



FEBRUARY 2009 EDITION

View from the Chair

The Montana Section is off to a fine start for 2009. The transition to new officers was smooth. A successful Section meeting was held in January, with the topic of addressing ways to acquire funding to develop new technologies and bring them to the marketplace; examples of local businesses that have made that transition were provided. Section members have already worked as judges in the FIRST Lego League Tournament in January, and several are involved in similar roles in upcoming Destination Imagination tournaments. The Student Branch is very involved in supporting such activities, and members are hard at work on their own MicroMouse competitions. There is a slate of exciting speakers lined up for the next few months, including Joe Shaw, Director of MSU's Optical Technology Center, as the guest speaker at the upcoming March banquet. All this activity speaks well of Section viability and involvement with the larger community. We all look forward to continuing such activities, but this can only be done with your support. Consider volunteering your time and energy to the many opportunities available. Please also make sure that your membership is current, and that you pay your IEEE dues. Without you, there is no Montana Section.

—Mitch Hobish

IEEE Montana Section News

• Engineer-a-Thon Volunteers Wanted

IEEE will host a project for the Engineer-A-Thon (Thurs 19 Feb, 8-3) and Girl Scouts' Badge Day (Sat 21 Feb, 9-12), programming ECE bots to navigate a maze. We need volunteers for both days, preferably those who have experience with the ECE. Contact Pat Kujawa at pckujawa@montana.edu.

• Montana Section Recognized for Growth

In 2008, the Montana Section was recognized by the IEEE Member and Geographic Activities Department for most growth in a Section, which occurred in 2007. An acknowledgement graphic has been inserted at the Section Web site.

IEEE NEWS

• IEEE Celebrates 125th Anniversary

This year marks 125 years since the IEEE was organized. It is comprised of over 375,000 members and over 80,000 student members in more than 160 countries. It is developing nearly 1300 standards; publishes a total of 144 transactions, journals, and magazine; and sponsors more than 850 conferences annually. For more information on IEEE's history, point your browser to:

<http://www.ieee.org/web/aboutus/history/index.html>.



• IEEE Membership Reminder

Have you renewed your membership? You can renew on-line:

<http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/renew/index.html>

• February 2009 Meeting

Our February meeting will be held Wednesday, February 25 at 6:30 PM, Room 108 EPS on the MSU Bozeman campus. (See details, over.)

Section Officers

Chair	Mitch Hobish	mhobish@ieee.org	284-4150
Chair-elect	Richard Wolff	rwolff@ieee.org	994-7172
Secretary	Randy Larimer	randy_larimer@msn.com	994-5970
Treasurer	Ryan Cyr	ryancyrIEEE@gmail.com	
GOLD Chair	Calvin Coopmans	coopmans@gmail.com	
Webmaster & Membership Development	Jon Koon	jon.koon@aedbozeman.com	585-8892 x13
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Student Branch Chair	Pat Kujawa	pckujawa@montana.edu	
SM Nominating Committee Chair	Don Pierre	pierre_don@ieee.org	587-4065
LM Group Chair	Arlyn Selting	arlyn@ieee.org	522-8118
Moose Call Editor	Bill Jameson	b.jameson@ieee.org	586-0280

FEBRUARY MONTANA SECTION MEETING

Engineers Without Borders at MSU

Jon Ehresman, Kiera McNelis, and Hanna Dustin-Eaton
Montana State University Chapter of Engineers Without Borders

Engineers Without Borders at Montana State University (EWB-MSU) is a student-led organization committed to providing sustainable water sources and sanitation solutions for fifty-eight primary schools and their communities in the Khwisero region of western Kenya. To date, EWB-MSU has reached five of these schools, installing five boreholes and two composting latrines. Intent on affecting concrete change, EWB-MSU has also conducted regional water quality tests, mapped the Khwisero area, and has and continues to assess, via surveys and other methods, the effectiveness of its projects. During its presentation to IEEE, members of EWB-MSU will detail the organization's past work, outline our current and future plans, and emphasize how people from all disciplines may become involved.

**Wednesday, February 25, 2009 6:30 p.m.
(Life Members Meeting 6:00 p.m.)**

**Montana State University, 108 EPS
(Near 7th and Grant, South of Cobleigh Hall)**

Free pizza!

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 6 p.m., February 24.

