



# IEEE REGION 1 CENTER OF TECHNOLOGY Spring 2009 Newsletter



IEEE - fostering technological innovation and excellence for the benefit of humanity.

## From the Director's Desk

By Howard E. Michel, Ph.D.  
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### "So what is this IEEE thing that you belong to, part 2?"



Some of you may remember this was the theme of my Director's Column in the spring of 2008. That answer focused on the fact that the IEEE is a member driven organization. This time I'll answer to what purpose.

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

(IEEE) is incorporated under the New York State Not-for-Profit Corporation Law. We are incorporated as a 501(c)(3) organization, specifically to be a scientific and educational

organization.

Per the IEEE Constitution, its "purposes are: (a) scientific and educational, directed toward the advancement of the theory and practice of electrical, electronics, communications and computer engineering, as well as computer science, the allied branches of engineering and the related arts and sciences; ... and (b) professional, directed toward the advancement of the standing of the members of the professions it serves."

The IEEE Constitution further goes on to state that "the IEEE shall strive to enhance the quality of life for all people throughout the world through the constructive application of technology in its fields of competence. It shall endeavor to promote understanding of the influence of such technology on the public welfare."

The IEEE Mission Statement states that its "core purpose is to foster technological innovation and excellence for the benefit of humanity." Its vision is to "be essential to the global technical community and to technical professionals everywhere, and be universally recognized for the contributions of technology and of technical professionals in improving global conditions."

Those are pretty lofty words and goals. The IEEE achieves them through its members - remember, we are a member driven organization. So I ask each of you, to paraphrase John Kennedy, ask

not what the IEEE can do for you, but what can you do for the IEEE. I think when you answer that question, you will also be benefiting yourself, your employer, and your profession. The answer is to participate in any of the IEEE activities.

As a guide to IEEE activities, the IEEE is organized as six major Operating Units (OUs), two of which are Technical Activities (TA) and Member and Geographic Activities (MGA).

Worldwide, the IEEE has 319 sections. These sections are organized into ten Regions, and together fall under the auspices of the MGA OU. IEEE Technical Activities is organized in an orthogonal fashion to MGA. Specifically, while MGA groups members by geographic proximity, TA groups members by fields of interest, for example, computers, communications, power systems, reliability, etc. There are 39 societies within IEEE TA and they all span the globe. The intersection of MGA and TA occurs at the local level in an organization called a chapter. There are around 1,600 chapters worldwide.

Every member belongs to a section. Since you are reading this, I can assume that you belong to one of the 22 sections in Region 1. You may or may not belong to a chapter depending on whether or not you opted to join a society when you joined or renewed your IEEE membership. If you joined the society, you are automatically a

member of the local chapter. As a member, you can participate in any of the section's or chapter's activities, including chairing one of its many committees or running for office. If you are not a member, you are nevertheless welcome to attend any of the local meetings (there may be a price differential however). You can start by selecting any one of the many meetings being held this month, and showing up. You should find it professionally rewarding.

The IEEE also has affinity groups under the MGA umbrella. One of these is the GOLD Affinity Group. GOLD stands for "Graduates Of the Last Decade." If you received your first professional degree within the last ten years you are automatically a GOLD member. Recently the MGA GOLD volunteers organized a humanitarian workshop in the Boston Section. 115 people turned out for the event. The majority of them were members of the IEEE and working professionals. The workshop was a successful collaboration with Engineers Without Borders (EWB-USA), and involved partners from the non-profit UN Foundation, the MIT Public Service Center, and a start-up company, Linknet Zambia. About half of the sections in Region 1 have active GOLD affinity groups, and they are always looking for GOLD members to network with.

Another affinity group is the Woman in Engineering (WIE) Affinity Group. While you need to optionally select WIE when you join or renew, you do not need to be a woman to do so. If you have an interest in furthering the role of woman in our profession or perhaps have a daughter or niece interested in engineering, please check out the WIE program. We recently held a WIE career-day in Atlantic City, and expect to be holding one in September 2009 in the New York City area.

I appreciate you taking time to read my thoughts, and I look forward to hearing from you on any matters that pertain to your professional

society, the IEEE. Please email me at: [h.michel@ieee.org](mailto:h.michel@ieee.org).

## Interesting Things Around The IEEE



**Director-Elect Charles Rubenstein** [c.rubenstein@ieee.org](mailto:c.rubenstein@ieee.org) gave a presentation at the 3/21 Membership Development Webcast titled "Did You Know? Section or Chapter Meeting Member Benefit Slides." These also could be used in newsletters. If you create others please send Charles a copy. His presentation can be found at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-DYK.ppt>

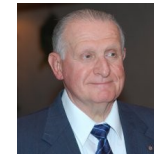
**myIEEE 2.0** At the 3/21 Membership Development Webcast **Brian Pratz**, **Product Manager at MGA**, [b.pratz@ieee.org](mailto:b.pratz@ieee.org) gave a presentation on the progress on the redesign of myIEEE and release 1.8 which will issued next week. Brian's presentation can be found at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-mI.ppt>



## The 125th Celebration

As part of the anniversary, GOLD groups around the world are adding up to 10 second segments to a special celebration video that is continually changing. See all the details and the video at: <http://www.goldaroundtheworld.com/>

## Winter BoG Meeting



**Jim Anderson, Newsletter Editor,** [james-w-anderson@ieee.org](mailto:james-w-anderson@ieee.org)

Below are the highlights of the BoG Meeting held on February 7, 2009 in Newark, NJ. The meeting agenda can be found at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/Agenda.doc>  
The second item on the agenda was viewing the IEEE Hearts and Minds Video, subsequently renamed IEEE: One Voice which can be seen at: <http://www.ieee.org/web/aboutus/toolkit/brand/videos.html>



**Director Howard Michel,** [h.michel@ieee.org](mailto:h.michel@ieee.org), gave his BoG Report which included the Feb. 6 Ex Com meeting. In his report he reviewed the region's goals over the last few years. The report is at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/DR.ppt>.  
The Ex Com Agenda can be found at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-EC.pdf>



**Director-Elect Charles Rubenstein** [c.rubenstein@ieee.org](mailto:c.rubenstein@ieee.org) gave a presentation which summarized his IEEE travels since the last BoG meeting and future commitments. Charles volunteered to attend any local events that fit into his schedule.

He also gave a presentation on plans for the training session at the Summer BoG which will be held on Aug. 7-9, at the Springfield Marriott in Springfield MA. Training will be provided for the Section Chair, VC, Secretary, Treasurer as well as the GOLD, Student Activities and Membership Development Chairs. Details will be sent out later this Spring. The presentations are at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/DAR.ppt> and <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/TW.ppt>



**Gerry Alphonse, Strategic Planning Committee Member,** [galphonse1@comcast.net](mailto:galphonse1@comcast.net), gave a status report on the survey of members about the future of their sections over the next 3 to 10 years. His report is at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/SPC.ppt>



**Al Reinhart, PACE Coordinator,** [AlReinhart@ieee.org](mailto:AlReinhart@ieee.org), gave a presentation on the overall structure of PACE and the types of funding that are available from IEEE-USA through PACE. The presentation had a list of

recently approved projects and can be found at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/209PACE.ppt>



**Roger Sullivan, Section Partnership Support Coordinator,** [r.k.sullivan@ieee.org](mailto:r.k.sullivan@ieee.org) gave a presentation on the Section Partnership and the Section Support via Regions Programs. Roger outlined the types of projects covered, available funding and procedures to

apply for funding. The presentation is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/SPP.ppt>



**Ashutosh Dutta, Industry Relations Coordinator,** [adutta@research.telcordia.com](mailto:adutta@research.telcordia.com), gave a presentation which covered the functions of Industry Liaisons, sections with ILs, and the high points from the Southern Area's Industry Day. The presentation is at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/IRU.ppt>  
The complete Industry Day report is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-ID.pdf>



**Ali Abedi, Chapter Coordinator** [abedi@ece.maine.edu](mailto:abedi@ece.maine.edu) made a presentation on the role of technical chapters to provide valuable services to IEEE members. Plans for enhancing chapter activities through

effective communication were presented. It is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/TA1.ppt>

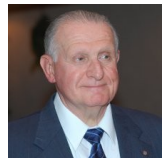


**Ravi Todi, Membership Development Committee Chair,** [rmtodi@us.ibm.com](mailto:rmtodi@us.ibm.com), gave a very detailed presentation on the status of IEEE membership and the current membership retention program. It at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/MU.ppt>



**Tom Perkins, Awards Committee Chair,** [tomperkins@ieee.org](mailto:tomperkins@ieee.org), gave a presentation listing the 2008 R1 award recipients, the process for nominations, the need for more sections to participate, and need for local publicity. See:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/ARP1.ppt>



**Jim Anderson, Newsletter Editor and Electronic Communications Coordinator,** [james-w-anderson@ieee.org](mailto:james-w-anderson@ieee.org). I gave a presentation outlining the basics of the newsletter layout, and upcoming changes. The presentation is at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/NEWS.ppt>. I also submitted a written report on electronic communications which outlined website updates, new electronic communication initiatives, and newsletter goals and the participation by BoG members in the previous two newsletters. See: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-ECC.pdf>



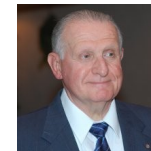
**Uri Moszkowicz, GOLD Coordinator,** [uim@ieee.org](mailto:uim@ieee.org), gave a presentation on GOLD membership trends and reviewed past and upcoming GOLD events. It can be found at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/GOLD.ppt>. Uri also wrote a letter to GOLD Members which can be found at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-GOLD.pdf>



**Vince Socci, Pre-College Activities Coordinator,** [vsocci@ontargettechnology.com](mailto:vsocci@ontargettechnology.com) gave a presentation of his goals for increasing the interest of K-12 students in science, technology, engineering and

math, but he needs our help to make it happen. His presentation is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/PEC.ppt>



**Jim Anderson, Bylaws, Ops Manual, & Training Manual Editor,** [james-w-anderson@ieee.org](mailto:james-w-anderson@ieee.org). I gave a presentation on four routine revisions to the Bylaws. It is at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/BR.ppt>



**Director Howard Michel,** [h.michel@ieee.org](mailto:h.michel@ieee.org), gave a short report on the Summer BoG Meeting on Aug. 7-9, 2009. He focused mainly on the changes necessary to control the cost of the meeting which has exceeded the budgeted amount

for several years.



**Barry Shoop, Nominations and Appointments Chair**

[b.shoop@ieee.org](mailto:b.shoop@ieee.org) The Director -Elect Nomination Process was fairly straight forward with the following timeline:

- The process and timeline were announced at the 8/2/2008 BoG meeting.
- 9/15/2008 – Solicited Recommendations
- 12/1/2008 – Recommendations Due
- 12/10/2008 – 2 ≤ N ≤ 3 Nominees Notified and Forwarded to the Region 1 Assembly
- 2/7/2009 – 2 Nominees Recommended to the Assembly at the BoG Meeting

Peter Eckstein's bio and statement is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-PE.pdf>

Al Reinhart's bio and statement is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-AR.pdf>

Ravi Todi, [rmtodi@us.ibm.com](mailto:rmtodi@us.ibm.com), was presented with the 2008 **MGA Achievement Award** for his outstanding leadership and sustaining contributions to IEEE GOLD, Students and the EDS Society activities. This award consists of a cash prize of \$250 and a plaque. Soon Wan nominated him for the award. **Congratulations Ravi!!**



Ravi Todi and Howard Michel



**Dr. Amruthur Narasimhan, NJ Coast Section PACE Chair,**

[anarasimhan@ieee.org](mailto:anarasimhan@ieee.org) gave a presentation on PACE Funding for IEEE USA Leadership Workshop. He reviewed the current practice and proposed a new funding model. The presentation is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/PF.ppt>



**Darlene Rivera, WIE Coordinator,** [drivera938@ieee.org](mailto:drivera938@ieee.org) submitted a report discussing the status of WIE in the region and the accomplishment of her goals. She also reports on the new R1/R2 WIE Professional

Development Conference. Her presentation is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-WIE.pdf>



**Bala Prasanna, Student Professional Awareness Conference Coordinator**

[bprasanna@ieee.org](mailto:bprasanna@ieee.org) submitted two reports on his accomplishments and future plans. See his reports at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-SPAC.pdf> and <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/1/209/SPAC.ppt>



**Hemant Vora, Humanitarian Technology Challenge Rep.,**

[pacesetter@ieee.org](mailto:pacesetter@ieee.org) submitted a brief report on this new initiative of the IEEE. His report is at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-HT1.pdf>



**Uri Moszkowicz, GOLD Coordinator,**

[uim@ieee.org](mailto:uim@ieee.org), submitted a report on the October 18, 2009 Humanitarian Workshop that was held at Boston University. It can be found at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-HT3.pdf>

**Harold Teper, IEEE HTC Project Manager,** [h.tepper@ieee.org](mailto:h.tepper@ieee.org) has issued a call for a few IEEE volunteers experienced in the application of technology to solve humanitarian issues. See: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-HT2.pdf>

**NOTE:** The reports from the Educational Activities Coordinator, the Conference Coordinator, and the Student Activities Coordinator were not available at the time the newsletter was posted.

## IEEE-USA Annual Meeting



**Jignasa Ray, [jignasa.ray@gmail.com](mailto:jignasa.ray@gmail.com)** submitted the Region 1 GOLD Presentation that she gave for Uri Moszkowicz who was not able to attend. The presentation is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-IU1.pdf>



**Al Reinhart, PACE Coordinator,** [AlReinhart@ieee.org](mailto:AlReinhart@ieee.org), submitted a report on the annual meeting, "Engineering the Alternative Energy Debate". The presentation is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-IU2.pdf>



**Jignasa Ray, [jignasa.ray@gmail.com](mailto:jignasa.ray@gmail.com)** also submitted a report of her observations. The report is at: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-IU1.pdf>

## Section News

### Berkshire Section



**Bert Pritchard, Section Chair**  
[bnppritch@msn.com](mailto:bnppritch@msn.com) sent in a report listing the section officers, a Distinguished Business-Industry Award, a High School Science Writing Contest, and their Annual Awards Night. See it at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-BS.pdf>

### Buffalo Section



**Jennifer L Zirnheld, Newsletter Editor and Senior Past Chair,**  
[zirnheld@eng.buffalo.edu](mailto:zirnheld@eng.buffalo.edu) submitted a copy of their Jan/Feb newsletter. It is at:  
<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-Bu.pdf>

### Green Mountain Section



**Pascal Nsame, Section Vice-Chair,**  
[pnsame@us.ibm.com](mailto:pnsame@us.ibm.com) submitted a copy of their Fall 2008 Newsletter. It can be found at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-GM.doc>

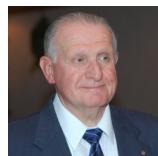
### Maine Section



**Ted Britt, Section Secretary,**  
[tbritt@maineindustrial.com](mailto:tbritt@maineindustrial.com) submitted an article about the collaboration of the section with the Challenger Learning Center of Maine. It is at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-ME.pdf>

### New Hampshire Section



**Jim Anderson, Section Chair**  
[james-w-anderson@ieee.org](mailto:james-w-anderson@ieee.org) Since last Fall we formed a Life Member Group and recruited a Corporate Liaison, Mimi Tam, who is in the first stage of exploring the

feasibility of holding an Industry Day in the Northeastern Area. We are working to help our unemployed members and to extend our activities to the less populous areas of the state.

### New Jersey Coast Section



**Dru Reynolds, Newsletter Editor**  
[dru@reynoldsrecruiters.com](mailto:dru@reynoldsrecruiters.com) sent in an article about one of their student members two week Trip to China. The article is at:  
<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-JC.pdf>

### New York Section



Amelie Gong and Matt Nissen report about the Region 1 awards presented at their Awards Dinner Dance to Frank E. Schink, Krishna Raghunandan and Jignasa Ray. The article can be found at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-NY.pdf>

### Princeton Central Jersey



**Ashutosh Dutta, Section Chair,**  
[adutta@research.telcordia.com](mailto:adutta@research.telcordia.com), submitted an article about their sister section relationship, the Sarnoff Symposium, Industry Day and several other items. See: <http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-PCJ.pdf>

### Schenectady Section



**Rebecca Nold, Newsletter Editor**,  
[r.nold@ieee.org](mailto:r.nold@ieee.org) announces the Steinmetz dinner and lecture on Monday, April 27, and reports on their Future City activities and on two section meetings. See the report at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-Sch.pdf>.

### Syracuse Section



**Prasanta Ghosh, Section Chair,**  
[pkghosh@syr.edu](mailto:pkghosh@syr.edu) submitted a report on an innovative workshop entitled "Engineering in the Classroom" a Professional Development Workshop for Syracuse city school teachers. The report can be found at:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/newsletter/2009S-SYR.pdf>.

### Other Sections

The following sections were not able to submit a report for this newsletter but you can check their websites to see what they are doing.

Binghamton:

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/binghamton/>

Boston:

<http://www.ieeeboston.org/>

Connecticut:

<http://ewh.ieee.org/r1/ct/>

Long Island:

<http://www.ieee.li/>

METSAC:

<http://ewh.ieee.org/r1/metsac/>

Mid-Hudson:

<http://ewh.ieee.org/r1/mid-hudson/index.htm>

Mohawk Valley:  
<http://www.mvieee.org/>

North Jersey:  
<http://www-ec.njit.edu/~ieeenj/>

Providence:  
<http://ewh.ieee.org/r1/providence/>

Rochester:  
<http://www.r1.ieee.org/~roch/>

Springfield:  
<http://www.kgorman.com/webpage/>

Syracuse:  
<http://ewh.ieee.org/r1/syracuse/>

Worcester County:  
<http://users.rcn.com/ieeeworc/>

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