Montana Section News
February, 2007 Chair’s Message
Richard Wolff

I attended the IEEE Region 6 Operating Committee Meeting in Los Angeles on February 10 and would like to share a few of the more important topics of discussion with you. First, the IEEE is grappling with a membership problem. Overall in the past year, the organization has grown only 2% worldwide and US membership has declined by 1.1%. That said, our Montana section has grown by 28% with 38 new members this year! Perhaps the value of the organization is most appreciated at the local level and in areas where activities and access to resources can have the greatest impact.

The IEEE has launched a new service available to members and the general public: IEEE.TV. The web site is http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/IEEEtv/about.html IEEE.tv is an Internet broadcasting network made possible by the members of IEEE. IEEE.tv produces and delivers special-interest programming about technology and engineering, and is available in two versions:

IEEE.tv Member/Basic - Programming that is an exclusive benefit of IEEE membership, offering more technically-advanced topics impacting industry and the engineering community.

IEEE.tv Public Access - Programs that are free to the general public, offering information and guidance about careers in technology and engineering, topics of public interest, and introductions to new IEEE products.

This is a great way to stay up to date on technical ad broader issues in engineering. Some of the current program material includes:

CAREERS IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY - This program provides an overview of career possibilities in IT. IT professionals and engineers from large and small companies discuss the nature of their work.

DOING THE RIGHT THING: SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF TECHNOLOGY (Member Access) - This video intends to encourage working engineers and students to engage in discourse concerning the social, economic, and environmental impact of technology.

ELECTRIC SHIP TECHNOLOGIES SYMPOSIUM (Member Access) - With the results of new electric ship technologies, today’s fleets are quieter and more fuel efficient. From the cruise ship to the war ship, new technologies such as power electronics enable greater control and balance. Find out more in this short video.

IEEE Custom Integrated Circuits Conference (Member Access) - This program highlights the 2005 IEEE Custom Integrated Circuits Conference covering the latest in integrated circuits, the software to design them, and trends for the future.

IEEE in China (Member Access) - This program discusses the opportunities for the IEEE in the People's Republic of China.

IEEE Membership Reminder
Have you renewed your membership? You can renew online: http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/renew/index.html

IEEE Annual Dinner Meeting
Our annual dinner meeting will held Friday, March 30, in the Stand Union Bldg, MSU. The speaker will be Dave Lageson and the topic will be on geology and wine. Save the date!

March Section Meeting
Wednesday, March 7, 6:30 PM
@ Montana State University, 108 EPS (corner of 7th and Grant)

Jason Daughenbaugh, Advanced Electronic Designs
“Ethernet for Dummies”

Life Member Meeting
If you’re a Life Member, join the group at 6:00 p.m. just before the Section meeting.

Section Officers

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IEEE

March Montana Section Meeting

Jason Daughenbaugh, Advanced Electronic Designs

“Ethernet for Dummies”

Ethernet has withstood the test of time. Invented in the 1970's, Ethernet became an IEEE standard which has evolved as technologies have changed. This talk will outline the history of the standard and highlight some of the key technical aspects of both the continually evolving physical layer as well as the unchanging data link layer. A real-world application of Ethernet outside of computer networking will also be described.

Wednesday, March 7, 6:30 p.m., at Montana State University, EPS 108

Life Member Affinity Group meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Free pizza & pop

Please call Richard Wolff at 994-7172 (or e-mail: rwolff@montana.edu) or sign up via the Section website http://ewh.ieee.org/r6/montana, to make reservations by noon, March 6.