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# THE SUNCOAST SIGNAL

**THE INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS, INC.**

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**April 2015**



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**2015 IEEE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**  
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## *This May Be Your Final Signal Newsletter!*

If you have not renewed your membership, please do it now. Next month we will begin using the new mailing database, which does not include those that have not renewed.



## *Your IEEE Florida West Coast Section Needs your Help!*

We are looking for a volunteer who want to invest just a few hours a month to be the new Signal Editor. Basic word processing knowledge and willingness to Help!

*Please participate in your section  
success!*

<b>Wayne Ellis</b> President		<b>Steve Antman</b> Sales Engineer Cell: 813-523-3161
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## 2015 Engineering Week Banquet

We returned to the A La Carte Event Pavilion in Tampa for the *TBEWB Banquet* on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015. This year's theme was "Discover Engineering-Let's Make a Difference."

Those in attendance included the former IEEE USA President Gary Blank. It was amazing to note that over 300 attendees were there to help us celebrate Engineers Week.

Each Engineering Society Chair was called to the stage to present the plaques and awards for their Societies and the first IEEE award was to Anthony "TJ" Ross as Student Engineer of the Year. Other societies also had Students of the Year awards to distribute, and some of the societies also had awards for "Young Professionals of the Year."

The Outstanding Teachers included: Missy Allison (Durant High School Biology Teacher), Jim Reve (Lennard High School Robotics Coach) and Cheryl Reve (Lennard High School Environmental Teacher) who each received the well-deserved Lignell Awards for their work with students.

Jessica McRory, chair of this year's TBEW banquet committee introduced the Keynote Speaker: Dr. Story Musgrave. Some of the main points in his biography included: Growing up on a farm and operating heavy farm equipment as a child and joining the Marines and flying bomber planes in the Korean War, after which he attended Syracuse University and became a neuro-surgeon. Then, in the late 1970s, he became an astronaut and helped launch the Hubble Telescope.

After Dr. Musgrave's outstanding talk, the "Engineer of the Year Awards" was presented. The IEEE FWCS immediate past chair, Serge Beazile, was the 2014 IEEE Engineer of the Year. Other noteworthy Engineers of the Year Awards for each Society went to: Jessica McRory (ASCE), Larry Josephson (ASHE), and Stephen Elting (ASME).

Overall it was another outstanding and successful event and the TBEW Committee should be congratulated for volunteer work to make this event happen.



## *So What Do You Know About Projects?*

Yes, we all work on projects and we know that they get funded, we get assigned to them, and that we are expected to deliver our work according to the project's schedule, but who plans all of this stuff? Just exactly how do they determine how much a project is going to cost the company? Who approves it? By the way, who comes up with that almost-impossible-to-meet schedule?

Good news – all of the project related questions that have been running around in your head are going to get answered. Your local IEEE Section's PACE Group is sponsoring a seminar in which you'll have an opportunity to meet with a panel of honest-to-goodness project managers who will reveal all.

We're going to start at the beginning – where projects come from, how they are funded, and who gets to pick how they'll be staffed. Next we'll take some time and get a better understanding of how project managers stay on top of a project when it's in flight. Just exactly what are they doing with all of that status data that they are collecting? Finally, we'll look at what it takes to wrap a project up. What makes a project a success / failure and does anyone every learn anything from a project?

P.S.: If you've ever considered becoming a project manager, then this is the seminar that you need to come to. These working project manager professionals can answer all of your career related questions.

This seminar will be held on Wednesday evening, April 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 6:00pm at TECO Hall. The price is a low, low \$17 / member, \$25 / non-member, \$5 / student, and \$2 / Life member.

Go here <http://goo.gl/hLUyhg> to register online and I'll see you there!



## *IEEE Computer Society Conference - Local Computer Networks (LCN)*

**Sheraton Sand Key Resort -Clearwater Beach, FL - October 26-29, 2015**

The IEEE LCN conference is the premier conference on theoretical and practical aspects of computer networking. LCN is highly interactive, enabling an effective interchange of results and ideas among researchers, users, and product developers. Major developments from high-speed networks to the global Internet to specialized sensor networks have been reported at past LCNs.

Conference registration will be available via the IEEE online conference registration Web site during the summer of 2015.

Please visit <http://www.ieeelcn.org> for more information about the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this conference.



## ***SP/Comm presents: Windfreak Dual Channel Signal Generator Meeting***

**Date:** Thursday April 9<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM

**Location:** Largo STAR Center Corner of Bryan Dairy and Belcher  
7887 Bryan Dairy Road Largo, FL 33777

**Abstract:** Windfreak is a company that was started by David Goins in 2008 after he realized that the cube life was not for him. He is excited to share his experiences in life after the cube and how that transition has played out for him. His latest product is a Dual Channel Signal Generator and there are plans for hardware, spectrum analyzer, and a live demonstration.

Here is a link to the product:

<http://www.windfreaktech.com/rf-microwave-dual-channel-signal-generator.html> And datasheet:

<http://www.windfreaktech.com/docs/synthhd/SynthHD-dual-channel-microwave-signal-generator.pdf>

**Speaker:** David Goins is Owner of Windfreak Technologies, LLC in Holiday, FL.

David graduated from Texas A&M with a BSEE in 1994 specializing in Analog Circuit Design. Since then he has worked at many small companies as an RF design engineer. Recently he worked for NASA – Johnson Space Center until 2010 where he was very bored, unhappy with corporate life, and had plenty of time to play with circuits he liked. On a lark he put a simple homemade RF signal generator on eBay. It was a huge surprise and endorphin rush when it sold and that was the start of Windfreak Technologies, LLC.

**Organizer:** For more specific information please contact:

Chris Lambrecht e-mail: [chris.lambrecht@ieee.org](mailto:chris.lambrecht@ieee.org), Phone: 727-458-9061

Cost is \$2 for Students and Life Members, \$4 for IEEE Members, and \$6 for Non Members.

Food and beverages will be provided. Please sign up at: <http://time2meet.com/fwcs-mtt/index.html>



## ***3D Printing Introduction***

**Date:** Thursday May 14<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM

**Location:** Largo STAR Center Corner of Bryan Dairy and Belcher  
7887 Bryan Dairy Road Largo, FL 33777

**Speaker:** Isabelle Laureyns is VP of Manufacturing at Fill-Tech Solutions, Inc. in Largo, FL.

**Organizer:** For more specific information please contact:

Chris Lambrecht e-mail: [chris.lambrecht@ieee.org](mailto:chris.lambrecht@ieee.org), Phone: 727-458-9061

Valerie Tur Phone: 813-334-2317

Cost is \$2 for Students and Life Members, \$4 for IEEE Members, and \$6 for Non Members.

Food and beverages will be provided.





## *FWCS PE/IA Hosts Another Great Tour*

### *At the DeSoto FPL Next Generation Solar Energy Center*

Planned to last over 30 years, this is a very impressive 25 MW PV plant. Our visit included a presentation by the engineers working at the plant, as well as a roof-top view of the overall facility.

FPL has plans to triple the center in the coming years to provide 75MW to their Customers from this location.

We learned a lot about the technical aspects of the plant, including maintenance, output vs. clouds, etc. With over 30 of our members and their guests attending there were a great deal of questions asked of our hosts, and they took the time to answer them all.

A special thanks to Steve Antman of Electrical Engineering Enterprises, for volunteering to set up this meeting, and to the FPL staff who helped coordinate and host the group.

Special thanks to Rae Dowling of FPL and to the other FPL employees who helped make this a successful meeting and tour.

We look forward to returning to tour this plant again in the not to distant future!





***Joint ISA / IEEE Meeting – Electric Vehicles***

**Date:** Thursday April 9, 2015

**Time:** 6PM to 7:00PM

**Location:** Big Bend Power Station

13031 Wyandotte Road, Apollo Beach, FL 33572

Space is limited to 35 attendees.

**Cost:** Free

**Reservations:** **Reservation is required.**

Please Contact Shaun Cross @ 813-228-1111, ext 48306 or by email at [sfcross@tecoenergy.com](mailto:sfcross@tecoenergy.com) to reserve a space.

Have you ever wondered how you could convert your gas powered car into an electric car? Or do you have an electric or hybrid car and always wanted to meet with others in the area with the same interest? Have you been thinking about possibly owning an electric vehicle and want to learn more about the technology?

Your local ISA and IEEE sections are hosting a joint meeting on electric vehicles. We plan to have two electric vehicles at the meeting to demonstrate the current technology. We will have a Nissan Leaf provided by Tampa Electric (<http://www.tampaelectric.com/company/electricvehicles/ourgreenfleet/>) and we will have a Honda Del Sol that was converted from gas to 100% electric. We will compare the differences between an OEM built electric vehicle and a converted project car. We will discuss the benefits and limitations of electric vehicles and share our experiences driving these automobiles with the group.

This is our second joint meeting between ISA and IEEE and we look forward to another interesting meeting. If you have an electric vehicle or hybrid vehicle we would encourage you to bring to our meeting so we can discuss differences in technologies and our experiences operating these machines.

Please have a current photo ID with you to gain access to the facility. Any questions, please contact Shaun Cross (@ 813-228-1111, ext 48306) or Thomas H. Blair (@ 813-228-1111, ext 48179).

October 26 – 28

The Premier International Conference for Military Communications

MILCOM 2015 celebrates the 34th anniversary of the premier international conference for military communications. **"Leveraging Technology – The Joint Imperative"** gathers the leading minds of government, military, industry and academia in an interactive forum to further explore and define the benefits that joint-level collaboration bring to current and future communication challenges. The annual conference will take place at the Tampa Convention Center. Leaders from around the world will address the critical role communications plays in military readiness and operations. MILCOM offers industry the opportunity to discuss communications technologies and services with decision makers from all branches of the armed forces, the Department of Defense, federal agencies and multinational forces.

In the MILCOM tradition, the conference will feature an outstanding series of technical presentations, discussions and tutorials, as well as nearly 30,000 square feet of industry exhibits all under one roof. It will include more than 300 unclassified and restricted technical presentations, tutorials and panel discussions led by experts in defense communications. Topics will include the spectrum of command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (C4ISR) technologies and capabilities that address 21st century communications challenges related to national defense, homeland security, disaster response and interoperability. Continuing education credits will be available to all attendees.

For more information please visit:

<http://events.jspargo.com/milcom15/public/enter.aspx>

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Contact LaToya Gourdine, Education Administrator, IEEE Power & Energy Society  
at (732) 981-2876 or via email [l.gourdine@ieee.org](mailto:l.gourdine@ieee.org)

## SAVE THE DATE FOR ONE OF OUR 2015 EVENTS:

Knoxville, TN  
March 24-26

Little Rock, AR  
June 2-4

Denver, CO  
July 28-30

Boise, ID  
Sept 2-4

Pittsburgh, PA  
Oct 6-8

Charlotte, NC  
Nov 10-12

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April 2015 Calendar of Events (For more information see P. 1) *inside this Signal...*

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