



# The Beacon



The Newsletter of the IEEE Maine Section

January 23, 2017

Happy New Year to All!

## Monthly Maine Section ExCom Meetings

Our Secretary, Walter Rawle, has scheduled regularly monthly ExCom meetings as shown in the table below. We are going to hold mostly in person meetings in the Portland, Augusta, and Bangor areas, but all meetings will also be available by telecon. We hope that all officers will be regular attendees and invite section members to attend and participate, either in person or by telecon. We also invite anyone to submit an item for the ExCom agenda to me at [ron@ronaldobrownconsulting.com](mailto:ron@ronaldobrownconsulting.com).

### IEEE Maine Section Meeting/Location Schedule

Date	Location	Remarks
2/1	Augusta	Stan may be able to arrange for a meeting room at City Hall. Alternatively, we could reserve the meeting room at Margarita's restaurant or even meet in the Barnes and Noble coffee shop
3/1	Teleconference	Typically a challenging time of year, weather wise. We could organize a t con for this month
4/5	Portland	Lin Lin might be able to organize a room at USM. We could alternately meet at a restaurant, at MECD, or even at the BAM coffee shop
5/3	Orono	Ali is organizing/hosting this meeting. After the meeting we can partake of the BBQ
6/7	Portland	Again, Lin Lin might be able to organize a room at USM. We could alternately meet at a restaurant, at MECD, or even at the BAM coffee shop
7/5	Augusta	Stan may be able to arrange for a meeting room at City Hall. Alternatively, we could reserve the meeting room at Margarita's restaurant or even meet in the Barnes and Noble coffee shop
8/2	Orono	I believe that Ali could arrange for meeting space. Alternately, we could meet at a restaurant or other venue close to the Bangor Mall
9/6	Portland	This could, in fact, be a summer outing in Portland – possibly a dinner cruise or an outdoor meeting at a park (with picnic lunch). We might want to investigate having an IEEE BBQ – shifting the date to a weekend
10/4	Augusta	Stan may be able to arrange for a meeting room at City Hall. Alternatively, we could reserve the meeting room at Margarita's restaurant or even meet in the Barnes and

		Noble coffee shop
11/1	Orono	This is later than the 2016 IEEE student day event at UMO. However, we may be able to coordinate our meeting with that student event. Alternately, again, Ali may be able to arrange a meeting location. Or we could meet at a commercial venue (restaurant, bookstore etc)
12/6	Teleconference	December is typically a busy family month with holiday preparations between Thanksgiving and Christmas. It may therefore be appropriate to simply have a teleconference for this month

### **Search for New USM EE Professor**

IEEE Maine Section Chair and Vice Chair, Ron Brown and Ali Abedi, were part of the search committee for a tenure track assistant professorship in the Department of Engineering at the University of Southern Maine. The selected candidate has accepted USM's offer and we look forward to working with him.

### **Cooperation with New Hampshire and New Brunswick Sections**

Ron brown has had discussions with both the New Hampshire and New Brunswick Sections. New Hampshire sections meeting are frequently somewhat convenient to our Southern Maine members while New Brunswick meeting are somewhat convenient to our Bangor area members - - certainly worth the drive for a meeting of direct interest.

We agreed to share meeting notices and newsletters with each of these sections. The process is that they will send their meeting notices and newsletters to the Section ExCom and then we will send them on to you via enotice.

### **Save the Date: Engineers E-Week Banquet and Expo.**

The annual Maine Engineers Week Banquet will be Friday March 3rd at the Seasons Conference Center at the Ramada Inn, 155 Riverside Drive in Portland, and the Expo will be from 9AM to 2PM. The Maine Section working with the student chapters at UMaine and USM plans to have a table where we will demonstrate ECE's contributions society.

### **General Meeting Ideas**

We are looking for ideas for general meeting topics. If you have one, please contact ron@ronaldobrownconsulting.com so we can discuss it at an ExCom meeting. A couple that come to mind are:

1. Maine Turnpike Authority's E-Z Pass system which is a complex IT system with links to similar systems across the country.
2. Tour of Jackson Labs.

*And of course, if you have an item for the next Beacon, please submit it to ron@ronaldobrownconsulting.com.*