



# IEEE Memphis Common Ground

Newsletter of the Memphis Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

November 2002

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Memphis Chapter of the IEEE  
Power Engineering Society & Industry Applications Society  
Presents

## "Utility Secondary Spot Networks & MLGW's Strategy For Serving Electrical Load Growth in Downtown Memphis"

By

Mr. James B. Warberg, Jr., PE

Tuesday, November 19, 2002

Social: 6:00 PM

Program: 7:00 PM

The University of Memphis  
Herff College of Engineering  
Engineering Science Building, Room 222

### PROGRAM

James B. Warberg, Jr., PE, is the Network District Engineer in the Electric Engineering Department at MLGW (Memphis Light, Gas, and Water Division). He will give an overview of secondary spot networks, describe the current system serving downtown Memphis, and discuss MLGW's strategy for serving the load growth due to downtown development, such as the new NBA Arena and the expansion of St. Jude.

MLGW distributes electricity throughout much of Shelby County, Tennessee, using 12.47-kV and 23-kV radial feeders. However, downtown Memphis currently has three substations supplying 40 network feeders. These feeders are connected to over 400 network transformers, which supply the secondary spot networks at voltages of 480/277 V and 216/125 V.

The secondary spot network is typically used in high-density metropolitan areas. The theory of operation is that any fault on the secondary bus will burn itself free and service will not be interrupted. When faults occur in a primary feeder or in a distribution transformer, network protectors interrupt the backfeed from the secondary bus into the fault. Network protectors operate quickly on reverse current.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The Engineering Science Building is located at the northeast corner of The University of Memphis campus, at the intersection of Central Avenue and Zach H. Curlin Street. Parking is available in the Main Lot at Central Avenue. Visit The University of Memphis website at: <http://memphis.edu/> for a map of the campus. If you need more information about the program, please contact Billy Allen, Chair, IEEE Memphis Chapter of the PES/IAS, via email at [w.allen@ieee.org](mailto:w.allen@ieee.org), or by telephone at (901) 528-7721.

## Call for Nominations!!

If you would like to nominate someone for 2003 for the positions of Section Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer, or Secretary, please contact Marlin Gines at [mgines@mlgw.org](mailto:mgines@mlgw.org) or (901) 528-4504. The deadline for submittal is December 4, 2002.

## 2002 Sections Congress:

Mason Favazza (Publications Chair) attended the 2002 Sections Congress in Washington D.C. on October 18-21. The triennial event has two main purposes — to allow the attendees to learn more about what IEEE is doing for their members, and to give an opportunity for each section representative to vote on recommendations on how the IEEE Headquarters (in Piscataway, NJ) can improve the organization.

All ten regions met and discussed how IEEE can improve, and each submitted four recommendations. At the end of the conference, all delegates voted on importance (1 to 5 scale) of the 40 submitted recommendations so that the IEEE Headquarters would know what priority to place on each. These recommendations can be found on the internet by going to [www.ieee.org/sc](http://www.ieee.org/sc).

There were several breakout sessions intended to share ideas and information to the attending members. The literature (presentations, reports, etc) can also be found at [www.ieee.org/sc](http://www.ieee.org/sc).

If you would like to know more information about this event and what was discussed, feel free to email Mason at [mfavazza@mlgw.org](mailto:mfavazza@mlgw.org)

## Changes in the Newsletter!

Next year this newsletter will only be mailed quarterly. Instead, updates on meeting notices and other IEEE events will be put on our website. This website is currently being developed, and the url link will be given in next month's newsletter. Each time an update is made to the website, an email will be sent to you. In order for you to receive this email, you must submit your correct email address when you renew your membership or you can email Mason Favazza at [mfavazza@mlgw.org](mailto:mfavazza@mlgw.org) and submit your correct email address directly to him.

**IEEE**

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