



Contact

Publication of the Cleveland Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

IEEE Cleveland Section CHAIRMAN'S COLUMN

By Allen Morinec

Welcome back from our summer break. Last spring, we ended with our Awards Banquet, where 11 of our members received the IEEE's Third Millennium Medal. We also celebrated summer with our IEEE family picnic at Pioneer Waterland in June. The turnout was less than expected. Maybe next year, we will move the picnic into August to avoid conflicts with graduations and vacations.

We have some exciting events planned for our future:

- Mr. Vincent Lalli is submitting a proposal to hold the IEEE Autotest Conference in Cleveland in 2004. This would be presented by the IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society and the IEEE Instrumentation and Measurements Society. Volunteers are needed for various positions.
- The Ohio Bicentennial is in 2003. The IEEE History Center is forming a Science & Technology Committee to promote engineering in Ohio this year, with help from the Ohio IEEE Sections.
- Mr. Ray Muzic is forming a Medical Imaging Chapter in our Section. Anyone interested in joining is invited to call Ray at (216) 844-3543 or muzic@ieee.org

I attended the IEEE Power Engineering Society's Chapter Congress in Seattle from July 20 - 22, 2000. The IEEE has dozens of resources and personnel to assist our chapters:

- Distinguished Lecturers are available to speak at our meetings.
- Grant money is available.
- Awards are available to deserving members and local corporations.
- Conference proceedings are now available over the web at IEEE XPLORE.

As always, I welcome your suggestions for upcoming topics you'd like to see in the "Contact," ideas for meetings, and hearing about anything of interest to your fellow members. Please contact me at (330) 384-2559 if you would like to become more active in our Section or would like more information on these subjects.

IEEE Cleveland Section (Region 2 - West) Awards Banquet Held May 17, 2000 At Buca Di Beppo Restaurant

by Marilyn Greene

Seeing old friends and meeting new ones has always been one of the more pleasurable duties of writing this newsletter over the last 10 years. Our dinner was uniquely and exquisitely served; the presentation from our guest speaker Dr. Shiela Bailey of NASA, on "Mars" was informative and thought provoking. Most of all, seeing the people I've only spoken to for so long receive well deserved praise for their unyielding devotion to our IEEE Section makes me think how lucky we are to have this common forum.

This composited picture shows guest speaker Bailey, award winners Vince Lalli, Allen Morinec, Herb Heller, Jerry Lucak, Bill Schultz, Dick Carlson, Chuck Lawrence and more. What a wonderful group ... what an exceptional evening.





Partial Exposure: Patent Application Publication

by Michael Garvey

Patent: n. A grant made by a government to an inventor; adj. Open to general inspection.

The essence of a patent is that it is public, hence the name. In exchange for an exclusive right, the inventor publishes or makes "patent" information about her invention.

In most foreign countries, the inventor must fulfill her end of the bargain before the government does. This is because foreign patent applications are published 18 months after being filed, regardless of whether a patent will ever be granted.

In the U.S., however, the inventor does not have to disclose her invention to the public until the exclusive patent right is granted. In some isolated incidents, inventors have kept patents pending for decades and then issued them after the patented technology has become widespread. This is about to change. No longer will these "submarine patents" catch an industry by surprise.

Beginning with patent applications filed on November 29, 2000, U.S. patent applications will be published 18 months after they are filed. Prior to this new date, patents were usually pending for two or three years. Now companies will learn the content of their competitors' patent applications several months sooner than they used to. When an application is related to another application, such as a provisional or foreign application,

the publication clock starts ticking as soon as the earliest application is filed.

There are exceptions, of course. An inventor who does not want his application published prior to the patent grant can request nonpublication. This only applies, however, when the inventor certifies that he is not filing any foreign patent applications for the same invention. The penalty for an inventor who requests nonpublication and then files foreign applications is loss of the U.S. application.

To compensate inventors for requiring earlier publication, the government has ruled that inventors can obtain "provisional rights" during the time between publication and issue of the patent. Provisional rights entitle the inventor to reasonable royalty payments from anybody who makes or sells a product covered by the claims in the application.

Provisional rights only apply, however, when the "infringer" actually knows about the published application, and the claims that later issue in the patent are substantially identical to those in the publication.

There is much speculation about the practical effects of publication and provisional rights. Watch this space for reports on what actually occurs.

Michael Garvey is a patent attorney with Pearne & Gordon LLP in Cleveland.

Master's Programs in Engineering

Fenn College of Engineering

Challenging....Practical....Affordable....Since 1923

- ◆ Offering late afternoon and evening classes
- ◆ Courses tailored to your career goals
- ◆ Offering full-time and part-time study



Master of Science degree programs are available in:

- ◆ Chemical Engineering ◆ Civil Engineering ◆ Electrical Engineering ◆ Engineering Mechanics
- ◆ Environmental Engineering ◆ Industrial Engineering ◆ Mechanical Engineering

The Doctor of Engineering program is also available

Call (216) 687-2100 or toll-free 1-888-CSUOHIO; visit us at: <http://csaxp.csuohio.edu>

Cleveland State University

Cleveland State University is an AACSB accredited institution. NITELV 00000001.001-00020



September Cleveland Engineering Society Events

Following is a list of events held in September 2000, presented by the Cleveland Engineering Society. For more information, please contact CES at (216) 361-3100, or log on to cesnet.org. Payment for individual registrations for all programs must be made prior to day of event.

Sept. 15 - Leadership Breakfast Series, featuring Mal Mixon (chairman and CEO, Invacare Corporation)

The first program in the 2000-2001 Leadership Breakfast Series will feature Invacare Corporation's chairman and CEO, Mal Mixon. Mixon will discuss the key strategic issues that will drive Invacare's business in the early years of the new millennium as the company plans to achieve \$2 billion in sales in 2005, while compounding earnings at 15 percent annually. Invacare is the world leader in the manufacture and distribution of home medical equipment products, holding the leading market share position in a \$3 billion-plus worldwide industry.

Program is from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Holiday Inn in Independence, at I-77 and Rockside Road. Cost is \$25 for CES members, \$30 for non-members, \$15 for students. Series packages and table reservations are available.

Sept. 21 - Energy Division/Environmental Division breakfast, featuring Robert Savinell, CWRU and Ernest B. Yeager Center for Electrochemical Sciences

The CES Energy and Environmental Divisions collaborate to present "Fuel Cells: Driving Forces, Technical Challenges and Progress at CWRU," featuring Robert Savinell, professor of chemical engineering at CWRU and director of the Ernest B. Yeager Center for Electrochemical Sciences. Savinell will discuss the technical challenges being met at CWRU in fuel cell research and development, in

light of recent increases in fuel cell commercialization. In addition, he will discuss the motivation, approaches and progress of the micro-fuel cell program at CWRU.

Program is from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m. at the Brewer Garrett Company at 6800 Eastland Rd. in Euclid. Call CES for detailed directions. Cost is \$20 for CES members, \$30 for non-members, \$10 for students.

Sept. 27 - Design and Construction Division tour, Baldwin Water Works

CES' Design and Construction Division will conduct a tour of the Baldwin Water Works. The facility, operated by the City of Cleveland Division of Water, is well-known for its massive size and impressive architecture. Tour begins at 10 a.m. at Baldwin Water Works facility, 11216 Stokes Blvd. Cost TBA.

Sept. 28 - IT Division breakfast, featuring Jim D'Amico (Staffing Solutions Enterprises Professional Placement), Monte Bradshaw (Christian and Timbers), David Ashkettle (Connecting Cleveland LLC)

The CES Information Technologies Division presents "Exploring Job Mobility and Compensation Opportunities for IT Professionals in Northeast Ohio," featuring Jim D'Amico, of Staffing Solutions Enterprises Professional Placement, Monte Bradshaw of Christian and Timbers, and David Ashkettle, from Connecting Cleveland LLC. The panelists will discuss the demographics of the IT industry worldwide, the statistics of the industry in Ohio, current and future projections for compensation, benefits and retention tactics, what employers ask for the most, turnover rates, and much more.

Program is from 7:30 to 9 a.m. at the Cleveland South Hilton Inn at I-77 and Rockside Road. Cost is \$20 for members, \$30 for non-members, \$15 for students.

JOB LISTING SERVICE

Send blank e-mail to:
info.ieeeusa.jobs.r02@ieee.org

For member address changes, please call
the IEEE Hotline, (800) 678-IEEE.
Do not call the newsletter editor. For
advertising rates, contact Lee Bernasek.

***MIREA:** Engineering in
Medicine & Biology/
Instrumentation & Measure-
ment/ Reliability/ Industrial
Electronics/Aerospace &
Electronic Systems

****MLE:** Microwave Theory &
Techniques/Lasers &
Optoelectronics/Electron
Devices

**Please note: if you are
trying to contact the IEEE
Cleveland Section by FAX,
dial 440-473-6557.
The line is open twenty-
four hours per day.**

IEEE Cleveland Section 2000 Officers

ELECTED SECTION OFFICERS

Section Chairman	Allen G. Morinec	330-384-2559
Vice Chair	Carl Dister	440-255-2977
Secretary	Mike Branicky	216-368-6430
Treasurer	Ted Laponi	216-771-2060

APPOINTED SECTION OFFICERS

Area Rep/Ad Manager	Lee Bernasek	440-446-1985
Awards Chairman	Gerald Lucak	440-255-2977
Chair, Section Dev.	Bill Schultz	216-831-4466
Consultants Network	Dragan Dugandzic	440-257-2151
CTSC Representative	Ted Takacs	216-228-4408
Database Manager	James Sens	216-642-1230
Education Chairman	open	
Engineer Week Rep.	Dick Carlson	440-951-1595
Newsletter Editor	M. Greene	216-292-2686
Pace Rep.	Ben Malakooti	216-368-4462

TECHNICAL SOCIETY CHAPTER CHAIR

Computer	Steve Belovich	216-267-1881
Control Systems	Mike Branicky	216-368-6430
Industrial Applic.	Carl Dister	440-255-2977
*MIREA	Vincent Lalli	216-433-2354
**MLE	Masud Tabib-Azar	216-368-6431
Power Engineering	Allen Morinec	216-447-2505
Systems/Men/Cybernetics	Ben Malakooti	216-368-4462
Vehicle Technology	open	

STUDENT BRANCH OFFICERS

CSU Advisor	George Kramerich	216-687-2405
CSU Chair	William Stempowski	440-967-2543
CWRU Advisor	Robert Edwards	216-368-2833
CWRU Chair	Mike Suster	mas20@po.cwru.edu

IEEE Internet

Webmaster	Ray Heintel	440-543-6923
Website: http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/cleveland/		
News Group Mgr.	Richard Bloss	216-464-0405
FAX		216-464-0490
e-mail:	aa974@cleveland.freenet.edu	



Cleveland Section

Editor:
M. Greene

Art Director:
Jeff Greene

Advertising Manager:
Lee Bernasek

IEEE Chairman:
Allen G. Morinec

The "Contact"
is published
eight times per year:
September, October,
November, January,
February, March,
April and May.
The deadline for
electronic Newsletter
articles
is the 20th of the
previous month.