



# The Beacon



The Newsletter of the IEEE Maine Section

July 18, 2018

[www.ieee.org/maine](http://www.ieee.org/maine)

We hope that you are having a great summer! The Maine Section has been active at various levels for the past several months.

## IEEE Mobile App

Now you can use your smart phone for many more IEEE activities! The IEEE has a mobile app for Apple and Droid. Go to <https://app.ieee.org/> to download it. This platform makes it easier for IEEE members to meet and connect based on geo-location (either locally or while traveling). It also helps members stay up-to-date with the latest news from multiple IEEE sources, e.g. *Spectrum*, *The Institute*, *Transmitter*, etc.

## RCA Communications' Belfast Radio Site

It's little known that RCA was for decades a major player in overseas communications. Even less known is that their transmit/receive station at Belfast was a critical link in RCA's network in the 1920s. It was here that the first live radio broadcast from Europe was received and passed on to other US radio stations. The Belfast location made use of the Beverage or wave antenna, which was invented by North Haven native Harold H. Beverage in 1921. The Maine Section is pursuing having the Belfast station designated as an IEEE Historic Milestone.

In preparation to submitting a proposal for it being designated an IEEE Milestone, we are now gathering documentation about the station. If any of you have any documentation or any anecdotes about the Belfast station to support our submission, please send them to [ron@ronaldobrownconsulting.com](mailto:ron@ronaldobrownconsulting.com).

## Region 1 Industry Engagement Survey

In order to be better engaged with industry, Region 1 recently conducted an industry engagement survey among the sections. The Maine section response was simple: we really don't have a formal engagement strategy, plan, or metrics to measure against. Since industry engagement appears to be an emerging priority for the IEEE Board of Governors, new guidance from the Region is expect in the near future. Once we receive it, we will develop a section policy. It is hoped that this will increase industry's perception of the benefits of the IEEE while support our local industries.

## Student Engagement

The Section's student engagement continues at a steady pace. Nicholas Aiken, HKN DK student president, successfully executed the paperwork for the induction of Ali Abedi and Walter Rawle to be inducted in to the society. This will provide beneficial oversight for the DK chapter and establish closer ties to the section.

Ashley Pezanowski, UMaine IEEE Student Chair, successfully submitted the UMaine student branch report to the Maine section, countersigned by John Allen, the U Maine student branch adviser. Ashley, who is working a summer internship in upstate New York, is currently planning the 2018-2019 student branch event schedule, which includes the 2019 Region 1 Student Conference. Section leadership and support will be required to make this event a tremendous success.

We are also looking to re-establish the USM student branch as well as developing IEEE student computer chapters at schools without comprehensive engineering programs.

### **Building Bridges**

As part of our efforts to build bridges to other sections, Walter Rawle met with Jason Rhineland, Chair, IEEE Halifax (Canadian Atlantic) section while on holidays in June. Jason has been successful in establishing student branches where we might call unorthodox places. We hope to learn from him to establish additional student branches in Maine.

### **Membership Retention**

The IEEE recognized the Maine Section for meeting its retention goal for the 2018 membership year. Our thanks to Membership Chair Dick Wilkins for his efforts. The membership development goals were developed based on our three year performance. In recognition of our achievement we can display this image on our website and newsletters.



### **Important Administrivia**

The IEEE is pushing for better operational practices at the Section and Chapter levels. Through Walter Rawle's diligent work and with the vital cooperation and input of other Section and Chapter officers, all of the Maine Section's units are in good shape.

### **Region 1 BOG Meeting**

The Region 1 Board of Governors meeting will be held August 11, 12, 2018 in Westchester County, New York. Walter Rawle will attend as Section Chair and Ron Brown will attend as Region 1 historian.

Do you have news of something that might be of interest to our membership? Of an event that occurred? Your promotion? Anything else that might interest our membership? Would you like to

attend an ExCom meeting either in person or by phone? Please contact Ron Brown,  
[ron@ronaldobrownconsulting.com](mailto:ron@ronaldobrownconsulting.com), 781-665-6269.