SPECIAL MESSAGES

From the 2nd vice-president, conferences and meetings

One of the most visible services that the Computer Society provides for its membership is that of organizing and sponsoring conferences and meetings. It is a pleasure for me to share some thoughts on how the Conferences and Meetings Committee works, and to review some of the successes that we have had. To begin, the society sponsors 40-50 technical meetings per year, which draw 7,000-8,000 attendees (exclusive of NCC). This represents a massive effort, carried out mostly by volunteers, and presents a major challenge for the society—that of assuring fiscal viability and assuring technical quality of all sponsored technical meetings. To this end the Conferences and Meetings Committee has established procedures by which all conference sponsorship requests are evaluated. When a request for sponsorship for a technical meeting is received, it is sent to three members of the committee for review. The proposal is reviewed for technical benefits to membership, fiscal viability, a sufficient technical paper review process, location and date, and several other criteria. By far the most im-

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From the vice-president, chapter activities

Our chapters are the grass roots organizations directly serving our members. With our technical committees they form the foundation of the Computer Society. This year we are off to a promising start with several new activities.

We have more than 80 chapters in eight geographic areas. The chapter caters to the professional needs of its membership with seminars, tutorials, student fairs, etc., with the help and support of its area and national officers. Over the years, the chapters have experienced several problems, e.g., slow growth in chapter activities; lack of communication among national, area, and chapter officers; and shortage of dedicated and dynamic leaders at all levels in chapter organization.

This year's chapter activities program is ambitious; its success depends on member enthusiasm and cooperation. A strengthened Chapter Development Program will provide seed money for establishing new chapters and activities. We have developed the Chapters Manual (thanks to Russ Theisen) which structures the communications among the various chapter, area, and national officers. We have expanded the Distinguished Visitor's Program. A new National Lecturer Program will offer three- to six-hour tutorials by well-known authorities in new technical areas. There will be new awards recognizing outstanding chapter and area officers.

To foster better communication among the chapters within an area, annual area-wide technical conferences will be instituted with the help and support of the society's technical committees. These conferences will focus on specific area interests. Our student chapters, under the dynamic guidance and leadership of Oscar Garcia, are growing rapidly. We are expanding their activities and providing more scholarships. And finally, we will soon hold an area chairmen's workshop to organize and coordinate all these new activities.

Our gratitude goes to our Governing Board, for understanding our problems and helping us financially, and to our president, Tse-yun Feng, for his outstanding leadership and unselfish cooperation. We elicit the help and support of our members, reminding them that the chapters have but one aim—to do everything possible to advance the professional goals of every society member. Let our chapters GROW.

C. V. Ramamoorthy
Vice-President, Chapter Activities
Small Business Systems

The Orange County Computer Group, The L.A. IEEE Council and CSU, Fullerton are sponsoring a two session seminar on Small Business Computer Systems. At least six engineers and/or scientists will be presenting material on various topics as outlined. Three distinguished persons have been obtained as lecturers – Mr. Normal Kreuder, Mr. Don Savitt and Mr. Norm Witkin.

Mr. Kreuder has many years of experience in data processing and he is presently Vice President of Engineering of Basic Four Corporation.

Mr. Savitt has 22 years in the engineering profession. He was formerly Manager of Engineering at the Micro Systems Division of Pertec and is presently Vice President of Engineering at Vector General.

Mr. Witkin has some 20 years experience in the field of data processing, computer software development. He is presently Director of Product Planning at the Commercial Systems Division of Computer Automation, Inc.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The lectures have been structured for the engineer, scientist, and manager who wants to gain a more detailed understanding of products, concept, configuration and intended applications of small business computer systems. A number of very experienced practicing engineers have been obtained to present the subject in two (2) sessions.

COURSE TOPICS

Topics to be covered will include: Hardware – System Structures, Peripherals; System Software – Languages, Utilities; Application Software – The Basic Four; Distribution and Service; Customer Perception of Systems; Interpreter, Compiler and Assemblers.

Course Coordinator is James T. Wellington (Orange County Computer Group IEEE), home phone (714) 637-3946, work phone (714) 871-4848, ext. 3512 or 1653.

Lectures will be given by Norman Kreuder, Basic Four Corporation; Norm Witkin, Computer Automation Inc.; Don Savitt, Vice President of Engineering – Vector General.

CLASS MEETINGS

Class lectures are on Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. April 21 and April 28, 1979 at Cal State Fullerton, Fullerton, California. Room S-121 (Science Building). Limited to first 200 applicants for each seminar.

Make Payment to Orange County Computer Group
Mail forms to: Michael D. Garvey, 27371 Osuna, Mission Viejo, CA 92691

Registration Form (please print)

Small Business Systems April 21 and April 28, 1979

Fee: IEEE Member $50.00 Non-member $75.00

Name __________________________________________ Telephone ____________________

Address ________________________________________________________________

City ___________________________________ State __________ Zip ________

SPECIAL MESSAGE:
From the vice president, conferences and meetings

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portant assessment areas are technical benefits and fiscal viability. It is in this way that the technical quality of all sponsored technical meetings is protected. If problems are identified during the review, the committee offers suggestions to the meeting organizers. A decision is normally reached in 4-6 weeks. Should a technical meeting be given sponsorship, a set of guidelines for preparing for and conducting the technical meetings are offered to the organizers. In all cases the committee attempts to work with all organizers to assure a successful technical meeting.

In most technical meetings the revenues exceed expenditures. Any surpluses are returned to the society for other membership benefits. Again, it is not the purpose of a technical meeting to generate a surplus; the objective is to provide a successful conference of high technical quality. We don’t always succeed, but we always try.

Those of you who have attended a major technical meeting have also probably attended the evening socials. It has been our experience that these functions have provided an excellent opportunity for informal technical interchange; hence, they are encouraged, with moderation. You have probably also noticed that each of our major conferences has been preceded by one or more tutorials. These tutorials have been generally proven successful and have met with wide acceptance.

In closing, I solicit your input. The society tries very hard to run a balanced budget and to provide technical meetings of high quality as a service to the membership. To those of you who have helped in a technical meeting, you have our thanks. To the rest of you, the opportunity is there for you to contribute in the continued improvement of our professional society.

Michael C. Mulder
Second Vice-President, Conferences and Meetings

COMPUTER