



Worcester County IEEE

Newsletter

November

2001

Worcester County GOLD
America's Newest War: The War Against Terrorism

Ronald Carter

Monday, November 5, 2001, 7:00 PM, WPI, Worcester

The newly formed Worcester IEEE GOLD group (Graduates of the Last Decade) will be holding its first event of the year on November 5th at 7:00pm in Olin Hall (Room 107) at WPI. The topic of the evening will be 'America's Newest War: The War Against Terrorism'.

The guest speaker of the evening will be Ronald Carter who currently serves as the engineering liaison between The Boeing Company and the USAF Airborne Early Warning and Control System Program Office (AWACS SPO).

Mr. Carter is helping to align the Boeing Company's engineering practices and resources to best support the Air Force's needs. His most recent activities include the creation of Boeing's AWACS "Rapid Response" engineering team. The focus of this team is to provide capabilities as identified by the war-fighters in an expeditious manner as a result of the September 11th terror attacks.

Worcester County Section, IEEE Power Society
**The Shrewsbury High School FIRST
Robotics Team KickOff Meeting**

Thursday, November 15, 2001, 6:00 PM, Compaq, Shrewsbury

At this meeting, the team will present what this challenge will be like, what it will be like to be involved, what they learned in past competitions, what they hope to do in the next competition. Video from prior competitions will be shown. If you are interested in forming a team, or getting involved with a team, this would be a very informative event.

America's Newest War: The War Against Terrorism Worcester IEEE GOLD

The newly formed Worcester IEEE GOLD group will be holding its first event of the year on November 5th at 7:00pm in Olin Hall (Room 107) at WPI. The topic of the evening will be 'America's Newest War: The War Against Terrorism'.

We have all seen the terrible pictures from the two separate incidents on September 11th and we, as a nation, are faced with several unanswered questions. First of all we need to find out how such a plan was executed so perfectly with so few people and second, more importantly, what steps can we take to prevent something like this from happening again. In particular, we will be discussing the important role that engineers will play in this newly formed effort to protect all the citizens of our great country.

The guest speaker of the evening will be Ronald Carter, a man whose breadth of experience makes him an excellent candidate to speak on this important topic. Mr. Ronald Carter currently serves as the engineering liaison between The Boeing Company and the USAF Airborne Early Warning and Control System Program Office (AWACS SPO). Mr. Carter holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Aerospace Engineering from Parks College of St. Louis University, Missouri and was first hired by Boeing in Wichita, KS to work as a formal software test engineer for the B-2 'Stealth Bomber' Mission Planning System (MPS).

During his time on the B-2 program Mr. Carter quickly gained a reputation for expeditious support to government needs and was selected to give several presentations to MITRE, ESC, and other government contractors on test results; potential operational impact of various issues; as well as his work with automated software testing. He worked as the Integrated Product Team Lead for the test team on the B-2 MPS until January of 1999 when he left Boeing to work at Hanscom Air Force Base in Bedford, MA.

His new job was then to represent the Airborne Early Warning And Control System (AWACS) to the Joint Expeditionary Force Experiment (JEFX) at Hanscom AFB. JEFX is a recurring event that experiments with new technology to meet specified Air Force directives in order to make more effective use of military air power. One of his achievements was successfully utilizing technology to reduce America's response time for air power from 1 week to less than 24 hours, thereby expanding the potential roles of

these aircraft in particular missions.

Shortly following JEFX Mr. Carter returned to the Boeing Company to provide onsite-engineering support and act as engineering liaison for Boeing to ESC on all AWACS issues. Mr. Carter is helping to align the Boeing Company's engineering practices and resources to best support the Air Force's needs. His most recent activities include the creation of Boeing's AWACS "Rapid Response" engineering team. The focus of this team is to provide capabilities as identified by the war-fighters in an expeditious manner as a result of the September 11th terror attacks.

Mr. Carter's honors include "Employee of the Month" for the Bomber Division of Boeing Wichita as well as a certificate of recognition from the Joint Force Air Component Commander - General John Jumper, who is now the Air Force's Chief of Staff.

We are excited to have such a highly motivated individual speak at our event and it is our hope that many people will take advantage of this great opportunity. Again Mr. Carter will be speaking at WPI on November 5th at 7:00pm in Olin Hall (Room 107).

The Shrewsbury High School FIRST Robotics Team KickOff Meeting

The Shrewsbury High School is actively involved with the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition in Science and Technology) Robotics Competition. Worcester County Section, IEEE is a sponsor of this team. This will be the team's third year in the competition and on Thursday, November 15, 2001 at 6:00 PM, at the Amphitheater in Compaq Shrewsbury; the team will have their kick-off meeting for this year's competition.

A team of Shrewsbury High School students and teachers, local parents, And engineers have six weeks to design, build, test, redesign, rebuild, and retest, a 130 pound robot created from junk that is to carry out the tasks defined by the challenge. Last year, this challenge was to pick up large and small balls, put them into goals, manipulate these goals, and balance these goals on a teter-toter style ramp, all within the

two minutes of the competition. This years challenge will be revealed early January 2002.

On a smaller scale, this program introduces the students to what it is like in the Engineering world, to bring a product to fruition in a short amount of time with an under-staffed and under-funded design team, not knowing what the competition is doing.

At this meeting, the team will present what this challenge will be like, what it will be like to be involved, what they learned in past competitions, what they hope to do in the next competition. Video from prior competitions will be shown. If you are interested in forming a team, or getting involved with a team, this would be a very informative event.

This meeting is co-sponsored by the Worcester County Section, IEEE Power Society and will be held starting 6:00 PM on Thursday, November 15, 2001 at the Amphitheater in Compaq Computer Corporation's Shrewsbury Facility. Compaq Shrewsbury is located at 334 South Street in Shrewsbury, just south of Route 9. South Street crosses Route 9 at the first stop light east of the Route 9 and Route 140 interchange. Compaq is located up the hill on the right. Follow signs to the main lobby.

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Joel Snyder
2001 IEEE President