
March 1999

Rock River Valley Section
www.ieee.org/regional/section/rock_river/

Event

Sense

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Inc.

RRV Section Meeting

Personal Positioning for Engineers

When

March 25, 1999

Where

Rock Valley College, Technology Center, Room 117. I-90 to Riverside Blvd., exit and go west to Mulford Rd. Go south to first light, turn east into RVC. Follow road to left to last building.

Agenda

6:00 PM	Social
6:30 PM	Dinner
7:30 PM	Program

Program

As we approach the 21st Century the employment options we have are expanding and changing. What we do today may not be what we do tomorrow. Success will be determined by our ability to position ourselves to take advantage of opportunity. But not all of the options will work for each person. In this presentation we will look at employment and career options. We will discuss direct, contract, consulting, and self employment along with a series of questions on each of these. We will also look at career options, large versus small employers, management versus technical.

Speaker

Paul J. Kostek is a systems engineer with TekSci a software consulting firm. Paul works with high tech firms defining system

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architecture, system requirements, system design, test definition, and the generation of software standards. Paul earned a BS degree in electrical engineering from the University of Massachusetts *Dartmouth in 1979. For IEEE, Paul is the 1999 IEEE-USA President and a member of the IEEE Board of Directors. He also serves as the Executive Vice President of the IEEE Aerospace & Electronics Systems Society. Besides IEEE Paul is a senior member of the AIAA, and INCOSE and sits on the Board of Trustees of the Mu-

nicipal League of King County and is a Director of the Washington Aerospace Alliance.

Door Prizes

Sponsored by RRVs

Meal

Dinner will be buffet style (with a min. of 15) and will consist of chicken, veggie's, salad, dessert. Please make your reservations by calling **Gloria at 815-226-5247 by Tuesday, March 23, (please include your e-mail address in the information you provide Gloria - thanks)**. The cost of the **dinner** is **\$5** for **IEEE members** and **\$14** for **non-members**. Unemployed members may call one of the officers for special arrangements.

Note

The meeting is open to the general public. You need not be an IEEE member. Guests are welcome. However, please call to enable us to make appropriate arrangements.

Chicago/Rockford Consultants Network Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday, March 29. Dinner is 6:15 PM at Bakers' Square (corner of US 14 Northwest Highway and N. North), and the meeting at 7:30 PM at the Palatine Public Library (700 North Court, Palatine, IL 847-358-1216). We will have an open discussion on methods of finding clients and consulting business.

February Meeting Recap

Prof. Lofti Zadeh, the Father of Fuzzy Logic, presented *Computing with Words; A New Paradigm* at our 2nd Annual Joint IEEE/ASME RRVS meeting set to coincide with National Engineers Week. An outstanding meal including carved prime rib was enjoyed by dinner attendees at this special event. Prof. Zadeh described how natural languages are systems to describe perceptions. The human brain can easily process perceptions, yet computers find it difficult to process perceptual information. Prof. Zadeh is developing a Computation Theory of Perceptions to move computers in the direction of being able to process perceptions. Words are used in fuzzy logic because it's cheaper; the less resolution, less accuracy, the cheaper things are. "Precision carries a cost". Soft computing, a basket of computing methodologies including fuzzy logic, neurocomputing, evolutionary computing, probabilistic computing and machine learning, will be needed to elevate current computer technology to be able to process perceptions.

Chair



Prof. Don Zinger

RRVS Section Officer Nominations

In accordance with the RRVS' bylaws, the Nominations Committee has submitted the names of the following individuals (also pictured at left) as nominees for the four elected positions on the RRVS Executive Committee for the 1999/2000 season. The election will be held at the May 27 section meeting.

Vice Chair

vacant

- Chair** Don Zinger
- Vice Chair** vacant
- Treasurer** Larry Wachowiak
- Secretary** Matt Zimmer

Treasurer



Larry Wachowiak

Additional nominees can be submitted by petition from the section membership. A potential nominee must be an IEEE member in good standing and a member of the RRVS. A petition must be signed by at least 20 RRVS members. Deadline for petitions is April 15. Please submit petitions to Bob Parro (see contact info on page 3)

Secretary



Matt Zimmer

Submissions to *Event Sense*

Send articles and job ads to the *Event Sense* editor, Bob Parro, via e-mail (preferred), or fax. Job ads will run for two consecutive months. Contact the *Event Sense* editor if the ad needs to run longer. Please make submissions by the twenty-fifth of the month. All submissions are subject to editing for style, clarity, and space considerations.

April Meeting Preview

After two false starts with Motorola-Harvard and the Chrysler Neon Assembly Plant, Larry Wachowiak is trying to coordinate our annual tour up to the GM Truck and Bus Assembly Plant in Janesville. YOU CAN DO IT LARRY (:-)

e-mail: b.parro@ieee.org
 fax: (815) 394-2497



RRVS Executive Committee

(l-r) **standing:** Larry Wachowiak, Treasurer; Hassan Mansir, IAS Chapter Chair; Don Zinger, NIU Student Branch Counselor; Matt Zimmer, Secretary and IAS Chapter Vice Chair; Roger Caruana, Education and Technical Activities Chair; **seated:** Caio Ferreira, Past Section Chair and current IAS Chapters' Department Chair, Bob Parro, Section Chair; Bill Barber, Section Vice Chair and Membership Chair; Jim Buerosse, PELS Chapter Chair; Paul Peterson, Joint Computer/Control Systems Chapter Chair and Awards Chair

The Rock River Valley Section would like to give recognition to the following area companies and university for supporting Section Officers:

Sundstrand Corporation • William Barber & Associates • Northern Illinois University

Rock River Valley Section of the IEEE 1998-1999

[W W W : www.ieee.org/regional/section/rock_river/]

Elected Executive Committee

Chair	Bob Parro	b.parro@ieee.org	(815) 394-2947
Vice-Chair			
Secretary	Matt Zimmer	m.zimmer@ieee.org	(815) 394-3456
Treasurer	Larry Wachowiak	l.wachowiak@ieee.org	(815) 394-5676

Appointed Executive Committee Chairs

IAS Chapter Chair	Jim Buerosse	j.buerosse@ieee.org	(815) 226-6078
IAS Chptr. Vice Chair	Matt Zimmer	m.zimmer@ieee.org	(815) 226-3456
Comp/CS Chapter Chair	Paul Peterson	paul.peterson@ieee.org	(815) 226-2584
PELS Chapter Chair	Vietson Nguyen	aaejvn@snds.com	(815) 394-3230
Educational Activities			
Technical Activities			
Membership	Bill Barber	b.barber@ieee.org	(815) 235-4110
Awards	Paul Peterson	paul.peterson@ieee.org	(815) 226-2584
Publicity, Newsletter Editor	Bob Parro	b.parro@ieee.org	(815) 394-2947
Nominations			

Northern Illinois University - Student Branch Officers

St Br Counselor	Prof. Don Zinger	d.zinger@ieee.org	(815) 753-0540
St Br Chair	Jamie Phillips		
St Br Vice-Chair	Michelle Marotta		
St Br Secretary	Rob Reeder		
St Br Treasurer	Ryan McMillin		

*Messages for student officers can be left at the NIU Dept of Electrical Engineering,
(815) 753-9974 or e-mail at sb.niu@ieee.org*



Rock River Valley Section
Established 1947

Electronic IEEE Membership Application
An electronic on-line application is available at
www.ieee.org/join.html.

New IEEE Web Site Features Virtual Reading Room

The IEEE Educational Activities Department announces the release of its Online Education Reading Room at <http://www.ieee.org/eab>.

Once inside the virtual room, viewers can click on any book in the best-selling IEEE Selected Readings series or *Engineers' Guides To Business Series*, and "flip through" the full text of its pages. Titles up for browsing include *Cellular Radio And Personal Communications*, *Smart Antennas*, *Recent Developments in Power Electronics*, *Marketing for Engineers*, *Working In A Global Environment*, *Writing For Career Growth*, and more!

Calendar

- March Section Meeting** **Mar 25**
Personal Positioning for Engineers
- April Section Meeting/Tour** **Apr 29**
GM Truck and Bus Assembly Plant in Janesville, WI (tentative)
- May Section Election/Picnic** **May 27**
Sundstrand Park



Joint Computer/
Control Systems
Society Chapter
Established 1995



Industry
Applications
Society Chapter
Established 1992



Power
Electronics
Society Chapter
Established 1996

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Inside This Issue

- March Section Meeting Notice 1
- Chicago/Rockford Consultants Network Meeting 2
- Feb RRVS Meeting Recap 2
- April RRVS Meeting Preview 2
- RRVS Section Officer Nominations