

**From:** Jerry Goerz <jerry.goerz@EKPC.COOP>  
**Subject:** Area 8-9 meeting minutes  
**Date:** April 12, 2010 4:11:15 PM CDT  
**To:** "r3-excom2010@IEEE.ORG" <r3-excom2010@IEEE.ORG>, "Sec-R03@IEEE.ORG" <Sec-R03@IEEE.ORG>

---

Minutes of the March 19, 2010 Area 8 & 9 Meeting:

The combined Area 8 & 9 Meeting was held on March 19, attended by Daniel Tulloch-Reid and Winfred Roberts from the Jamaica Section, Paul Blailock, PE from the Evansville-Owensboro Section (Indiana, Kentucky) and John Barnes, Jerry Goerz, Regina Hannemann, and Elwood West from the Lexington Section (Kentucky). The Louisville Section, also in Area 8, was not represented, but they remain active, chaired by Dr. Adel S. Elmaghraby (aselma01@louisville.edu).

Winfred explained some of Jamaica Section's best practices. They keep a spreadsheet with their annual plan and meeting attendance records. This allows them to quickly generate their annual report and beat the February 28 deadline, to get the extra rebate. They submit their Treasurer's report and no-conflict-of-interest forms promptly at year-end. They nominate new officers early and have their election of officers before year-end.

The Jamaica Section established an Education Society last year, and the first year of Society membership is free to the first 10 members.

The Jamaica Section developed their own expense report form.

All three Sections reported problems finding good volunteers. SAMIEEE records are sometimes outdated. However, SAMIEEE is more current the ListServe. E-mail address changes must be manually entered in ListServ, separately from SAMIEEE. We would like SAMIEEE to automatically update ListServ.

Paul Blailock uses GoogleList for the Evansville-Owensboro e-mails. He also uses it for business and personal lists. It offers different personas. He exports data from SAMIEEE as a comma-delimited file, and merges that data with his GoogleList. The Evansville-Owensboro Section may be e-mailed at: EvanOwen@ieee.org

Paul reports that factory tours are well-attended. Attendance drops during the summer when students are gone. He would like to plan meetings two years in advance, to get them on member calendars.

The Evansville-Owensboro Section meets on the third Wednesday of each month, as does the Jamaica Section. The Lexington Section usually meets on the third Thursday, but sometimes meets on other days.

Paul explained that Engineers' Week and Presidents' Week coincide because George Washington was a surveyor, and Thomas Jefferson and Jimmy Carter were engineers. Winfred says Jimmy Carter visited Jamaica to look at birds.

Jamaica has one Section and two Student Branches (the University of Technology in Jamaica, and the University of the West Indies). The Jamaica Section has made a bid for SEC2015.

Some engineers in Trinidad are members of Spanish-speaking IEEE Region 9. Some Trinidad engineers are still active in the British IEE (now part of the Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET)). Jamaica was in Region 9 but transferred to English-speaking Region 3 around 1985. Under normal political conditions, Jamaica would have strong ties with Cuba, Haiti, and the Dominican Republic. Trinidad is far from Jamaica, and there are no direct flights between them.

The currency exchange rate of about 90 Jamaican dollars for one US dollar makes it possible to enjoy a room in a Jamaican resort hotel with all meals and drinks (including alcoholic beverages) for about \$ 90 US per day. This favorable exchange rate helped make SEC2000 in Ocho Rios profitable for the Jamaica Section. The inexpensive lodging offsets the cost of travel.

Daniel suggests that we tell employers who hire electrical engineers about the importance of IEEE. Winfred suggests that we tell members about the value of IEEE membership. Many members publish in conference proceedings because that's the fastest way to get published, but those proceedings are not widely circulated.

Charlie Husbands briefly joined our meeting to promote Life Membership. There are about 5,000 Life Members in Region 3. A Life Member Affinity Group gets \$ 200/year, which can buy dinner for a group of Life Members. There's also a Life Member Foundation. (It helps fund Retirees Enhancing Science Education through Experiments and Demonstrations (RE-SEED), which tries to interest 8th graders in science careers.)

Jerry Goerz, interim Area 8 Chair