



December 2008

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President's Corner

Happy Holidays ITEA GW Chapter! Well as the song says, "the weather outside is frightful" but we have a great month planned for December. We have the DISA T&E Open House / ITEA GW Chapter Winter Social planned for 19 December. The Open House will be at the DISA Headquarters building (5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA) at 1300-1600. This will be a guided tour of the DISA T&E Laboratory. The T&E Lab is a Major Range and Test Facility (MRTFB). It has room for hundreds of developers and testers for C4I Programs. It is very impressive. Dr. Steve Hutchison, the DISA T&E Executive, will be our host.



Chas McKee, President

Immediately following the Open House, ITEA GW will be hosting our annual Winter Social across the street from DISA at the Babylon Futbol Café. ITEA GW will buy the first drink for all members. Please come and join us for some Holiday Cheer!

- Charles "Chas" McKee

Chapter Website

On our chapter website you can see chapter information and reserve and pay for meetings and events online by PayPal. Check it out at: <http://www.gw-itea.org>

New Members

Joining our chapter during October were:

- Timothy Faben
- Christine Hickman of ASD
- Tony Ionnides of Booz Allen Hamilton
- Moses Kamai of Cubic Defense Group
- Edward Moser of TRMC/SRC
- Joseph Snyder, EMC Consultant
- Dwight Thomas of ASD

The membership committee reminds you that if you bring someone to a luncheon meeting and he or she joins ITEA there, both of you will receive a future luncheon free.

NEXT MONTHLY MEETING

DISA Open House and Chapter Winter Social

Open House and Tour of Defense Information Systems Agency T&E Laboratory:

Friday, 19 December 2008 from 1300 to 1600 at 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA

RSVP by 12 December 2008 to Sammi Foong (Sammi.Foong@disa.mil)

or to Judy Hill (Judith.Hill@disa.mil) Commercial: 703.882.2088/2177 /2088/2177

Chapter Winter Social: The ITEA GW Chapter Winter Social will commence immediately following the DISA T&E Open House on 19 December. We have a room reserved at the Babylon Futbol Café starting at 1730 for this event. No need to reserve, just join us after the DISA open house, or when you can.

Cost:

The DISA open house is no cost, and at the social the Chapter buys the first round.

November Luncheon

. At its monthly luncheon on November 20th at the Army Navy Country Club in Arlington, the George Washington Chapter of ITEA heard Mr Mark S Adams, Scientific Advisor to the Director of the US Marine Corps Operational Test and Evaluation Activity (MCOTEA) discuss that organization and its actions, which includes conducting all Marine operational testing (OT). Adams said MCOTEA's director, Colonel David Reeves, commands 25 military and 28 civilian personnel. There are four test divisions addressing ground, air, combat support, and expeditionary systems. The staff is the usual S1, S2, S3, etc, except that the S2 section concerns Decision Sciences and does the evaluation strategies and the S5 is the Future Business section.



Mark Adams

He went on to say that MCOTEA was reorganized last June with an attention to the eight initiatives concerning T&E from Section 231 of the Defense Authorization Act. Adams described how MCOTEA is accomplishing each of the eight, noting that they focus on measuring improvement in capabilities, experiment early prior to OT, integrate OT and developmental testing (and evaluation), start early with operationally realistic testing, evaluate to the mission context at time of fielding a system, compare new systems to current mission capability, use all available data for a program, and exploit the benefits of modeling an simulation.

Among initiatives, MCOTEA is leading the revision of the Marine Corps T&E Handbook governing all testing. Adams said that MCOTEA now tests several major systems with OSD oversight in addition to the numerous nonmajor systems they've always tested, but that they continue to partner with the Operational Test Agencies of the other three services for systems with overlapping ground, air, and sea missions.



Adams said challenges include early integration, pursuing all data sources, formalizing processes, and working with the Marine combat and materiel developers. After an informative Q&A session, chapter president Chas McKee presented Mark Adams a MARINES book as a memento of the occasion.

Chapter Corporate Sponsors

Thanks to our chapter's corporate sponsors who make many of our activities possible. Our current sponsors are:

Advanced Systems Development, Inc.

EWA Government Systems, Inc.

Enlighteneering, Inc.

SAIC

Scientific Research Corporation

SPARTA, Inc.

For information on sponsorship, contact our Corporate Committee Chair, Todd Stevenson at 443-655-0531.

Bell Scholarship Grant

The Chapter presented its 2008 Bell scholarship to a student of a local university at its November luncheon. The scholarship was established upon the untimely death of the late Dr Robert S Bell, former technical director of the US Marine Corps Operational Test and Evaluation Activity (MOTEA), who was a distinguished member of the T&E community, and a long time member of our chapter. This is the third consecutive year the chapter has awarded this scholarship to a student in a local school who was nominated by his faculty and is studying in a field that may lead to a career in tet and evaluation.

The award of \$2,000 was presented by Mr Mark Adams, current technical director of MCOTEA, who was the guest speaker that day.

The scholarship went to Lee Vorthman, an engineering graduate student at George Mason University in northern Virginia, and a former navy petty officer Vorthman was accompanied at the ceremony by Dr Nernard White of the GMU engineering faculty. In his thanks, vorthman commented that all financial help is welcome.



GMU student Vorthman accepts scholarship check

George Washington Chapter Current Officers and Committee Chairs

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Chapter member John Foulkes (right) at 2008 ITEA Symposium



Chapter member Dave Duma (far right) at symposium

LOOKING AHEAD

Dec 19 – DISA Lab Tour & Winter Social

Jan 8 – Business meeting

Jan 22 -Luncheon

Feb 5 - Business meeting

Feb 20 - Luncheon

For time and location of business meetings, contact:

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NEWSLETTER