



**ROCHESTER SECTION OF THE IEEE
NEWS FOR JANUARY 2015**

Jacob Z. Schanker, P.E., Newsletter Chair
The Rochester section web site is at: <http://rochester.ieee.org/>

Rochester Section Meeting – Tuesday, January 6, at Noon

The next monthly Rochester Section business meeting is on Tuesday, January 6, at 12:00 PM, at the **Hibachi Sushi Buffet Restaurant** in South Town Plaza on Jefferson Road (Route 252) just west of West Henrietta Rd. (Route 15). Any IEEE member is invited to attend. Lunch is only \$3 for IEEE members. No reservation or RSVP is needed, just show up.

Your 2015 Section Officers

- Chair: Greg Gdowski
- Vice-Chair: Andreas Savakis
- Treasurer: William Fowlkes
- Secretary: Raymond Ptucha

Message from Section Chair Greg Gdowski

Happy New Year!!! My first term as the Chair of the Rochester Section of IEEE ends this month. It has been an honor to be the Chair during the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Rochester Section. I would like to thank all of the Rochester Section Officers including Matt Sidley (Vice Chair), Dennis Thompson (Treasurer), and Ray Ptucha (Secretary). We could not have accomplished nearly as much without their dedication over the last year. This month we elected new officers for the upcoming year. Having been reelected as the Section Chair for the upcoming year it is my pleasure to announce and congratulate the new officers: Andreas Savakis (Vice Chair), William Fowlkes (Treasurer), and Ray Ptucha (Secretary). I look forward to working with the new Section Officers in the upcoming year.

We have also had a remarkable year with numerous Section and Chapter events. We now have over 50 volunteers that contribute to events within the Rochester Section. I am grateful to all of the IEEE volunteers that have helped to manage and orchestrate events over the last year. Their efforts truly make Rochester a better place to live. I would especially like to thank Jacob Schanker who has been managing the Sectional Newsletter for several years. His efforts have been crucial for getting the word out to help make all of our events successful.



Jacob Schanker

The following are just a few of the larger meetings held this year that were run by the Section.

Joint Chapters Meeting (April). Vice Chair Matt Sidley, and Judy Principe.

Mendon Center Elementary School – Build a loudspeaker (April). University of Rochester Student Chapter. Jeremy Warner, David Anderson, Yuqing Guo, David Heid, Andrew Hevey, Edward Samuels, Gary Ge, Breanna O'Reilly, and Wendi Heinzelman (faculty adviser).



Mendon Center Elementary School. Build a loudspeaker!

Section Centennial Meeting and Region 1 Board of Governors Meeting (August).

Centennial Planning Committee including: Paul Lee, Jean Kendrick, Alex Loui, Carol Richardson, Jack Schanker, Jayanti Venkataraman, Ray Ptucha, and Matt Sidley.

Computing technologies Workshop (October). Communications/Aerospace and Electronics Systems. Nirmala Shenoy

Best Practices for Effective Test (October). Greg Gdowski (Chair) and James Campbell.

38th EDS/CAS Activities in Western New York Conference (November). Electron Devices Society. Karl Hirschman.

Western New York Image and Signal Processing Workshop (November). Signal Processing Society. Nathan Cahill, Edgar Bernal, Zhiyao Duan, Behnaz Ghoraani, Survi Kyal, Paul Lee, Michel Molaire, David Odgers, Raymond Ptucha, and Beilei Xu.

The Engineering of Wine Making (December). Greg Gdowski (Chair), Michael Vonheckler (Buffalo Section), Steve Griffith, and Judy Principe.

The Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Artisanworks (December). Greg Gdowski (Chair), and Judy Principe.

Photonics in Rochester (December) Chris Cassidy, Tom Pian, and Paul Lee.

This year also marks numerous notable achievements and awards for our members:

- Paul Lee was recently selected as a recipient for elevation to IEEE Fellow. Each year, following a rigorous evaluation procedure, the IEEE Fellow Committee recommends a select group of recipients for elevation to IEEE Fellow. Less than 0.1% of voting members are selected annually for this member grade elevation. The IEEE Board of Directors, at its November 2014 meeting, elevated Dr. Lee to IEEE Fellow for his contributions to the development of CMOS image sensor technology and the pinned photo-diode active pixel sensor. *Congratulations Paul, what a spectacular accomplishment!*



Paul Lee, Centennial Dinner 2014

- Ron Hira was the recipient of the IEEE-USA George F. McClure Citation of Honor for “educating the public on outsourcing legislation and its effects on the engineering profession”.



Ron Hira and Matt Sidley at JCM 2014

- Nine individuals were elevated to Senior member status including: Dmitry Sizov, Steven Richeson, Jack Mottley, Eric Weatherbee, Frank Ryan, Ray Ptucha, Raja Bala, Dhireesha Kudithipudi, and Vicki Hanson.
- Technology Innovation/Academic Awards from IEEE Region 1 were presented to Bruce Smith and Greg Gdowski.
- IEEE Students Jackson Anderson and Jeremy Warner were selected to receive the Rochester Section IEEE Scholarships this year. Jackson Anderson resides in Churchville, NY and is a Microelectronic Engineering student at the Rochester Institute of Technology. Jeremy Warner resides in Riverhead, NY and is an Electrical Engineering student at the University of Rochester.
- Aaron Lim and Jeremey Warner, both from the University of Rochester, were selected as 2014 IEEE Power Energy Society Scholars.

December Sectional Events:

**DID YOU EVER WONDER WHAT IT WOULD BE LIKE TO BE A VINTNER?
Held on December 2nd at the University of Rochester. Michael Vonheckler and Steve Griffith.**

We recently had a remarkable event focused on the essence of wine making. This was one of those seminars that sounded good on paper – and it was even far better than anticipated. About 25 people attended the seminar. You know it is going to be a good event when one of the speakers (S. Griffith) momentarily leaves the event to get more wine out of his car for the attendees. Michael Vonheckler, from the Buffalo IEEE Section, spoke about the creation of the Niagara Wine trail. He spoke of the identification of the opportunity and the search for the land to make it happen – when few vineyards existed south of the Canadian border in Buffalo. It was a fascinating story describing the Niagara escarpment, its temperature/climate advantage, and the soil conditions that led to the Warm Lake Estate Vineyards becoming one of the largest growers of Pinot Noir (55 acres) east of the Rocky Mountains. Steve Griffith, owner of the Big Oak Vineyard in Monroe County, was equally remarkable. He described a collaboration of talents and passions that he and his wife shared while pursuing a vision of growing a local vineyard. His talk went from artistic renderings of wine labels to what it takes to farm and maintain a small vineyard. He also talked about his early concepts for controlling the microclimate of a vineyard to protect a crop during cold conditions. Quite honestly, I'm now sure I don't have what it takes to be a vintner. That said I would be the first one to cheer on these upstate NY entrepreneurs. My thanks to both Michael and Steve; we are looking forward to having you back for another spectacular wine event!

Rochester IEEE Section Excom Volunteer Appreciation Dinner.

December 11th from 6-10pm. Artisanworks. Open to all Rochester IEEE Section Excom volunteers. As of December 9th, we had 52 reservations! Artisanworks is an incubator for local artists housing over half a million items within its 40,000 sq ft facility.

Rochester Section Undergraduate Scholarships!

There is still time for you to apply! The Rochester Section is offering two \$1,500 annual scholarships to undergraduate members of IEEE. Two types of students are eligible.

1. If you have a kid that is in an ABET-accredited engineering school (even if they are not in school in Rochester) they are likely eligible as long as you reside within the Section. The student does not have to reside within the Rochester section while they are at school.
2. Any student from an ABET-accredited engineering school within the Rochester Section.

These scholarships are to recognize outstanding engineering, engineering technology, and science or technology students. These are merit-based scholarships. This is a great opportunity for students! Applications must be sent to the Rochester Engineering Society (RES). The information required for applying to the local IEEE scholarships can be found on the RES website (<http://www.roceng.org/page-1702084>).

Membership statistics for 2014.

The Rochester Section currently has 999 active members including: 13 Fellows, 14 Life Fellows, 87 Senior members, 36 Life Senior members, 578 Members, 94 Life Members, 80 Graduate Students, 69 Student Members, and 28 Associate Members. Nearly half of our members have already renewed their membership for 2015! Please renew your membership today if you have not already done so. Not a member? Join IEEE and become a part of the world's largest professional association, dedicated to advancing technological innovation and excellence!

ARE YOU A NEW STUDENT OR ARE YOU NEW TO THE AREA?

If you are a new student (graduate or undergraduate) in the Rochester area, there really is no reason why you should not join the IEEE Society. The engineering community extends well outside your campus, and IEEE is by far the best way to get to know them. Joining is easy and the dues for students are remarkably low (\$32/yr)! If you are an undergraduate or a graduate student and would like to become an IEEE member, I can help. Undergraduate and Graduate Student members must carry at least 50% of a normal full-time academic program as a registered graduate student in a regular course of study in IEEE- designated fields. The designated fields are: Engineering, Computer Sciences and Information Technology, Physical Sciences, Biological and Medical Sciences, Mathematics, Technical Communications, Education, Management, and Law and Policy. Please join today and let us help you get connected!

JOIN US AT THE NEXT EXCOM MEETING!

If you are looking for a cheap \$3 lunch, join us for the next monthly Rochester Section IEEE Executive Committee meeting. It will be from 12-1pm on January 6th at the Hibachi Sushi Buffet in Southtown Plaza (3333 W. Henrietta Rd, Henrietta, NY). All current and prospective IEEE members may attend! Please join us to learn more about the Society and how you may contribute. We are always looking for new members and volunteers.

Can you name the past nine former Rochester Section Chairs featured in the picture below? The first IEEE member to email me the names of all Section Chairs will receive a special gift from the Section! Only IEEE members are eligible to receive the gift!

Again, Happy New Year and have a great January. See you next month.
Best regards. Greg Gdowski, Rochester IEEE Section Chair



Centennial Dinner 2014

New free E-Book for members in January

In January, IEEE-USA E-books will offer to members a complimentary copy of Gus Gaynor's "Shaping an Engineering Career -- Book 1: Responding to Career Challenges -- A Personal Journey."