**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!***