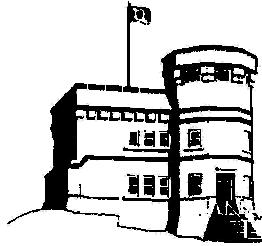


Highlights

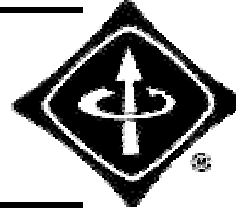
Annual Lobster Boil
Second/Third Qtr Technical Meetings

Upcoming

NECEC 2000 Conference
Annual General Meeting



THE INSTITUTE OF
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Newfoundland and Labrador Section

A Newsletter of the Newfoundland and Labrador IEEE Section, Volume 00, No. 2, Nov 2000

IEEE SECTION WEB SITE

Just a reminder to visit your local section's website at: www.ieee.nfld.net
You will find all the current goings-on, and details on upcoming events.

NECEC 2000

Wednesday, Nov 15, 2000
Location: Hotel Newfoundland

Announcing... the tenth annual Newfoundland Electrical and Computer Engineering Conference (**NECEC 2000**).

NECEC is held by the Newfoundland and Labrador Section of IEEE in cooperation with Memorial University of Newfoundland. The IEEE is the world's largest technical professional society. Founded in 1884 by a handful of practitioners of the new electrical engineering discipline, today's Institute is comprised of more than 320,000 members who conduct and participate in its activities in 147 countries. The men and women of the IEEE are the technical and scientific professionals making revolutionary engineering advances, which are reshaping our world today, and their work in Newfoundland is no exception.

The aim of NECEC 2000 is to provide a one-day forum where professionals in electrical, electronic, computer engineering and information technologies can present their work to the growing technical community within the province. The conference focuses primarily on technical concepts, innovations and implementations that are happening in and around the province. The lineup of this year's presentations includes subjects covering all aspects of the modern technical arena.

Special guests include as keynote speaker, Dr. Tom Lefevre, Director General of the Institute for Marine Dynamics (IMD) of the National Research Council (NRC) and as luncheon speaker, Dr. Peter Simpkin of IKB Technologies. Both of these gentlemen have strong ties to the current and historical aspects of technical development in Newfoundland and Labrador and Atlantic Canada. In particular, Dr. Lefevre will describe the Ocean Engineering Program of the IMD and NRC's role in the recent announcement by the federal government on Atlantic Initiatives. Dr. Simpkin, in addition to running an Atlantic technology-based company, holds the distinction of being Chair of the first NECEC held in 1990.

NECEC 2000 is being held on Wednesday, November 15, 2000 at the Hotel Newfoundland in St. John's. Registered conferees will be provided with lunch, a conference record and complimentary coffee during breaks throughout the day.

Proceeds from this and past conferences have been used to sponsor the "IEEE Scholarships" which are awarded to students in Terms III and VI of the Electrical Engineering or Computer Engineering program at MUN. As a result of the success that this conference has enjoyed, the scholarship has been successfully established on a self-funding basis.

Registration information, as schedule of presentations, other conference details and info on the IEEE Scholarship can be viewed on-line at

www.ieee.nfld.net/NECEC00/



UPCOMINGEVENTS

Nfld&LabSectionAnnualGeneral Meeting

Wednesday,November29,2000

Location:EN4002,S.J.Carew Building,MUN

Time:7:00p.m.start

The main item requiring a vote by IEEE members at the AGM will be revisions to our section's bylaws which will be sent to voting members for review prior to the meeting.

In addition, this will be the section's last technical endeavour for 2000. The guest speaker will be Mr. Barry Dawe, President of Northern Radar who will be discussing Surface Wave Radar technology. Mr. Dawe graduated from Memorial with a B. Eng. in Electrical Engineering in 1982 and an M. Eng. in 1988. From 1984-1994 Mr. Dawe was employed with C-CORE in the remote Sensing Group, developing Surface Wave Radar (SWR) technology for maritime surveillance. He held progressively more responsible positions, culminating as Director of Remote Sensing. In 1988 Mr. Dawe was instrumental in establishing Northern Radar, a private company dedicated to "commercializing" the SWR technology. From 1988 to 1992 he led the team that developed a prototype SWR system for Northern Radar at Cape Race Newfoundland. This represented the first full scale operational prototype SWR system for maritime surveillance. In 1995 Mr. Dawe joined Northern Radar as Vice President of Engineering and became President of Northern Radar in 1997. In 1996 Northern Radar, with its partners Raytheon Canada and Stratos, began developing an operational, two site SWR network sponsored by the Department of National Defence. This system is now in its final stages of development and upgrading and is being marketed in Canada and throughout the world.

Note: Attending technical meetings normally qualifies as "informal Activity" for the purposes of the APEGN professional development program.

RECENTEVENTS

IEEE Annual Lobster Boil

Friday, June 16, 2000

Location: St. John's Curling Club

Seventy-nine people attended our Lobster Boil this year, making it another great success. Dr. John Robinson was presented with a Past Chair pin. The annual Lobster Boil has traditionally been the venue for this recognition.

The food (lobster, steak, and salad) was delicious and the entertainment was lavish with two live bands to keep attendees shopping. This event has become the Section's premier social event of the year.

TECHNICAL MEETINGS

The 2nd & 3rd Quarters



Wednesday, September 27, 2000

Tour of SEA and BSN Facilities

On September 27 Don Dalley, Terry Carter, Danny Neil and Stephen Sharpe of Bailey-SEA Newfoundland hosted a tour of their development and testing facilities for offshore oil production control systems. It was interesting to see how the control systems for Hibernia and Terra Nova are simulated in their lab to verify the changes before they are installed offshore. The tour was attended by about 18 people.

If you have any suggestions for meeting topics, speakers or tours please feel free to pass them along to Dennis Peters at

dpeters@engr.mun.ca or 737-8929, or through any member of your Section executive.

October 20-22, 2000

IEEE Region 7 Meetings
(Report from Dennis Peters)

On October 20-22 I represented our section at the IEEE Region 7 (Canada) meeting held in London, Ontario. These meetings are held twice annually and provide an opportunity for discussion among the section executives from across the country, together with the regional executive. I found this to be an invaluable opportunity to meet some of the people involved in the IEEE in other sections and at the national level. I was pleased to be able to report to the region that, despite our relatively small numbers, we continue to be an active section. I also highlighted our intention to mark the centenary of Marconi's historic transatlantic wireless communication on December 12 of next year. This plan was enthusiastically supported by the regional executive. We'll be announcing further details as they are finalized.

Some meeting highlights were:

- The IEEE offers many awards for recognition at the section, region and international levels. One of the biggest problems for the awards committee is a lack of nominees, so they'd appreciate your help. If you know of someone who is deserving of any of these awards, I encourage you to nominate them. Contact our awards chair, Dr. Eric Gill (egill@engr.mun.ca), or visit the award site: <http://www.ieee.ca/awards/awards.html> for further information and nomination forms.
- IEEE's Financial Advantage Program has been revised to be better suited to members in Canada. You can find full information in the on-line brochure at <http://www.ieee.ca/services/fin-adv-brochure.html>.

- The Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) group is intended to help young engineers bridge the gap between school and work life. You can find more information at http://www.ieee.ca/activ/ieee_canada_gold_web.html.

Co-located with the R7 meeting was the meeting of the Eastern Canada Council, which comprises the following sections: Canadian Atlantic (Nova Scotia and P.E.I.), Montreal, New Brunswick, Newfoundland & Labrador, Ottawa, Quebec, and Saint Maurice. A significant event from that meeting was the presentation of the revised ECC bylaws, which are in the final stages of the approval process. Our section is reviewing our own bylaws to ensure that they are consistent with those of the ECC, the region and the IEEE as a whole.

Message from the Chair

Well, here it is, NECEC 2000, our 10th anniversary annual event. And this year, to help mark this special anniversary, we are changing our venue to the Hotel Newfoundland! This is indeed a special conference. And I am especially happy to welcome Dr. Vetter, credited with originating the concept, and Dr. Simpkin, the first NECEC chair (way back in 1990). In the past eleven years, NECEC has matured and is still evolving. My appreciation is extended to all those who are participating in this conference, be they as presenters, Session Chairs, organizers, volunteers, attendants, sponsors or donors; thank you very much for making this a success. It has taken considerable effort, particularly this year, to pull off this conference.

We are especially proud this year to have endowed our second \$1,000 scholarship, this one for eligible Term 3 Engineering students (the other one is aimed at Term 6 Engineering students). We look forward to the opportunity to reward our hard-working students and encourage their active participation in IEEE

The Region 7 (Canada) Fall Meeting and the Eastern Canada Council meeting occurred last month in London, Ontario. We were represented by your Vice-Chair, Dennis Peters (look for his article in this Newsletter).

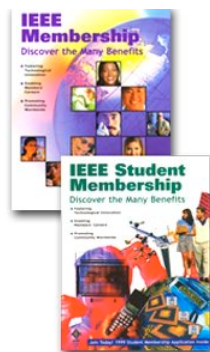
Since our last Newsletter issue we have held more technical meetings and our annual lobster boil, which was most enjoyable. We trust that you took advantage of these opportunities, and if not, then why not join in the next time.

We take pride in our website, which is continually updated to keep you informed of the latest IEEE happenings; please click away and see what's there.

As a reminder, the IEEE Newfoundland and Labrador Section's Annual General Meeting will take place in Room EN4002 at MUN (S.J. Carew Building) on November 29, 2000, so why not participate? This year we will be making some special awards, which will make for a pleasant evening.

If you read this and realize that you're not yet an IEEE member, it's not too late to join the party: just check in with any of the executive members and they will be more than willing to send you a membership form... and if you're a student, the discounts are simply amazing! Won't you join in?

Yves Fontaine, P. Eng.
Chair - IEEE Newfoundland and Labrador Section



2000/2001 Section Executive

- Yves Fontaine, **Chair**, Aliant Telecom
- Dennis Peters, **Vice-Chair, & Webmaster**, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science MUN
- Doug Squires, **Treasurer**, IEEE Executive
- Mike Janes, **Secretary & Newsletter**, Aliant Telecom
- Kathleen Chafe, **Membership Development & Bylaws**, Canadian Coast Guard
- Gervase White, **Technical Activities**, New Tech Instruments
- Siu O'Young, **Student Activities & 2001 Conference**, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science MUN
- Eric Gill, **Awards & Scholarships**, Faculty of Engineering and Applied Science MUN
- Active representation from the IEEE Student Section

Life Member Chapter

A Life Member Chapter is being formed in Region 7. Ron Potts (potts@caninet.com) has been appointed LM Chapter Co-ordinator. There are now 8 Regions that have LM Chapter Co-ordinators. It is hoped that former Section Chairs who are now Life Members will volunteer to act as Section LM Reps for the life members in their local sections as a first step in developing activities involving Life Members which will support and enhance the Section. Please contact Yves Fontaine at y.fontaine@ieee.org if you are a life member who would like to become involved.

Tribute to Dr. John Robinson

Alas, poor Dr. John Robinson; we knew him well, but not sufficiently long. Unfortunately for us, Dr. Robinson has taken up residence in his native England to further pursue his career. It has been my privilege to have worked with John on the IEEE Newfoundland and Labrador Section and several other projects.

Dr. Robinson was chair of this Section last year and contributed meaningfully for several years prior to that. He held the Telecommunications Chair position at MUN and, as such, significantly advanced multi-media research in Newfoundland.

I first met Dr. Robinson several years ago at a lunchtime session where he presented the latest happenings in low-speed video transmission. Included in that was some discussion on a then-obscure development, the World Wide Web. Little did I know that a scant few years later it, and the Internet underlying it, were to become the phenomenon of the decade, paving the way to a brave new millennium!

I have valued John's friendship. But I'm not trying to bury him, far from it: while he is gone, he has not forgotten us. Dr. Robinson is still supporting our Section, in working towards our NECEC 2001 (100th Anniversary of Marconi's trans-Atlantic wireless reception) special: he is our liaison with organizers in Poldhu, Cornwall (the place where that fateful transmission originated).

So, John, thank you very much for having shaken things upon our little isle, for your honesty and sincerity and for your continued commitment. Thank you, and long may your big jib draw...

Yves Fontaine, P. Eng.

Newsletter Submissions

Any event notices, technical information, potential technical activities or suggestions and comments are welcomed for Newsletter submission. Please e-mail any suggestion to mike.janes@ieee.org or contact any member of the Section Executive.

IEEE:
Networking The World...

