses

## IEEE-USA NEWS

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IEEE-USA NEWS \*\*Building Careers & Shaping Public Policy\*\*

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Contact: Greg Hill, Member & Electronic Communications Coordinator [g.hill@ieee.org](mailto:g.hill@ieee.org), 202 785 0017, ext. 8335 <http://www.ieeeusa.org>

Tuesday, 18 June 2002

+ NEW EDITION OF \*IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER\* IS LIVE ON THE WEB  
<http://www.todaysengineer.org>

A new issue of IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER is live on the web! TODAY'S ENGINEER has a new look and now includes content formerly published in IEEE-USA POLICY PERSPECTIVES, including articles and commentary on the topics that are shaping legislation, the technology workplace, and the engineering world. This month's edition includes:

### Building Careers

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- COPING IN A TOUGH WORLD (PART 1)
- SELLING YOUR IDEAS TO MANAGEMENT
- BACKSCATTER: THE ENGINEER -- PROFESSIONAL OR BUSINESS PRACTITIONER?
- ENRON'S WOES AND THE HIGH COST OF COMPROMISING ETHICS
- ENGINEERING TRENDS: LISTEN TO YOUR CUSTOMER

### Shaping Public Policy

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- IS R&D STILL THE "ENGINE OF PROSPERITY"?
- FESTO V. SHOKETSU: AN OVERVIEW OF THE HISTORIC PATENT CASE AND IEEE-USA'S ROLE
- POLICY INSIGHT: EDUCATIONAL AND EMPLOYMENT-BASED VISA PROGRAMS
- CAPITOL SHAVINGS: TO PRIVATIZE OR NOT TO PRIVATIZE?

Also this month in TE:

- Your Engineering Heritage: The IEEE Virtual Museum
- World Bytes: How Would You Define Yourself?
- Reader Poll: Good Business or Questionable Ethics?

To read TODAY'S ENGINEER, visit: <http://www.todaysengineer.org>

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## IEEE GOLD

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WHAT'S NEW @ IEEE FOR GOLD (Graduates Of the Last Decade)

VOLUME 3      NUMBER 6      JUNE 2002

An HTML version of this newsletter can be viewed on our online archive at <<http://www.ieee.org/products/whats-new/wngold0602.htm>>

### CONTENTS:

1. Tight Job Market Demands More Knowledge and Experience
2. IEEE-USA Salary Survey Sale
3. Engineers in the Business World: Things They Don't Teach You in School
4. Member Discounts Available for Harvard Business School Online Courses
5. World's First Motor Vehicle 'Black Box' Standard Underway at IEEE
6. Guide to Understanding Telecom & Lightwave Systems Now Available
7. Finding Your Passion
8. CAS Society Offers Free Society Membership to Active IEEE Members
9. Wireless Broadband In a Box: An IEEE Spectrum Special Feature
10. Four IEEE Societies Collaborate To Host ICME 2002 in Lausanne

## IEEE Members Needed!!!!

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***Looking for Senior Member Nominations READ THIS SECTION TO BECOME A SENIOR MEMBER IN THE IEEE.***

A goal of our Region is to sponsor as many Senior Members as possible and I am asking your help. The IEEE criteria for Senior Member status is ten years of professional practice including five years of significant performance, and references. (See the nominator letter and application form for clarification on the IEEE website.) If you know an IEEE member who qualifies for Senior Membership, I would like you to nominate him or her by forwarding their nomination to one of the Houston Section Excom members. If you qualify and are not a senior member please reply to one of the Section Excom members. If your are retired and have met the criteria at one time lets get you nominated. Section meetings are the best networking tool to achieve Senior membership. [Check the website.](#)

As an alternative process, you can direct the prospective Senior Member to one of the Houston Section Excom Members. We have a list of several Fellows and Senior Members which we can use for references. The Section will nominate all those qualified who provide a resume and significant performance vita.

Senior Membership in IEEE promotes the value of membership and enhances the status of the member. The is an achievement award lets honor our deserving members.

# EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE HOUSTON SECTION IEEE

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The **Pocket Scope** is the newsletter of the Houston Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineer (IEEE). The Houston Section address is: IEEE Houston Section, P.O. Box 460014, Houston, Texas 77056-8014.

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IEEE members make change of address notices via the IEEE website: [www.ieee.org](http://www.ieee.org).

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