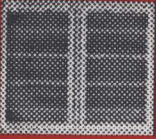


IEEE

Solid-State Circuits Society



Newsletter

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Robert G. Swartz
President
IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society
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Message From the President

IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society

Did anybody notice we "missed" an issue? As I write this note (mid-July), many of you are just now receiving the April issue of the *SSCS Newsletter*. A lot of things went wrong: we were late getting started, we received an inaccurate mailing data base from IEEE Headquarters, and we didn't follow up properly. I am sorry about that, and we will do better next time. Fortunately, we did get our *Newsletter* up on the WWW, so please check there (<http://www.sscs.org>) any time that you need information about the SSCS or any of our (Your!) professional activities.

I would like to welcome those of you who are new members of the Solid-State Circuits Society. Our membership continues to grow - the most recent number that I heard from the IEEE was about 9600, which positions us as the 9th largest of the IEEE Technical Societies (out of 37 total). That is very encouraging for an organization as young as ours. I've received email from some of you. The most common inquiry asks for help on publications. If you recently joined the SSCS (for example at the ISSCC in February), it takes about 3 months to get the IEEE paperwork handled and to start your subscription to the *Journal of Solid-State Circuits and Spectrum*. Also, if you

are located outside of the U.S., there will be extra delays in receiving your publications because of shipping time. The IEEE has told me that members in the Middle East, for example, should expect additional delays of up to 14 weeks, if their publications are shipped by surface freight. You can cut the delay to about half of that if you request (and pay for!) air freight shipment of your publications. This adds a significant amount of cost, so you may want to be selective in which publications are sent by air freight. Please contact the IEEE directly at 908-981-0060. If you still have trouble, send me an email.

We are starting to see increasing interest in the formation of local chapters of the Solid-State Circuits Society. I am very proud to announce that there are now two official Chapters. These are the Santa Clara Chapter in Silicon Valley, founded by Mr. Jonathan David and his colleagues (see article elsewhere in this *Newsletter*), and our Yugoslavian Chapter chaired by Professor Ninoslav Stojadinovic of the University of Nis, which was formed as a Joint Chapter with the Electron Devices Society. I have also received inquiries about forming local chapters in other regions. Congratulations to these pioneers! The SSCS does not yet have a Chapters coordinator (we're working on it!), so please continue to send inquiries to me for the time being.

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Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

Message from the President con...

The *Journal of Solid-State Circuits (JSSC)* on CD-ROM is almost ready. I have seen a review copy of it, and it looks great! I think you will find it of tremendous archival value, so stay tuned and watch your mail box. I have received several emails expressing interest in having earlier (pre-1995) issues of the *JSSC* scanned and put on CD-ROM. I've forwarded these to Bruce Wooley at Stanford, our Publications Chair, so that we can weigh the interest level in this versus the cost and difficulty of doing it. I thank all of you who responded.

The semi-annual meeting of the Administrative Committee of the Society is coming up in late August. At these meetings, we evaluate the state of our conference activities, review our publications, take a close look at budget, and discuss membership activities. I'll give you a summary in the next newsletter.

That's all for now. Hope you are having a great summer!



John Trnka
Executive Committee Chair
ISSCC
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SSCS - ISSCC WEB Update

Frank Hewlett: hewletfw@sandia.gov

The Solid-State Circuits Society is maintaining a home page on the World-Wide-Web at <http://www.sscs.org>.

The International Solid-State Circuits Conference, ISSCC, home page is available at <http://www.isscc.org>.

A copy of this *Newsletter* as well as previous ones can be viewed directly on the WEB by selecting the NEWSLETTER under PUBLICATIONS from the SSCS homepage.

SSCS

The best way to locate conference information on the WEB for SSCS-supported/related conferences is from the SSCS homepage. This listing is updated frequently to reflect new information on Society related conferences. Just refer to the MEETINGS & CONFERENCES section, or use the QUICK LINKS section if you know the conference you want to visit. If you are aware of an IEEE conference of interest to SSCS members that is not listed here, please send a request to the above address for consideration.

The OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES listing has been updated for latest addresses and easier viewing. The table of contents for recent issues of the *JSSC* are viewable online under PUBLICATIONS. Simply select the JOURNAL OF SOLID-STATE CIRCUITS and then select RECENT ISSUES.

ISSCC

A complete listing of the 1998 Technical Program and Executive Committees are now available online under ISSCC'98 COMMITTEES. Feel free to contact members of the committees for questions related to paper submission for the upcoming conference.

The 1998 Call for Papers is available online. Note that the policy on submission deadlines will now be more strictly enforced to improve review quality and help manage distribution costs. The Calendar has also been recently updated to reflect the latest committee meeting dates and locations.

Other updates, additions, or suggestions are welcome. For the ISSCC homepage contact Frank Hewlett at hewletfw@sandia.gov. For the SSCS homepage contact John Trnka at trnka@vnet.ibm.com.

ISSCC

International Solid-State Circuits Conference

CDROM Update

The CDROMs for ISSCC'97 should be mailed to conference attendees registration addresses in early August. If you have not received your copy by the end of August, please contact John Wuorinen at 207-326-8811, or FAX 207-326-8878.

1998 ISSCC Call for Papers Summary

Original papers are solicited in subject areas including but not limited to Analog, Communications, Digital, Memory, Sensors/Imagers/Displays, Signal Processing, and Technology Directions.

Submissions may be accepted as either a regular paper or a short paper. A regular paper is allowed 23 minutes for presentation and 7 minutes for questions. Short papers are allowed 15 minutes total for both presentation and questions. Regular and short papers have the same submission requirements and the same quality standards. They differ only in the time required to present the key ideas. Companion papers for large chips that require two paper slots to discuss both architecture and circuit details are encouraged.

ISSCC Call for Papers con...

Conference Theme

The 1998 Conference theme is *Global Communications*. Papers targeting global communications applications in all of the above areas are solicited. Examples of IC technologies and circuits related to all types of networks, both local and wide area, wired, wireless for high-speed, point-to-point communications for voice, data, and video are especially encouraged.

NEW GUIDELINES FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE PRELIMINARY VERSION OF THE PAPER, ABSTRACT AND SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Authors should submit three items for review. A draft of the final manuscript for the *Digest of Technical Papers* and an abstract to be used in the Advance Program are required. Additional supplementary material is not mandatory but strongly encouraged. The most common reason for paper rejection is a lack of clear evidence about what is novel in the work and the extent to which it advances the state-of-the-art.

For complete details, please refer to the Call for Papers available on the WEB at <http://www.sscs.org/isscc>

Abstracts of accepted papers will be disclosed to the press at ISSCC Press Conferences in mid-October. The ISSCC reserves the right to add factual information to the abstract from the paper text. No figures will be released prior to the conference.

Limited financial assistance is available to student presenters upon request.

ATTENTION! NEW POLICY REGARDING PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE

Due to the timing constraints associated with the paper review process, papers must be received by the deadline shown below to be considered by the Program Committee. Use of express delivery service is strongly encouraged.

PAPERS RECEIVED AFTER THE DEADLINE WILL BE RETURNED TO THE AUTHORS. "HARD" DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT IN WASHINGTON, DC: FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1997

A NORTH AMERICAN AUTHOR must send for receipt in Washington DC by the September 5, 1997 deadline, 35 copies of the preliminary version of the paper, abstract, and supplementary material (each set stapled, express delivery service is strongly encouraged) to:

Diane Suiters
Courtesy Associates
2000 L. Street, N.W., Suite 710
Washington, DC
20036 USA
Tel: 202-973-8667

A EUROPEAN AUTHOR must send for receipt in Washington DC by the September 5, 1997 deadline, 35 copies of the preliminary version of the paper, abstract, and supplementary material (each set stapled, express delivery service is strongly encouraged) to:

Diane Suiters
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2000 L. Street, N.W., Suite 710
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In addition, European authors must send 20 copies of the preliminary version of the paper, abstract, and supplementary material (each set stapled) to the European Secretary:

Willy Sansen
Katholieke Universiteit Leuven
ESAT-MICAS
94 Kardinaal Mercierlaan
B-3001 Leuven, BELGIUM
Tel.: 32-16-32-10-78
Fax: 32-16-32-19-75
Email: willy.sansen@esat.kuleuven.ac.be

A FAR EAST AUTHOR must send for receipt in Washington DC by the September 5, 1997 deadline, 35 copies of the preliminary version of the paper, abstract, and supplementary material (each set stapled, express mail service is strongly encouraged) to:

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20036 USA
Tel: 202-973-8667

In addition, Far East authors must send 30 copies of the preliminary version of the paper, abstract, and supplementary material (each set stapled) to the Far East Secretary:

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Center, Semiconductor & IC Division
1-280 Higashi-Koigakubo, Kokubunji
Tokyo 185 JAPAN
Tel: 81-423-23-1111x4300
Fax: 81-423-27-7847
Email: k-shimoh@crl.hitachi.co.jp

For further details on pre-publication policy, or assistance in assigning a subject area, contact the Program Committee Chair:

John Cressler
Tel: 334-844-1872
Fax: 334-844-1888
Email: cressler@eng.auburn.edu

For further details on manuscript preparation, contact the Digest Editor:

John Wuorinen
Tel: 207-326-8811
Fax: 207-326-8878
Email: 71762.2626@compuserve.com

Press Relations are handled by:

Kenneth C. Smith
Tel: 852-2358-7062
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Conference and Registration Operations are handled by:

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**An IEEE Adventure,
or How to Start a Chapter**

After 10 years on the East Coast, the call of family and of a rebounding California economy finally outweighed the high 'California Cost of Living' excuse. We sold the townhouse and the extra car. We loaded our belongings into a rented truck - moving ourselves so we'd have a downpayment for one of those outrageously priced homes. We rolled past Lake Tahoe and into California on the Fourth of July, 1996 and spent the rest of the summer finding a new house to call home.

The PTA, Scouts and Little League all began calling, but I needed to stay current at work too. My new job involved enough software so that we were directly connected to the "net." So it was time to go surfing and see what the IEEE had to offer out here.

I was shocked to find that the Santa Clara Valley section, in the HEART of Silicon Valley, did not have a web page! But I did find that the Bay Area's IEEE newsletter, "GRID" was online with some activities listed, but none in circuits. Well, I surely could not be the only one interested in having a monthly event or two, could I?

I emailed and called the Section officers I could find, and asked them. With luck I called the day before the fall kick-off meeting for the Section. "Can you come? Don't worry, I can get a couple of plates added." Not being one to turn down a free meal, I went. That evening I was introduced to other volunteers, I was given encouragement and advice, and by the time I left I was an IEEE volunteer.

I picked up two good pieces of advice that night. First: Pick a regular meeting time and place. Second: Most of the work is not hard. It just involves finding good speakers. Also, I was not put under a lot of pressure, and was told to "come to the next section meeting and you'll get a feel for how things work." Free pizza too!

I spent the next two months doing research, attending the Section meetings, and occasional meetings of other chapters to get a feel for how things run successfully. In my research I hit on the SSCC web page - and found out that it was becoming a Society. While others had recently attempted to start Circuits and Systems chapters

here, I thought that interest in Solid-State Circuits should be higher, especially here. To top it off, a visit to the ISSCC in February would give me some ideas for speakers, and perhaps to announce the kick-off meeting.

OK, now it was time for actual meeting planning and preparation. With over 20 chapters in our Section alone, and more in the other SF Bay Area Sections, we wanted to choose carefully the meeting day. Folks in SSC would probably not appreciate having meetings on the same night as the Electron Devices chapter, or Communications or Control Systems. So the Third Thursday was it!

When could we start? Well, we were into January when I requested a grant from the Section to get things rolling. The next GRID deadline was January 31st for the March Edition. Perfect.

Who would be our first Speaker? Dr. Newcomb (my Network Analysis Professor at the University of Maryland) made me read a lot of Ken Kundert's papers while I worked on the Masters degree. Now that I worked for Ken's company, he might agree to speak. Ken (the architect of Cadence's Spectre™ Simulator) was plugged in enough to know that "Simulation of PLL's" would be a hot topic.

Where? Free is good, and getting the Company Auditorium was actually quite easy. I commend our Facilities Team for assistance in having the facility ready, including moving a "fixed" slide projector when the auditorium was in use for a month-long internal training project! They taught me how to turn on the microphones, and ran the video projector for the IEEE video prior to the start of the meeting.

A few minutes with the word processor, copying Dr. Kundert's biography from the front of his book, and attaching his description of his presentation and I had the material for the article in the GRID, and for a first draft of a Chapter Web page.

At ISSCC, I met some old college friends from my days in Oregon. They introduced me around. I spotted some potential speakers who did not have to travel too far. Stanford and Berkeley are nearby, and were represented at ISSCC by excellent speakers. I copied some flyers announcing our first meeting, and left them on a table. I made sure I introduced myself to our Society President, and to some recognizable folks like Jim Williams and Bob Pease. I met many folks whom I will look forward to meeting again.

An IEEE Adventure, con...

The Section provided a grant that was used to purchase the refreshments for the first meeting. Guests at the first meeting signed the 'Petition to Form a Chapter', and after the second meeting I asked a couple of the "regulars" to volunteer for Chapter offices. A few weeks after sending in the Petition, I received the letter stating that we were an official Chapter of the IEEE. I also sent in the meeting report form, and the rebates more than covered the cost of the refreshments (Wescon helps with this!). We are a financially viable IEEE entity.

Ken Kundert of Cadence, Tom Lee of Stanford, and Jim Williams of Linear Tech were the speakers in our inaugural Year. They are, in my opinion, good speakers, each having a lot to teach the rest of us, and quite willing to share their experience. They are recommended for other prospective chapters, and for our Societies' Distinguished Speakers Program, when that gets kicked off.

Want Chapter activities where you are? Starting a Chapter is not difficult. Contact your Section and Universities in your area that offer programs in the Society's field of interest. Attend conferences, meet folks who could be speakers. Don't forget that SSC started as a Council serving members of other Societies. In other areas of the world it may make sense to form a joint chapter with another Society, especially one affiliated with the old Solid-State Circuits Council.

Along the way you'll be making friendships, and that will help you turn your current job into a career.

Live in Silicon Valley? Check out the GRID for our Activities each month, and come to our meetings. Third Thursdays, Sept. - June, in the Cadence Auditorium in Bldg. 5, at 2655 Seely Ave., San Jose. (Well, except for the Social in December! See the GRID for location.)

Acknowledgments: I'd like to thank my manager for not discouraging me in this enterprise, and for sending me to ISSCC. I thank Dr. Kris Verma, Doug Lyons, John Wright, Linda Stone and Ken Doniger of the Santa Clara Valley Section for teaching me what needed to be done. Robert Swartz was also encouraging. I thank Ken Kundert, Tom Lee and Jim Williams for their high-quality presentations. Gerry Helmke in the SF Bay Area Council Office makes easier all our jobs, from finding forms to getting out the GRID. I thank those of my co-workers who encouraged me and helped set up refreshments for the first meetings. And I am very thankful to Sergio Sanielevici, Jess Chen and John Merrill for stepping forward as Chapter Officers.



Charles Sodini
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Meetings Calendar

Symposium on Low-Power Electronics and Design

August 18-20, 1997 Monterey, CA
A. Chandrakasan 617-258-7619
S. Kiaei 541-737-3118

ASIC Conference

September 7-10, 1997 Portland, OR
Lynne Engelbrecht 716-254-2350

European Solid-State Circuits Conference

September 16-18, 1997 Southampton, UK
H-J Pflaederer 49-731-502-6200

Bipolar/BiCMOS Circuits and Technology Meeting

September 29-30, 1997 Minneapolis, MN
Janice Jopke 612-934-5082

International Conference on VLSI and CAD

October 13-15, 1997 Seoul, Korea
Eun-Ho Jeong 82-2-565-2435

Galium Arsenide IC Symposium

October 12-15, 1997 Anaheim, CA
Ms. Jaelene Berry 908-562-3875

International Solid-State Circuits Conference

February 5-7, 1998 San Francisco, CA
Diane Suiters 202-639-4255

Custom Integrated Circuits Conference

May 11-14, 1998 Santa Clara, CA
Melissa Widerkehr 301-527-0902

Symposium on VLSI Technology

June 9-11, 1998 Honolulu, HI
Melissa Widerkehr 301-527-0900

Symposium on VLSI Circuits

June 11-13, 1998 Honolulu, HI
Melissa Widerkehr 301-527-0900