

**MAY 2009 EDITION**

**IEEE NEWS**

## View from the Chair

The Montana Section of the IEEE is a vibrant organization. While small in numbers, it's clear that we are very active. We hold technical meetings all year (except for the summer months), with a slate of speakers that covers a broad range of topics. What is not so visible, however, is the extent to which members of the Student Branch are involved in Section activities, from significant contributions at the Executive Committee level (Thanks, Pat!) to the many hours spent acting as mentors and guides to local schools in such competitive efforts as the FIRST Lego League. Educational activities abound, leading to satisfaction amongst our participating members and the schools we support. We cannot yet determine if these efforts will bear fruit by exciting young students to explore engineering and related disciplines as they move along their career paths, but the prospects look good. Our thanks, then, to the tireless efforts of our Student Branch members. You are a key component in the Montana Section's spirited activities. Keep up the great work!

—Mitch Hobish

## IEEE Montana Section News

### • May 2009 Meeting

Our May meeting will be held Wednesday, May 27 at 5:30 PM, Room 108 EPS on the MSU Bozeman campus. (NOTE TIME CHANGE! See details, over.)

## Humor

### • Things My Mother Taught Me

*Logic:* "Because I said so, that's why!"

*Stamina:* "You'll sit there until all that spinach is gone!"

*Genetics:* "You're just like your father!"

*Wisdom:* "When you get to be my age, you'll understand."

### • IEEE 2008 Report

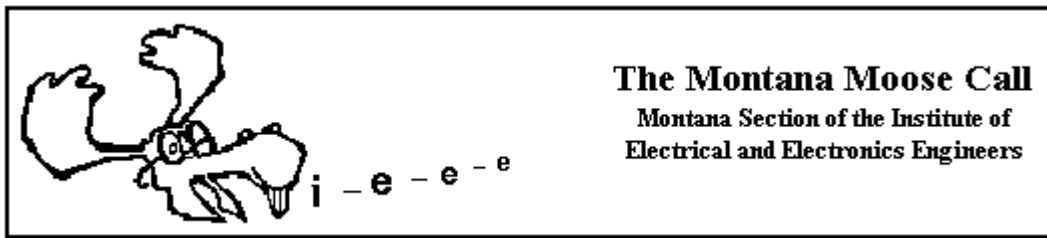
In 2008, IEEE-USA President Russell J. Lefevre and the IEEE-USA Board of Directors reaffirmed four strategic goals: Promoting innovation and competitiveness; supporting K-12 math and science education to encourage technical literacy and to train future technologists; offering increased member value in products and services; and providing career-long continuing education to maintain a competitive U.S. work force, as well as to preserve careers. The report includes detailed sections on Dr. Lefevre's activities as IEEE-USA president; 2008 U.S. presidential election-year involvement; congressional briefings; U.S. government fellowships and Washington Internships for Students of Engineering; joint activities with and in support of other IEEE organizational units; e-books; student professional awareness conferences; and completion of the IEEE's new Washington Office.

### • Info for Potential Senior Members

For senior member candidacy criteria, visit <http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/senior-members/index.html>. If you're eligible, download the application forms and contact Bill Jameson or Arlyn Selting (contact information below).

### Section Officers

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## MAY MONTANA SECTION MEETING

### Nuclear Weapons, Then and Now

Bill Jameson  
Western Transportation Institute

Bill was an Air Force Nuclear Research Officer during the mid-1950s and participated in three nuclear weapons tests. Recently several organization magazines, including the *IEEE Spectrum*, have presented major articles discussing potential problems with the US nuclear weapon arsenal. The program will discuss the development of nuclear weapons and today's potential problems.

**Wednesday, May 27, 2009 5:30 p.m.**  
**(Life Members Meeting 5:00 p.m.)**

**\*\*\*NOTE TIME CHANGE!!\*\*\***

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

**Free pizza!**

Please call Richard Wolff at 994-7172 (or e-mail: [rwolff@montana.edu](mailto:rwolff@montana.edu)) or sign up via the Section website, <http://ewh.ieee.org/r6/montana>, to make reservations by 6 p.m., May 26.