



Montana Section News

March, 2006 Chair's Message

Doug Galarus

A recent newspaper article entitled, "Parents, students don't see a science, math crisis," states that 70 percent of high school parents think their children get the right amount of science and math in school and that "only half of children in grades six to 12 say that understanding sciences and having strong math skills are essential for them to succeed in life after high school."

What's your perception: is there a crisis, or are we on track? As members of the IEEE, should we be concerned about such things? The guest speaker at our annual banquet will share a unique and fun perspective on this topic:

Annual Banquet - Mark Your Calendar!

Join us on March 24th at the New Hilton Garden Inn Bozeman where our guest speaker, Dr. Johnny Lott, past president of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics will present:

Math and Public Perception: From Standards and Tests to Movies and NUMB3RS

Mathematics is in the air from local news to national television, from the national legislature to your local schools. What is your take on the mathematics that the public sees?

This presentation will be of interest to members, spouses, students and the public in general. Please take this opportunity to join us and enjoy good food, good friends, check out the new Hilton, and have a little fun with NUMB3RS. Registration details will follow soon.

Do you Sudoku?

Speaking of Math, have you heard of Sudoku? It's similar to a crossword puzzle, except it strictly involves numbers. Given a partially filled 9x9 grid, the goal is to complete the grid by filling in digits between 1 and 9 so that no digit appears twice in the same row, column or 3x3 sub-grid. Try the following puzzle from "The Daily SuDoku" online. Look for the solution and more puzzles at:

<http://www.dailysudoku.co.uk/sudoku/index.shtml>

If you find Sudoku interesting, check out the article, "Sudoku Science" in the February issue of IEEE Spectrum: <http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/feb06/2809>. By the way, Spectrum magazine is available online for free. Pass this link along to friends and colleagues. You might also be interested in the "Dream Jobs" article in the February edition. Who knows, maybe an interest in Sudoku or reading about "dream jobs" might lead some youngster to become an engineer and a future IEEE member.

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Daily SuDoku: Fri 3-Feb-2006

easy

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Section Meeting

March 2, 2006, 6:30 PM @ 312 Roberts Hall, MSU

Dr. Richard Wolff

Beyond Wi-Fi

Wi-Fi- (802.11) has been a remarkably successful wireless LAN technology. Will it be the victim of its own success, like citizen band (CB) radio? What are the challenges, and what is on the horizon? This talk will address status and limitations of Wi-Fi, and point to some of the emerging radio technologies that are under development, including WiMAX (802.16) and ultra wide band (UWB). He will give some examples of work underway at Montana State and with our partners. He will also discuss some other prospects for more efficient and effective use of radio spectrum such as software defined radios and spectrum sharing.

Life Member Meeting

If you're a Life Member, join the group at 6 p.m. just before the Section meeting on the 2nd.

Section Officers

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