**IEEE Maine Section R1 Report**

* **Focus**
  + Grow membership and member participation.
  + Increase public awareness of ECE as a profession.
  + Provide value to our members.
* **Issues the Maine Section faces:**
  + Low membership density.
    - It is a far from Southern Maine to Northern Maine as it is from Southern Maine to Washington, DC!
  + Stagnant membership.
  + Low public awareness of us.
* **Meetings and Activities**
  + At the March  1st general meeting, Alan Caron, author of **Maine's Next Economy** presented his thoughts on what Maine must do to succeed economically.
  + Coming this fall.
    - Mixers at UMaine and USM to attract/retain students to ECE and IEEE.
  + ExCom meetings - include all officers
    - Monthly.
    - Meetings are usually by telecom.
    - Harold Belson, Northeastern R1 Area Chair, gave a governance briefing to the ExCom on April 25th.
    - My thanks to the ExCom.
* **Out Reach**
  + To members:
    - ExCom Member Walter Rawle is preparing a survey to reach out to members to determine what they want from the Maine Section.
  + By Members:
    - Participation in K-12 job fairs.
    - Participation in STEM activities at local high schools and community colleges.
  + IEEE STEM Ambassadors (with thanks to Dusty Fisher!)
    - Training for techies and 6th grade teachers.
      * Learn a simple project.
    - Techies go into schools for project to do project with students.
    - Techies also go into schools for job fairs or to just talk about STEM careers.
    - Supported by Texas Instruments, the Maine Math and Science Alliance, and IEEE-USA.
    - We're looking for funding to take the program to the rest of Maine.
  + Maine Engineering Workforce Summit
    - Maine Section is a Supporting Partner Organization.
    - Ron Brown is on the Organizing Committee
  + Portland Adult Education
    - Working with techie educated New Mainers to integrate them into the workforce.
      * Resume preparation.
      * Interview skills.
      * Assistance in finding internships and jobs.
  + IT Professionals Day at Central Maine Community College
    - The Maine Section will have table.
    - Ron Brown will speak on the advantages of joining a professional association.
* **The *Beacon*** - Our aperiodic newsletter is back!
  + Purpose: A quick read of items of interest to Maine members.
    - No long articles.
    - Content:
      * Something a member did.
      * Someone's new job.
      * Someone's retirement.
      * Local continuing education opportunities.
      * References or links to interesting non-IEEE articles, etc.
      * Up-coming IEEE activities.
      * Other activities of potential interest to IEEE members.
* **Bottom Line**
  + ***We have a definite uptick in interest!***