



Headquarters Highlights Spring/Summer 2004

by Russell V. Carstensen, Executive Director

Of Frustration, Redemption and Eventual Justice

STAY WITH ME on this. You are about to read a convoluted story of frustration, redemption and eventual justice. I do not often write about my kids. My son Pete is almost 21. I last wrote about him when he was in elementary school (see *NARTE News Vol. 13, No. 2*).

At that time, as a class project I helped him make a wooden sword from sticks. My mistake was to then cover the sword with the EMC engineers best friend; aluminum tape. It looked too real and he got busted for bringing a weapon to school. That I have not written about him since does not mean that he is without blemish. *Au contraire mes amis!*

His mother and I were on his case through his teen years to brush his teeth regularly. In high school he needed braces to realign his teeth to assure they would not wear badly or fall out in his twilight years.

When you are a teenager, any reference to old age is lost on deaf ears. Eventually his rebellion reached a point where we had to remove the braces and give up. The teeth were pretty much straight but the desired alignment was not yet complete.

Later, when he was about 17, he skipped a routine dentist appointment because he just did not want to get up. I was done! I told him that I would no longer pay to keep his teeth up. From that point on this teeth were his responsibility.

Pete eventually reached that stage where it was time to move out of the family nest. He had only been gone a couple of months when I cornered him and asked if he was thinking about getting a dog. He replied that he had been thinking along those lines. I replied that it was very common for young people to make getting a dog their next big step after they move out.

"But hold on there Knute!," I said. "I do not want a dog! It is also traditional that shortly after you get a dog, you will move to a new apartment that will not accept pets. At that point you will be dropping off your dog for me to keep

until you move yet again. I can see it coming and I do not want to play. Better you should get a gold fish."

A couple of months went by with no mention of a dog. Then one night he called to announce the arrival of a cuddly bundle in our future. Of course his mother and I assumed the worst with our thoughts headed in a completely wrong direction!

The next day he dropped by to introduce us to our granddog Max, a 110 pound Rottweiler.*

It seems that one of his roommates moved out and as fate would have it, his new landlord would not accept pets. Sound familiar?

Max has been a good thing for Pete. Pete has to walk Max, feed Max,



play with Max and generally look to the care of a being beyond himself.

We have been impressed with how conscientious Peter has been about caring for Max. When Pete stops by, Max will be in the car, drooling, dribbling and panting patiently while Pete visits, then off they go as best friends sitting side by side in the front seat.

HERE IS WHERE justice enters the story. Pete had to take Max to the vet for his booster shots and a general check up. The vet told him Max was in good condition except for his teeth. It

turned out that Max has terrible teeth.

To save them, Pete has to brush Max's teeth every day with chicken flavored toothpaste. Yes! There is a God! Justice has been served!

I win either way. If Pete keeps up with the regimen, I get paid back for all those years of his stubborn refusal to brush. If Max's teeth fall out, then I won't get bit when Max eventually comes to live with us. If in time, Pete gets married and has children, I can rest assured that they will brush, hopefully with fluoride anti-cavity, tartar control chicken flavored toothpaste - with mint.

**Rottweiler*

The Rottweiler is a muscular dog. They have short, coarse black hairs. This breed has tan or mahogany markings on their head, legs, and chest. Rottweilers can be up to 22 to 27 inches long. Rottweilers were bred in southern Germany. This breed needs lots of exercise, some grooming, and a lot of food.

NARTE Accreditation Extended

NARTE is accredited by the International Certification Accreditation Council (ICAC). NARTE accreditation was scheduled for renewal audit in 2004. However, there have been two international standards issued that affect certification programs.

The first, ISO 17024, applies to bodies certifying personnel. This standard sets requirements for record keeping, analysis and review by those organizations.

The second standard, ISO 17011 (which has not yet been formally released) applies to accrediting agencies. ICAC has established a committee to examine the impact of ISO 17011 on its accreditation process, and to incorporate requirements from 17024 into the application process for accreditation and renewal.

Once they have resolved the committee's recommendations, ICAC will call for applications to renew, probably within six months.

Continued next page . . .

NARTE Inks Agreement With IEEE Product Safety Engineering Society

Thanks to 2 years of effort and diligence, on Saturday, March 6, 2004, the IEEE Product Safety Engineering Society voted to approve a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with NARTE at the society's first board meeting. NARTE has been working with the founders as they went through the process of establishing the Product Safety society within the IEEE. Stephen Berger, NARTE President, attended this first board meeting. The reception to NARTE was very warm and cordial.

After Stephen had explained NARTE's missions and goals, and why the MOA was of benefit to both organizations, the IEEE Board member in attendance indicated that he believed there were other societies within the IEEE that could benefit from a similar NARTE MOA arrangement. He told Stephen that he wanted to discuss the idea (of having NARTE introduce a similar program to other IEEE societies) during his next meeting with the main IEEE board.

(See further "Product Safety" discussion on page 5.)

JAPAN CRC Certifies 63 EMCers

Congratulations to our newest members in Japan! On February 4th, the NARTE/Japan Certification Review Committee (CRC) held an EMC examination session for 125 NARTE certification applicants. Twenty-three individuals took the EMC Technician exam, and 102 took the engineer exam. As a result of this examination session, 49 EMC Engineers and 14 EMC Technicians were granted certification.

We would further like to congratulate the NARTE/Japan CRC for their continuing efforts in EMC education and training and in raising the profile of EMC engineers and technicians in Japan. The NARTE Japan Chapter now boasts 286 certified EMC Engineers, 24 certified EMC Technicians and 67 EMC Accredited Test Lab Technicians.

(See article on Page 6 regarding CRC meeting held at NARTE Headquarters on April 29, 2004.)

WEBSITE Live!

Our new NARTE website went live on Friday, March 19th, 2004. The new NARTE web is at the same old address: <<http://www.narte.org/>>, but features more information, better navigation and a searchable testing center function. Notification of the new site activation was emailed to all NARTE members using our consultant listing (249 members) and to those posting a resume online.

One problem area outside our control emerged after the site went live. We found that people had bookmarked specific page addresses to the old site and were using those bookmarks to enter the NARTE web site. Those links have been redirected.

The final module to be posted will be the membership services area. It is expected that that portion will soon be in place. We will issue an email blast and press release when the membership services areas are completed.

New ESD Chapter Administers First Exam Session in the Philippines

On Friday, March 19th, the ASEMEP Electrostatic Discharge Council (AEC), the first chapter of the Electrostatic Discharge Association (ESDA) in Asia, administered the

first ever ESD examination in the Philippines. There were a total of 41 examinees; 40 engineers (19 of 40 examinees passed 48% pass rate), and 1 technician (100% pass rate).

The examination session was scheduled in conjunction with the first ever-Philippine Electrostatic Discharge Forum held on 17 to 18 March 2004 in Makati City, Philippines.

NARTE Attends Rocky Mountain Manufacturing and Design Expo

NARTE participated in the annual Rocky Mountain Manufacturing & Design Expo held in Denver on March 25 and 26th. This trade show has been presented annually for the past seven years.

Our purpose was to provide face-to-face exposure to NARTE certification—especially Product Safety certification—and to address the Product Safety Section meeting to be held in conjunction with the show. Approximately 1,200 people attended the show.

Richard Georgerian, IEEE Section Chair, said, "I just wanted to let you know as soon as possible how much we appreciated your presentation and having a booth. A letter of appreciation will be sent. Having NARTE participate in these conferences highlights the importance of engineers having a certain level of knowledge and experience. Being a NARTE engineer certifies a level of expertise which people expect. Thanks again, and we'll continue to have NARTE participate in future IEEE conferences."

FCC Surveys Initiated

The NARTE staff has implemented two new surveys to further our FCC market research this month:

The first is a survey of our testing centers designed to gather data on their preferences for FCC License preparatory/study material.

The second is the addition of survey questions for NARTE FCC examinees and study materials for test center customers geared toward ascertaining their preparatory/study material preferences.

NARTE FCC "Shaker Test" Released

In any test situation it is very helpful for examinees to experiment with a trial examination before sitting for the actual test. In the trial exam they can get a feel for how well prepared they may be, refine their strategy for answering questions and see how well they may perform under the pressure of a time limit. Sometimes the trial exam will "shake" them up.

In order to increase NARTE's market awareness, the NARTE staff has repackaged our sample FCC exams as a NARTE "Shaker Test" and begun distributing NARTE Shaker Tests with all FCC study materials sold. (See related article on page 8, and a copy of the Shaker Introductory handout on page 9.)

New Certification Card

NARTE has designed a new card for our certified members that features a "Certified Since" date, and for Telecom members, their class - Master, Senior or Junior.

The "Certified Since" date replaces the former "Senior Member" designation, clarifying any confusion between Senior designation and Senior Class telecom certification. The Senior designation previously indicated members who had been certified 15 years or more.

Continued next page . . .



NARTE HQ began distribution of the new cards on May 6, 2004.

PRODUCT SAFETY

IEEE Product Safety Engineering Society

This new society targets design professionals and design engineers interested in electrical product safety. It addresses safety engineering for equipment and devices used in the scientific, engineering, industrial, commercial and residential arenas. It allows engineers and other technical professionals an opportunity to discuss and disseminate technical information, to enhance professional skills, and to provide outreach to engineers, students and others with an interest in the field.

While product safety has been addressed in various committees over the years, there has never been a professional society or symposium solely devoted to product safety engineering, as a discipline, until now.

This provides an opportunity for NARTE members to attend the first annual Product Safety Engineering Symposium and be a part of this important new discipline.

First Annual Product Safety Engineering Symposium

NARTE will staff a booth at the First Annual IEEE Symposium on Product Safety Engineering to be held August 13-15, 2004, at the Santa Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, California.

NARTE will not only take applications for certification as a product safety technical practitioner, but will roll out a new convention favor to those stopping by the NARTE booth.

The symposium will address safety engineering for equipment and devices. It will allow engineers, students and others with an interest in electrical product safety to:

- Discuss and disseminate technical information and enhance their professional skills.
- Talk and discuss problems with vendors displaying the latest Regulatory Compliance products.

- Attend Technical Sessions, Workshops, Tutorials and Demonstrations specifically targeted to the electrical safety engineering professional.

For more information, view the speaker and topic list at: <http://ewh.ieee.org/soc/pses/symposium/>

Product Safety Grandfathering Period Ending

The opportunity to be certified by eminence (grandfathered) as a product safety practitioner ends on **August 31, 2004**, just 16 days after the end of the symposium. After that, all applicants will have to sit for an eight-hour examination. To grandfather, applications must be postmarked by August 31, 2004. Application forms are available on line at www.narte.org.

Disclaimer

NARTE News includes articles written by both members and nonmembers as voluntary contributions. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of NARTE, its staff, officers, or its Board of Directors.

"Headquarters' Highlights" is the only column in NARTE News that reflects the official position of NARTE. Except for those silly stories the Executive Director insists on inserting, this column is intended to be authoritative in nature and is used to announce policy or procedural changes. 

NARTE, INC.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2003

	ASSETS	
	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted
CURRENT ASSETS:		
Cash	\$ 73,801	\$ 5,293
BUILDING & EQUIPMENT, NET	<u>\$ 173,352</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
TOTAL ASSETS:	\$ 247,153	\$ 5,293

LIABILITY AND NET ASSETS

CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	\$ 13,333	\$ -
Current Portion of Long-Term Debt	\$ 2,868	\$ -
Deferred Membership Dues-Current	<u>\$ 39,641</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
	<u>\$ 55,842</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
OTHER LIABILITIES		
Long-Term Debt	\$ 10,280	\$ -
Deferred Membership Dues	<u>\$ 19,644</u>	<u>\$ -</u>
	<u>\$ 29,924</u>	<u>\$ 5,293</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS	<u>\$161,387</u>	<u>\$ 5,293</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & NET ASSETS	\$247,153	\$ 5,293