

Highlights

Celebrating Scouting!
Dr. Myron Kayton Talk
Fall Regional Meeting

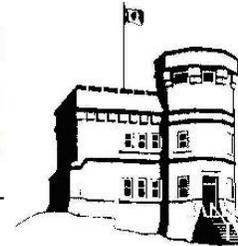
Upcoming

NECEC 2007
Annual General Meeting
CCECE 2009



IEEE

IEEE Newfoundland & Labrador Section
www.ieee.org/newfoundland_labrador



Newsletter of the Newfoundland and Labrador IEEE Section, Volume 07, No. 2, Oct. 2007

Message from the Chair

As my term as Section Chair comes to an end, I'd like to take the opportunity to reflect upon the last two years and offer my thanks to the Section Executive, other IEEE volunteers, and the membership.

Since January 2006 we have had a wide range of technical events/tours and social events. One highlight was the Milestone Dedication Ceremony held in September, 2006 to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the first submarine transatlantic telephone system from Gallanach Bay near Oban, Scotland, to Clarenville, Newfoundland. We continue to offer Term 4 and 6 scholarships to Memorial University engineering students and have had two recent winners of IEEE Canadian Foundation scholarships. We are very proud of Jonathan Anderson who won the prestigious Telus prize in 2006. We have had 3 new senior members and are continuing to encourage more senior membership within the Section.

I am very pleased that we have won the bid to host CCECE 2009 in St. John's and look forward to helping to move this event forward. We are in our 17th year of NECEC which continues to be a very successful event enabling the local technical community to present papers on technical topics and innovations as well as an excellent networking opportunity.

I would like to thank the members of the Executive for their hard work, enthusiasm, and dedication over the past 2 years. It's been a pleasure to work with, learn from, and strengthen friendships with them. I am extremely proud of the strong group of volunteers that we have in Newfoundland and Labrador and pleased that we continue to have a very active and financially healthy Section.

I would also like to thank the members of the NECEC and CCECE Planning Committees for their excellent work towards ensuring the success of both conferences.

I look forward to serving in my role as Past Chair for the next two years and working closely with our incoming Chair, Dr. Eric Gill who I have a tremendous respect for and am confident he will continue to ensure we have a strong, active Section and that we continue to improve services to our members.

Thank you!

Kathleen Chafe
2006-07 Section Chair

Upcoming Events

NECEC 2007

Thursday, November 8, 2007
8:30am to 5:00pm
Holiday Inn, St. John's
Web: <http://necec.engr.mun.ca>

The Newfoundland and Labrador Section IEEE Section is pleased to host our 17th annual Newfoundland Electrical and Computer Engineering Conference (NECEC) on November 8, 2007. NECEC is a forum where professionals and students in electrical, electronic and computer engineering as well as information technologies can present their work to the growing technical community within the province. The conference will focus on technical concepts, innovations and implementations. This event is also an excellent networking opportunity for participants. Proceeds from this event and past conferences have been used to sponsor IEEE Scholarships, as well as to support other activities within the province.

The Conference Chair for NECEC 2007 is Dwight Howse from the Canadian Centre for Marine Communications and the Technical Chair is Dr. Dennis Peters from Memorial University.

The event will present paper presentations and poster sessions in subject areas including:

- Power Generation and Distribution
- Power Electronics and Drives
- Electrical Design and Installation
- Instrumentation and Control Systems
- Sensors, Acoustics and Remote Sensing
- Biomedical Devices
- Electronics, VLSI and Microprocessors
- Opto-electronics
- Signal Processing
- Multimedia Software Development
- Computer and Software Engineering
- Communication Systems
- Wireless Technologies
- Internet Developments
- Project Management
- Robotics

Our keynote speaker is Jim Keating, Vice-President Business Development, Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro. The topic of his presentation will be the Provincial Energy Plan. Mr. Keating was appointed Vice-President Business Development at Newfoundland and Labrador Hydro in December 2005. In this role he has the mandate to expand Hydro's portfolio beyond the traditional electricity generation and transmission business into other energy sectors including oil and gas and other alternative renewable energy sectors such as wind power. He has 15 years experience in the oil and gas industry and was formerly Norsk Hydro Canada Oil & Gas's Vice-President of Field Development and Operations. With Norsk Hydro, he was responsible for all aspects of that company's Canadian development and operations portfolio including representation on the executive management committees of the Hibernia, Terra Nova, and Hebron Projects.

Our luncheon speaker will be Randy Billard from Virtual Marine Technologies.

Conference fees are as follows:
IEEE Member - \$120
Non-Member - \$150
Student Member - \$60
Student Non-member - \$75

Interested in attending? You can register online at <http://necec.engr.mun.ca> or by

contacting contact Marjorie Mercer at (709) 737-7467.

We look forward to your interest in our conference. If you would like further information relating to the conference please contact Dwight Howse at Dwight.Howse@mi.mun.ca or Kathleen Chafe at chafek@ieee.org.

Annual General Meeting

This year's AGM will be held December 6, 2007 in the Engineering Faculty Board Room, 4th floor, S.J Carew Building. Section representatives will present reports highlighting key events and accomplishments from 2007. The event will feature guest speaker Dr. Cecilia Moloney, Canadian Women in Science and Engineering Atlantic Chair. Also, there will be Section Officer Elections held at this time.

As outlined in our Section By-laws, the Vice-Chair will automatically become Chair after a 2 year term. Our new Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary positions will be determined during the AGM. Our Nominations Committee is currently in place and we will be announcing candidates very soon on our website. Please contact Mike Janes (Mike.Janes@ieee.org) if you are interested in any of the Section Officer positions.

Refreshments will be served following the Business Meeting.

CCECE 2009

The Canadian Conference on Electrical and Computer Engineering (CCECE) is the flagship IEEE conference in Canada. It provides a forum for the presentation of electrical and computer engineering research and development from Canada and around the world. We are very pleased and excited to report that the NL Section will be the host for this conference in 2009.

The conference will take place from Sunday May 3rd through to Wednesday May 6th at the Delta St. John's Hotel and St. John's Convention Centre. The

conference theme is "*Engineering, Science and Technology; the First Decade of the Third Millennium*". A welcome reception for all delegates will be held Sunday evening at The Rooms. The Conference sessions themselves, on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, will be conducted in the conference facilities at the Delta St. John's with plenary sessions and meals in the St. John's Convention Centre. In addition, an active and enticing social program will be offered to all attendees, partners, and guests.

The preparation for CCECE 2009 is off to a very promising start with a Planning Committee consisting of dedicated, enthusiastic and experienced volunteers, representing industry, academia, and government. We are honored to have Dr. Wally Read as our Conference Chair. We have the support of the Provincial Government, The City of St. John's, Destination St. John's, Memorial University, and the National Research Council.

Past Events

Celebration of Scouting 100th Year

During the weekend of June 30 – July 2 close to 300 Cubs, Scouts, and Ventures attended a jamboree styled scouting celebration at Camp Nor'Wes. In support of the celebration, IEEE Newfoundland and Labrador Section sponsored an electronic project for 75 Scouts. Boys and girls ages 11-14 were given their first exposure to designing, building, and debugging electronic circuits.

Senior electrical engineering student Jeff Newhook designed the electronic project, and organized and ran the activity at the camp. He has been participating with young people across the province with a number of his hands-on electronic projects since 2001.

Tying together the history of Scouting and our local Heritage, the IEEE electronic workshop involved building an oscillator circuit, which the Scouts could

then use to learn and practice Morse Code.

The young students started by inserting metal fasteners at each of the nodes on a color-coded circuit layout. They were taught about the purpose and functionality of each new electronic component as it was connected to the circuit

The project was one of the highlights at the camp, and the kids were eager and asked many technical questions beyond the scope of the project.

Annual Lobster Boil

The highlight of the Section's social calendar was held this year on Saturday, June 9. As in previous years, the location was the Fluvarium with its pleasant décor and great outdoor gallery. To add to the event we also were blessed with beautiful, sunny weather. Fresh, tasty Newfoundland lobster was the main item on the menu with alternate choices of roast beef or vegetarian fare.

We were pleased to present Dr. Dennis Peters with his IEEE Senior Membership plaque at this event. Dr. Peters is a past Section Chair and is currently the Chair of Student Activities. He has been actively involved in every role on the Section Executive and has made many valuable contributions at the Section and Regional level. We very much appreciate his dedication and enthusiasm.

We plan to continue to offer this fun social event again in June 2008. Hope to see you there!

Talk by Dr. Myron Kayton

On Monday, September 17th, the Section was proud to host a well-attended technical presentation by Dr. Myron Kayton, IEEE Distinguished Lecturer. Dr. Kayton spoke on "Navigation: Land, Sea and Air", which covered the history and functional issues of various navigation systems used through history

Dr. Kayton is a Life Fellow of the IEEE, was an elected member of the corporate board of directors, and served two terms

as president of its Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society (AEES). Dr. Kayton has had a long and distinguished career in the navigation field, including work as Deputy Manager of Lunar Module Guidance for the Apollo space program.

A resident of California, this was Dr. Kayton's first visit to Newfoundland, and he spent several days travelling to various historic communities. Dr. Kayton had originally planned to visit in 2006, but owing to illness was unable to come. This presentation was part of a Distinguished Speaker tour of Eastern Canada.



Dr. Myron Kayton reviewing his slides

Fall Regional Meeting

From October 19-21, St. John's was the host city for the IEEE Canada Board (Region 7) fall meeting. Under the leadership of Dr. Robert Hanna, the voting members of the Board are composed of Section Chairs or representatives from each Section in Canada, Member Services Chair, Publications and Communications Chair, External Relations Chair, and Treasurer. There were others in attendance observing the meeting and contributing to discussions including representatives from Sections and Groups as well as from other Regions and the IEEE International headquarters in Piscataway, NJ. The Board meets twice a year, once in the spring immediately before the Canadian Conference for Electrical and Computer Engineering (CCECE) and again in the fall. Kathleen Chafe represented the Section as the voting member from Newfoundland and Labrador. Others

from the Section who participated in the meetings and events over the weekend were Lori Hogan, Gerard Dunphy, Octavia Dobre, Brian Kidney, and Dennis Peters.

We wanted to give the attendees a taste of Newfoundland hospitality and the unique nightlife just steps away from the Delta host hotel. We hosted a very entertaining screech-in ceremony for over 40 attendees and partners at Christian's Pub. We were also very pleased to have the opportunity to screech-in our Awards and Scholarships Chair, Octavia Dobre! After the kissing of the codfish we went to Bridie Molloy's where all enjoyed the excellent music by the local band The Navigators.

Our caucus meeting on Saturday consisted of Officer, Section, Group, and visitor reports. Highlights included a presentation on concentrated banking advantages by the IEEE Investment Group from Piscataway, an overview of Region 5 activities from the Region 5 Director, as well as discussions regarding financial support and participation for Sections Congress 2008 in Quebec City. We reviewed our healthy financial status for 2007 and proposed plans for 2008. A banquet was held Saturday night.

Our business meeting was held on the final day, Sunday. The Board approved a new annual IEEE Canada conference - the Electrical Power Conference, which was originally started in Ottawa Section and then moved to Montreal in 2007, and the host city for 2008 will be Vancouver. We also approved our 2008 budget as well as Regional funding support formulas for Section delegates to travel to Sections Congress 2008.

The next Regional meeting will be held in Niagara Falls May 2-4, 2008.



Octavia Dobre gets "screeched in"

Awards

IEEE NL Term 6 Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE) Scholarships

The IEEE NL Section Term 6 Scholarship is awarded yearly to a full-time undergraduate ECE student in Term 6. The objectives are: (1) increasing student interest in and recognition of the IEEE, (2) enhancing a promising student's ability to succeed at the undergraduate level, and (3) providing students with a reason and opportunity to think seriously about their professional goals. The award is a one-time scholarship of \$1,000 to assist the student in pursuing his or her academic goals. This year's competition is ongoing.

Senior Membership

We are pleased to announce that Dr. Octavia A. Dobre has achieved IEEE Senior Membership status. The grade of Senior Member is the highest for which application may be made and requires experience reflecting professional performance. Dr. Octavia A. Dobre is currently an Assistant Professor with the Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science at Memorial University of Newfoundland, where she conducts research in the area of signal processing for wireless communications. Most recently she is the Section Awards and Scholarships Chair.

Student Branch Activities

2007 IEEE Student Congress

On September 14-16, 2007 Dr. Dennis Peters, Lori Hogan and Susan Ryan, an engineering student at Memorial University, travelled to Edmonton, Alberta for the 2007 IEEE Student Congress. This congress provides an opportunity for representatives from Student Societies all over the country to get together and share ideas on how they

run their society to the types of activities organized throughout the year. The students learned many things about running their Student Societies, from how to gain new members to the scholarships and grants available to them. Dennis, Lori and Susan enjoyed their trip and have gained a lot of new ideas to benefit the IEEE Student Society at Memorial University. They look forward to sharing all they have gained and pursuing their new ideas throughout the year.

Membership Development

The membership development of our section has been growing steadily over the past few months. The total number of active member by October 1, 2007 is 147, which includes Life Fellow (2), Senior Member (15), Life Member (1), Member (72), Student Member (45), Associate (2), and affiliate member (10).

It's time to renew your membership for 2008. You can do so online at <http://www.ieee.org/renewal>.

Senior Member Elevation

Membership Development is currently reviewing IEEE membership grades and would like you to consider applying for elevation to Senior Member Grade.

IEEE Bylaw I-105.3 sets forth the criteria for elevation to Senior Member Grade, as follows:

"... a candidate shall be an engineer, scientist, educator, technical executive or originator in IEEE-designated fields. The candidate shall have been in professional practice for at least ten years and shall have shown significant performance over a period of at least five of those years."

Your educational experience is credited toward that time as follows: 3 years for a baccalaureate degree in an IEEE-designated field, 4 years if you hold a baccalaureate and master's degree and 5 years if you hold a doctorate degree.

You can find further information about requirements and how to apply at <http://www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/md/smprogram.html>.

Please contact Cheng Li, Membership Development Chair, licheng@enr.mun.ca, or 737-8972 if you have any questions or concerns.

Graduates of the Last Decade – GOLD

If you graduated from your first degree in 1997 or later, you are an IEEE GOLD member! We are looking for new volunteers or ideas for new activities. If you can help with either, please contact Lori Hogan, GOLD Chair, lori.hogan@ieee.org or 737-8063.

On 26 September 2007, IEEE GOLD sponsored a new online seminar on "Business & Entrepreneurship", presented by Professor Kevin B. Krauss of Suffolk University's Center for Entrepreneurial Studies. Access to the recorded session is now available at <http://www.ieee.org/web/membership/gold/events/index.html>. The next IEEE Young Professional Online Seminar is scheduled for December 4, 2007 at 14:00 GMT on the topic, "The 21st Century Engineer", presented by Dr. Adrian Pais.

Industrial Relations

The Industrial Relations Committee is a new initiative being undertaken by IEEE Canada. The committee will play a role in strengthening the relationships between industry and local sections.

Brian Kidney has agreed to represent the NL Section on the committee. In the coming months, as the committee gets to work, members will be hearing more about its work and information about a survey on member involvement from IEEE relevant companies within the region.

If you would like more information on the committee and its work, contact Brian Kidney, bkidney@ieee.org.