



Rochester Section Meeting – Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 12 Noon

Bringing in the New Year is the next Rochester Section business meeting on Tuesday, February 7, 2012 at 12:00pm, at the Shanghai Restaurant, 2920 West Henrietta Road, just south of the intersection with Brighton-Henrietta Town Line Road.

Any IEEE member is welcome to attend and to participate, or just to observe. Lunch is \$3 for IEEE members. No reservation or RSVP is needed, just show up. For a look at what you will find at our section meetings, check out the photos below.



L-R: Vice-Chair Gene Saltzberg and Chair Bill Fowlkes at our January meeting



John Kerekes makes a point at our January meeting

New Section Officers for 2012

In case you missed the announcement last month, our new section officers for 2012 are:

Chair: William Y. Fowlkes
Vice Chair: Eugene F. Saltzberg
Secretary: Jean Kendrick
Treasurer: Dennis Thompson
Awards: Andrew C. Gallagher

These represent the elective offices in the Rochester section. Other Executive Committee positions are filled by appointment of the Chair, with the approval of the Excom. A full list can be found on the section website, together with contact information.

Why I am an IEEE Volunteer

Contributed by John Kerekas, IEEE Senior Member and Volunteer

Ever wonder how you got to where you are? Why you slog through your daily routine? Whether what you are doing has meaning? While true answers to these questions can be pursued through philosophical or religious studies (neither in which can I claim to be an expert!) I recently sat down to consider these questions in the much more limited and pragmatic context of my participation as an IEEE volunteer.

Joining as a student member while an undergrad EE major over thirty years ago, it just seemed like the thing to do. Plus, they gave out free pizza at their meetings. Since then I've taken on many different volunteer roles within IEEE from being an officer in a chapter to being the lead organizer of a major international conference. Along the way I've spent countless hours arranging meetings, reviewing papers, and yes, even writing minutes.

Why? What is the motivation for spending my precious time with no remuneration? While it may sound altruistic, the plain and simple answer is a desire to serve. IEEE, as with any volunteer organization, could not function without the contributions of thousands of volunteers. The refereed journals need reviewers, the technical meetings need organizers, the educational activities need contributors, the standards boards need participants (ever hear of 802.11b?), and the committees that work with our legislators need representatives. These are just a few examples of IEEE activities that need members to step up and serve.

OK, OK, you say. That all sounds good, but you've got a family to feed. How can this volunteerism help you fulfill your responsibilities to them (not to mention your employer!)? There is a funny thing about volunteering: the more you put into it, the more you get out. Yes, that is a trite statement, but it really is true. Whether it is making a connection with a potential collaborator or business partner at a meeting, or establishing a positive reputation in the professional community through volunteer service, making the effort to volunteer can lead to tangible benefits. In my case, I've also enjoyed the opportunity to meet and work with outstanding colleagues from all around the world leading to fresh perspectives and new insights into our profession.

So, you ask, what can you do to get involved? A great thing about the IEEE is the breadth of volunteer opportunities that exist within. Take stock of your strengths and interests and pick an area to get involved. Perhaps you know an IEEE volunteer; ask them how you might be able to help. Visit www.ieee.org and search the site for volunteer opportunities. Attend a section or chapter meeting and ask the volunteers present how you can get involved.

A final word. If you feel IEEE is not giving you your money's worth, try giving yourself to IEEE. You just might find you'll get what you're looking for.

IEEE Joint Chapters Meeting coming April 4

One of our major spring events is the annual Joint Chapters Meeting. This year, it will be held on Wednesday, April 4 at the RIT Inn and Conference Center. Put it on your calendar now.

The keynote speaker will be Mark Gabriel - well known author and speaker on issues in the energy industry. His book, Visions for a sustainable Energy Future (Fairmont press) won the Indie Award for Excellence in Environmental writing. Mark is a Senior Vice President with Halcrow Inc., and consults with leading utilities and energy companies in both the water and power business. He is a frequent speaker and management consultant.

Are you an Independent Consultant? Let IEEE-USA Help.

IEEE-USA continues to improve its services for IEEE members who are consultants or are considering becoming one. If you are already a consultant and are not listed in the IEEE-USA Consultants online searchable database you should join immediately. This database has a very powerful search engine that allows thousands of potential clients and employers find your profile.

Why list with IEEE-USA?

There are many other business-oriented social networks, so why list with IEEE-USA? Hiring managers have told us that they are more likely to hire IEEE members than random engineers. For over 20 years, members have asked to have their names listed in the consultants directory which is now an online searchable database. IEEE members have reported to us that inclusion in an online searchable database with other IEEE colleagues provides additional credibility to their skill, experience and background.

How much will it cost me and what do I get?

For US\$79 a year, you will be able to post your professional consulting profile on the IEEE-USA Consultants Database. Also, until the end of 2011 we were offering a free eBooks 2011 IEEE-USA Consultants Fee Survey Report for those who sign up in the IEEE-USA Consultants Database.

What if I only receive one job from the listing?

Members have told us that they are not sure they want to spend the money to list in the database. Other members have told us, "How can you not!" For US\$79 a year, you give yourself the opportunity to be found by potential employers and clients. Just one job offer will more than cover the US\$79 that you will pay for these services.

How do I sign up?

Go to www.ieeeusa.org/business/consultants/ and sign up today.

If I have more questions, who can I contact?

E-mail Daryll Griffin, of IEEE-USA, at d.r.griffin@ieee.org or call him at +1 202 530-8337.

IEEE-USA Webinars

The IEEE-USA offers free webinars on career and financial matters to members. Previous webinars are archives, and can be viewed anytime. To see the full current list, browse to <http://www.ieeeusa.org/careers/webinars/>

Rochester Section Member News

Andrés Kwasinski, assistant professor of computer engineering at Rochester Institute of Technology, was named to the editorial staff of IEEE *Transactions on Wireless Communications* and IEEE *Signal Processing Magazine*.

He will serve as editor of *Transactions on Wireless Communications*, a peer-reviewed journal, for one year. He will also be area editor for IEEE's *Signal Processing Magazine*, with responsibilities over seven of the magazine's regular columns, for a three-year term.