

October 2009 Edition



## View from the Chair

I've spent the past two weekends participating in IEEE meetings. The Region 6 (R6) Operations Committee (OpCom) meeting in Seattle gave fine insight into what it takes to keep R6 going. At the Salt Lake City meeting of officers of the Northeast Area (NEA) of R6, of which the Montana Section is a part, similar issues were raised and discussed. Owing to the smaller size of the NEA vs. that of R6, the discussions were much more immediate and more finely tuned, particularly focusing on the difficulties inherent in running such a geographically disperse geographical unit. It's clear that the rural nature of Montana, Idaho, and Utah raises issues that are not found in the more urban sections: The Montana Section has under 200 members; the Santa Clara Section has over 12,000. As you should expect, the needs of the two sections are very different. Finding ways to accommodate this kind of disparity under one organizational umbrella is a taxing exercise. I invite every one of you to consider what these differences may be, and to bring any ideas you may have to your Section executive committee. Also, consider volunteering your services to help keep the MT Section and IEEE viable and responsive to members' needs.

—Mitch Hobish

## IEEE Montana Section News

### • Upcoming Elections

Section elections are coming up in November. If you would like to nominate a Section member (or yourself) for either chair-elect or secretary for 2010, please contact one of the Section officers.

### • Senior Member Candidacy

There are still a number of Montana Section members who could be candidates for Senior Member. Check the IEEE Senior Member Web site at <http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/senior-members/index.html>. If you think you're eligible for this elevation, download the application forms and contact Mitch Hobish at 284-4150.

## IEEE NEWS

### • Volunteerism Is at the Core of the IEEE

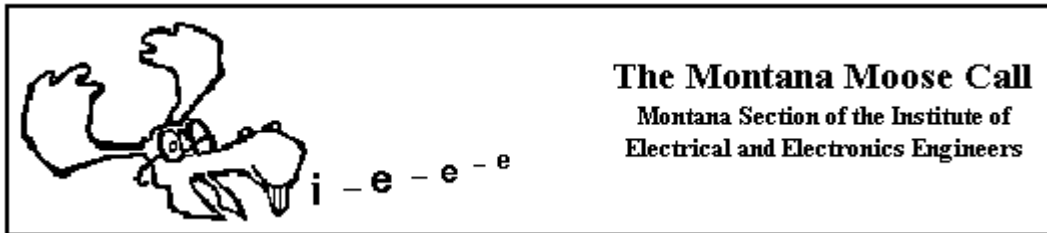
Volunteers are an essential part of the IEEE organization. IEEE members who volunteer their skills and time take pride in knowing that they play an important role in an organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for all. Visit <http://www.ieee.org/web/volunteers/home/index.html> to see ways in which you could contribute.

### • Who IEEE Serves

Through its global membership, IEEE is a leading authority on areas ranging from aerospace systems, computers and telecommunications to biomedical engineering, electric power and consumer electronics among others. Members rely on IEEE as a source of technical and professional information, resources and services. To foster an interest in the engineering profession, IEEE also serves student members in colleges and universities around the world. Other important constituencies include prospective members and organizations that purchase IEEE products and participate in conferences or other IEEE programs.

### MT Section Officers

Chair	Mitch Hobish	<a href="mailto:mhobish@ieee.org">mhobish@ieee.org</a>	284-4150
Chair-elect	Richard Wolff	<a href="mailto:rwolff@ieee.org">rwolff@ieee.org</a>	994-7172
Secretary	Randy Larimer	<a href="mailto:randy_larimer@msn.com">randy_larimer@msn.com</a>	994-5970
Treasurer	Ryan Cyr	<a href="mailto:ryancyrIEEE@gmail.com">ryancyrIEEE@gmail.com</a>	
GOLD Chair	<i>Open</i>	--	
Webmaster	Jon Koon	<a href="mailto:jon.koon@aetdbozeman.com">jon.koon@aetdbozeman.com</a>	585-8892 x13
Membership Development	<i>Open</i>	--	
MSU Student Branch Advisor	Brock Lamerer	<a href="mailto:lameres@ece.montana.edu">lameres@ece.montana.edu</a>	994-5987
Student Branch Chair	Danica Patrick	<a href="mailto:danice_patrick@msn.com">danice_patrick@msn.com</a>	600-8158
SM Nominating Committee Chair	Mitch Hobish (acting)	<a href="mailto:mhobish@ieee.org">mhobish@ieee.org</a>	284-4150
LM Group Chair	Arlyn Selting	<a href="mailto:arlyn@ieee.org">arlyn@ieee.org</a>	522-8118
Moose Call Editor	Bill Jameson	<a href="mailto:b.jameson@ieee.org">b.jameson@ieee.org</a>	586-0280



## **Photonics Research at MSU Spectrum Lab**

Wm. Randall Babbitt  
Director, Spectrum Lab  
Montana State University  
Bozeman, MT

Spectrum Lab was established in 1999 with the mission to develop and help commercialize emerging photonics technologies, to transfer developed optical technologies to Montana industry, and to provide a unique educational opportunity for students. As a research center reporting to the Colleges of Letters and Science and Engineering, we foster interdisciplinary projects that often involve students and researcher from the sciences and engineering, working with industrial partners to advance technology. Over the years, we have expanded from our original core technology of spectral holographic processing to research topics in quantum information, microwave photonics, laser radar, lidar, imaging, and laser development and stabilization. This presentation will address our technology areas, current projects, and technology transfer efforts.

**Wednesday, October 21, 2009**

**Life Members Meeting 5:30 p.m.  
General Meeting 6:00 p.m.**

**\*\*\*→ NOTE THE NEW TIMES!! ←\*\*\***

**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., October 20, 2009.