



# region8news

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. 445 Hoes Lane Piscataway, NJ 08855

## From the Regional Director

**T**he World is changing . . . So do we . . .

For more than 15 years in Region 8, the name of Mick Byford has been synonymous with the Region 8 News. Master of all trades, he was as the same time Editor and Publisher, while laying out the presentation, correcting the articles, and writing his own once in a while. But in addition, Region 8 would not have been able financially to publish our Region 8 News regularly if Mick had not managed to find other resources through paid publicity. I want to take this opportunity, in the name of the entire Region 8, to recognize and thank him for his tireless contribution.

Mick had spoken at several occasions about finding a successor, but nobody really believed he could remain idle and remote from Region 8 activities . . . Several coinciding events have made recent changes possible. First of all, IEEE is now putting a great emphasis on "Affinity Groups," of which the IEEE Life Members Group is an important component along with GOLD. We needed a "Life Members" coordinator for Region 8. Mick Byford has accepted this responsibility, and we are delighted that he will remain active. You will soon hear from him in his new capacity.

Secondly, the finances of the Region 8 News were deteriorating, and the load on the overall Region 8 budget was becoming unreasonable. I have been able to negotiate a very economical arrangement with the Piscataway Publications Department. They will from now on lay out, publish and ship our Region 8 News together with Spectrum. Not only do we save a significant amount of money, but also we do not

need the outside publicity anymore. This takes out the corresponding burdensome workload for uncertain results, and leaves more space in the publication for actual news of the Region and IEEE. The 'price' we will have to pay is a small additional delay in delivery (but Spectrum delivery is constantly improving), and the need to be more rigorous in our schedule since we cannot postpone a Spectrum shipment. But with IEEE going for electronic communications, this is how we will operate, and I am confident it will work.

Last but not least, Duncan Baker who has already been Editor for the Journal of a non-IEEE technical society has accepted to take over this responsibility from Mick Byford. Let me thank him also. I know he will be doing a terrific job.



With these changes in mind, the time was also ripe to introduce some changes in the

structure of our publication. I had been thinking for a long time about this, and consulted several volunteers. These are some of the considerations:

- ♦ We need more information on the activities of the volunteers at the Region level. Our new Bylaws have created several Vice-Chair positions. I have asked each of the Vice-Chairs to report on his area of activities in each issue of Region 8 News.
- ♦ The student pages have been a success, therefore there will be no change.
- ♦ We will try to have less material on what has happened in each section, but concentrate more on future information, and have an in depth feature article rotating between the Sections or on some general Regional or IEEE matter. For this I would urge the Sections to enroll their most active student branch in writing the

Section News. Besides the obvious help, it will increase the contacts between Students and the Section. This has always been one of my priorities.

- ♦ We will give up the news in local language other than English in order really to be of interest to all Sections.

- ♦ And, of course, no more paid publicity or inserts.

I trust the above will match your interest in news from our Region.

Good luck to the new Region 8 News

- Dr. Maurice Papo, Regional Director

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## Dr. Rolf A. Remshardt Elected Honorary Member of the Russian Popov Society

Dr. Rolf A. Remshardt, IEEE Region 8 Treasurer and Region 8 Director-elect, was this April elected as an Honorary Member of the Russian Popov Society for Radioengineering, Electronics and Communications. The citation of the diploma reads, "For his distinguished contribution to developing and strengthening the scientific-technical cooperation between IEEE Region 8, the Russian Popov Society and the IEEE Russia Section and its Chapters."

The diploma was presented to Dr. Remshardt on behalf of the President of the Russian Popov Society, Professor Yuri Gulyaev, by Dr. Henrich Lantsberg, Member of the Russian Popov Society Board and Vice-chair of the IEEE Russia Section.

The presentation ceremony took place on May 10, 1998, during IEEE Region 8's historic Committee Meeting held in Piscataway, N.J., USA. ♦

*Dr. Henrich Lantsberg,  
Vice-Chair, Russia Section.  
E-mail: h.lantsberg@ieee.org*



*Left to right: Dr. Henrich Lantsberg, Vice-Chair, Russia Section; Dr. Rolf Remshardt, Outgoing Treasurer and Director - Elect R8; Dr. Maurice Papo, Director Region 8. Dr. Remshardt being awarded Honorary Membership of the Popov Society in Russia.*

## The End of an Era

As the retiring editor of Region 8 News I should like to take this opportunity to thank all who have over a number of years given me every encouragement and assistance. Without your help and understanding Region 8 News would not have been born and would most certainly never have survived.

Contributors have introduced me to every possible means of communication: the typewriter, telex, E-mail (with all of its many variations), the postal service, the telephone, (particularly from those whose native language is not English) and worst of all, handwriting in great variety.

Only one contribution has defeated us completely:

*Здравствуйте!  
Голуби мои и зайки.  
В Воскресенье 17.08.97  
в Карагангу прилетит  
ИЮЩИЦАНА, ЕЁ ЗОВУТ  
ЕЛЕНА ЕДУАРДОВНА  
БОТАРНИКОВА.*

Grammar and spelling has almost never known such a rich harvest of alternatives - editing makes for a grammatically interesting life! Some words of comfort to those of you who are about to put your words into print; "Mistakes - small or large mistakes are entirely the fault of the editor, but if when printed, your contribution is in every way a shining example of the written word, the editor had nothing to do with it."

All the world's ailments can be laid at the editor's door; he wouldn't have it otherwise.

There are two companies which deserve my thanks for their patience, help and competence; Seven Corners Press and Alpha Mail. When R8 News began, both were small privately owned concerns - they are now competitors in the international field, with several buildings full of elegant multi-million dollar computer controlled machinery. Their staff have been responsible for much of my education; their success gives me considerable satisfaction.

The IEEE staff in Piscataway must at times have shuddered whenever I "arrived" in their office: by phone, fax or Internet - always with some question the answer to which should have been obvious. "What, him again," I hear or imagine, "He's been in the IEEE long enough to know the answer." But the truth is that they have never said anything of the kind; they have always been polite and understanding, and provided the answer promptly.

I shall forgo the pleasure of wishing Editor Duncan "every success in the future," and all the other clichés that appear on these occasions; under his direction success will be inevitable.

You, my one-time readers, will start 1999 with a new editor, a new director and a new printing and mailing department - make the most of it, it's the opportunity of a lifetime. ♦

*- G.H.Byford (Editor Emeritus)*

*46, Crooksbury Road, Farnham, England, GU10 1QB*

## CAS to Provide Generous Chapter Support

At its June 1998 meeting the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society Board of Governors approved a new budget item for the 1999 budget. The CAS is making available 10 000 US Dollars of "new money," to finance one visit per year by each Region 8 CAS Chapter Chair to a CAS Board of Governors meeting. This is a new initiative to open up the Board to "grass-roots" opinion and interaction.

This is a very welcome initiative as it represents a substantial injection of more Society money into Regional activity of the CAS Society. ♦

*For more information contact Prof. Anthony Davies. E-mail: tonydavies@kcl.ac.uk*

## Strategic Planning

**A**ccording to the new Region 8 Bylaws the Junior Past Director shall be the Vice-chair, Strategic Planning. In this capacity it is my pleasure to report shortly about the latest activities within my area of responsibility.

The Vice-chair Strategic Planning has responsibility for three subcommittees:

- ♦ Strategic Planning - coordinates the internal plans for the Region in accordance with the IEEE Strategic Plan.

- ♦ Nominations & Appointments – is responsible for submission of a list of candidates recommended for elections and appointments

- ♦ Awards & Recognitions - promotes, recognizes and rewards excellence in the operations of Region 8 and its entities.

At the Region 8 Committee meeting in Piscataway in May, the Committee elected Basil Osborne as Region 8 Secretary for 1999-2000. Basil was Region 8 Director, 1985-86 and has served Region 8 as Secretary since Bob Winton retired from that position in 1989.

At the same meeting the Committee elected Dr. Hans Jürgen Schmitt as Region 8 Treasurer for 1999-2000. Hans has served as Publications Officer, Vice-chair, and Treasurer for the

Germany Section since 1980. He was Professor and Director at the Ruhr-Westphalen Technical University in Aachen, Germany from 1980 to 1995, when he retired. Our present Region 8 Director-Elect, Rolf Remshardt, has served the Region 8 as Treasurer for more than 14 years, and he deserves our most sincere appreciation for his many years of service.

With regard to the Chair of the Awards and Recognitions Subcommittee, the Director has appointed Hans Peek from the Benelux Section. It is required, that the Chair for this Subcommittee be an IEEE Fellow.

The Region 8 Vice-chairs for Membership Activities, Student Activities, and Technical Activities for 1999 will be elected by the Committee in October this year. Only Section Chairs and other members of the Region 8 Committee can nominate candidates for the elections. ♦



*Peer Martin Larsen,  
Vice-chair Strategic Planning*

## Senior-Member Initiative

**T**he elevation of IEEE members to the Senior Member Grade is an acknowledgement of significant professional performance. Senior Member Grade is required for certain higher positions in the IEEE.

Members of all grades are encouraged to nominate colleagues for elevation to Senior Member Grade. Members who believe they qualify may also apply for elevation to Senior Member. New and simpler application/ nomination and reference forms have been designed; they are available from your Section/Chapter or via email to [senior-member-forms@ieee.org](mailto:senior-member-forms@ieee.org). A \$10 reward to your Section will be provided for each successful Senior Member nominee elevated by the end of 1998. To qualify for the \$10 reward, the name, and – if known – the geocode for the Section or abbreviation of the entity, must appear on the nominator line of the application.

The Director for Region 8, Maurice Papo, proposes a competition to see which Section can achieve the most Senior Member upgrades. The winning Section will receive an invitation for one volunteer to attend the Spring or Autumn/Fall meeting of the Region 8 Committee, in addition to the Chair, during 1999. The obvious volunteer selected would be the member who contributed most to the success of the Section.

In order to encourage the smaller Sections as well, those Sections with less than 500 members of Member Grade at the end of 1998, will be credited with twice the number of Senior Member upgrades achieved. ♦

For more information contact

*Peer Martin Larsen, Vice-chair  
Membership Activities.  
E-mail: [p.larsen@ieee.org](mailto:p.larsen@ieee.org)*

## Technical Activities

### FOCUS ON INDUSTRY

**A**t the Region 8 meeting held recently in Piscataway one of the main points raised in the Focus Group discussions with Section Chairs was the need for IEEE to recruit more volunteers from industry, and to make IEEE activities in the Region better known in industry. For a number of reasons volunteers (e.g. Section and Chapter Chairs and officers) have been in the past mostly from the academic community, especially in Region 8. It is generally agreed that a better balance between academia and industry or public service institutions would benefit not only IEEE but would also ensure that a more representative view on how members would be best served would result.

IEEE exists to serve the profession as a whole and industry is by far the most important part of our profession. To take one example, the outstanding work done by IEEE in the area of Standards goes largely unrecognized in many companies that make use of these Standards. They do not realize, for example, that the Standards have been developed mostly through the efforts of volunteer groups in IEEE committees. There are other examples in the work of IEEE in Continuing Education, technical activity meetings such as conferences and workshops, and above all, technical publications. Each of these relies on the continued support from IEEE members willing to give time to help by serving on organizing committees, acting as editors or reviewers, chairing meetings.

We need members in industry to come forward in larger numbers to serve at local level, on Section and Chapter committees. Experienced volunteers can testify to the benefits that service as an IEEE volunteer can bring, especially in the development of leadership skills and the opportunities for networking.

If you are a member working in industry interested in becoming a volunteer, let's hear from you! ♦

*- Charles Turner – Vice-chair  
Technical Activities*

## Africon '99

Following on the successes of **AFRICONS '92** (Mbabane, Swaziland), and '96 (Stellenbosch, South Africa), plans to hold **AFRICON'99** in Cape Town, South Africa were approved at the May meeting of the Region 8 Committee in Piscataway, USA. The conference is scheduled for the period 29 September to 1 October 1999, with the 28<sup>th</sup> of September being reserved for tutorials.

The overall theme for the conference will be "Electrotechnical Services for Africa." The conference will provide a forum for all the Electrical/Electronic activities in Africa. As such, all the local IEEE conferences will again be included in **AFRICON'99**. Papers are solicited for, but not limited to, the following topics:

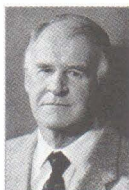
- ♦ High frequency techniques and antennas,
- ♦ Computers,
- ♦ Control,
- ♦ Industrial electronics, energy, and power systems,
- ♦ Human resource development,
- ♦ Communications and signal processing, and
- ♦ Components.

Many diverse topics will be discussed within these main themes.

Intending authors should provide the organizers with a short 50-word abstract of their paper not later than 15 February 1999. Those interested in the conference may view the Website <http://www.ieee-sa.sun.ac.za/africon>.

The Conference Chair is Professor Nico Beute of the Cape Technikon. Enquiries may also be directed to Ms. Heidi Neves, **AFRICON'99** Secretariat, Cape Technikon, PO Box 652, 8000 Cape Town, SOUTH AFRICA. Tel: (+27 21) 460-3657, Fax: (+27 21) 45-4940, E-mail: [africon@norton.ctech.ac.za](mailto:africon@norton.ctech.ac.za).

A Call for Papers will be issued shortly. ♦



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## Awards and Recognition

### REGION 8 TECHNICAL FIELD AWARDS FOR 1997

♦ "IEEE Award in International Communication" to Maurizio Decina, IEEE Fellow, Center of Research and Education in Information Technology, Milan, Italy. "For leadership and contributions to international digital network development and for fostering international technical cooperation."

♦ "IEEE Frederik Philips Award" to Roland Huber, RACE and ACTS Programs, European Commission, Brussels, Belgium. "For outstanding leadership in pan-European research collaboration on communication networks and services."

♦ "IEEE Eric E. Sumner Award," to Jean-Pierre Coudreuse, General Manager of Mitsubishi Electric R&D Laboratory in France. "For fundamental contributions to broadband communications by Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM)."

For 1998 the following Medal was given to a person in Region 8. - "IEEE Founders Medal" to: Alan W. Rudge, IEEE Fellow and Deputy Group Managing

Director, British TELECOM, London, England, UK. "For distinguished leadership in the field of telecommunications and for advancement of the electrical and electronic engineering profession."

Finally for 1998 the following IEEE Technical Field Awards were given to persons in Region 8:

♦ "IEEE Control Systems Award" to Jan C. Willems, IEEE Fellow and Professor of Systems and Control, University of Groningen, Mathematics Institute, Groningen, The Netherlands. "For seminal contributions to control theory and leadership in systems research."

♦ "IEEE Reynold B. Johnson Information Storage Award" to Jean-Pierre Lazzari, IEEE Member and Chief Technical Officer, SIL-MAG, St. Egreve, France. "For contributions and key innovations in media and heads for magnetic disk drives." ♦

- Professor Hans Peek  
(E-mail: [hpeek@cs.kun.nl](mailto:hpeek@cs.kun.nl))

## News from the Sections

### NEWS FROM RUSSIA

IEEE Life Fellow Professor Vladimir A. Kotelnikov celebrates his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday on September 6<sup>th</sup> this year. Academician of the Russian Academy of Sciences Professor Kotelnikov is an outstanding contemporary scientist. His name is well associated with the formation and development of modern radiophysics, radioengineering and radar astronomy.

His fundamental achievements lie in the field of information theory, where he is considered to be one of the founders of information theory. Here first of all we should note the famous theorem of samples formulated by him in his paper "Carrying capacity of 'ether' and wire in electrical communications" published in 1933(!). This theorem is essentially one of the basic theorems in the theory of digital systems and its significance goes far beyond the framework of general communication theory. Professor Kotelnikov was the first to understand the serious technical consequences following from the theorem and in fact gave it a new scientific significance.

Other notable achievements are in the

fields of communications, radio astronomy, and planetary radar astronomy. His work contributed to ensuring the safety of spacecraft used in planetary exploration, and confirmation of effects predicted by the general theory of relativity. The radar survey of the northern part of Venus, as well as the subsurface remote sensing of Mars, were achievements of worldwide importance.

Professor Kotelnikov is a prominent organizer of modern science. For many years he has been the Vice-President of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR as well as the Director of the Institute of Radioengineering and Electronics of the Academy of Sciences. He is now Honorary Director of one of the largest research institutes within the Russian Academy of Sciences. His activity has brought him many International and National awards. He is a Lenin Prize Winner and recipient of two State prizes in science, and has been awarded the A.S. Popov, M.V. Lomonosov, and M.V. Keldysh Gold Medals by the Academy of Sciences.

In 1964 he was elected Life Fellow of

*continued on page 6*

# Membership Activities

**A**t the Region 8 Committee meeting in Piscataway in May the Region 8 Director, Maurice Papo, announced that he had appointed Charles Turner as Region 8 Vice-chair Technical Activities and myself as Vice-chair Membership Activities for the rest of 1998. Consequently it is my pleasure under this heading to report on the present status of the Region 8 membership, and about planned activities for the members and for elected/appointed volunteers in the region.

By the end of March 1998 Region 8 had 39 448 members including 8 746 student members, and an average a growth rate of 7.5%. The average growth rate for the IEEE as a whole is 4.8%. By the end of April 1998, when all members who had not paid their dues and fees went into arrears, Region 8 had 34 434 active members. All regions experience a sudden drop in membership when the membership database is updated in this context. However, a drop-out of 5 014 members corresponding to 12,7% of the active mem-

bership is a serious matter, which could be prevented if the sections and the student branches stressed the importance of reporting changes of addresses, especially when student members graduate. The "terminator" problem has been studied by four sections in Region 8, and the Membership Development (MD) officers have been encouraged to ask prospective "terminators" to pay the Final Renewal Bill (which was mailed from Piscataway by March 15) before the end of April. The effect of this Pilot Project for decreasing the drop-out of "terminators" is actually not measurable.

Region 8 has planned a MD workshop in Budapest in October for training of MD Officers from the sections in Central and Eastern Europe. The MD officers seldom have an opportunity to participate in MD meetings outside their own country, and to exchange experiences with colleagues in other sections. We strongly recommend all sections to appoint MD officers responsible for member recruitment and retention, as

well as for improvement of member services. The MD officer is also responsible for chapter support with regard to membership lists and updating the SAMIEEE database. All sections receive update diskettes from Piscataway each month.

The number of chapters in Region 8 is now close to 200 and is still increasing. In order to train chapter chairs from the IEEE Societies in Division I & IV (including Electron Devices and Microwaves Theory and Techniques Societies) a Region 8 Chapters Meeting takes place in October, prior to the European Microwave Conference in Amsterdam. More than 60 chairs are invited to the one-day meeting. The program includes a MD Workshop and presentations concerning membership recruitment and retention 'best practices' from the chapters.

Questions and requests regarding membership activities are welcome on e-mail: [p.larsen@ieee.org](mailto:p.larsen@ieee.org). ♦

*- Peer Martin Larsen, Vice-chair  
Membership Activities*

# Conference News — MELECON '98 IN TEL-AVIV, ISRAEL

## A SUCCESSFUL REGIONAL CONFERENCE

**S**eventeen years after the first Mediterranean Electro-technical Conference, the ninth **MELECON**, cosponsored by the Association of Engineers and Architects in Israel (AEAI) and the Communications Society, was again held in Tel-Aviv. About 320 papers were presented to about 450 attendees from 20 countries.

With delegates drawn from as far afield as Eastern and Western Europe, and the New World, **MELECON** was a real "Global Village" meeting. This stimulating cosmopolitan atmosphere was evident throughout the sessions and informal meetings. The spirit of "Networking the World" was truly alive at this IEEE Conference.

Dr. Baal-Schem, General Chairman of the conference, officially opened the proceedings. This was followed by greetings by representatives of the AEAI, and other sponsors, as well by the Director General of the Ministry of Communications. IEEE Past-President "Chuck" Alexander held the audience enthralled with his

Keynote Lecture on "Engineering in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century."

About 45 Technical Sessions, in 7 parallel tracks, organized by the Technical Program Committee headed by Prof. Anthony J. Weiss, dealt with the different topics of the Conference – from Power Systems to Aerospace and Electronic Systems and from Technological Education to Robotics and Automation. Special attention was given to students. Their papers participated in a contest where six outstanding papers were cited as prize winners. In addition, the Region 8 Students' papers contest was held during the Conference and its winners were recognized by the Regional Student Activities Chairman, Prof. Levent Onural.

As the Conference was held during the 50-th Anniversary of Israel, the folklore show presented at the Social Evening – sponsored by the Israel Electronics Industries Association – portrayed the different cultural aspects of the nation and the country. Dancers and musicians drawn from Tel-Aviv University's students performed and swapped the attendees and their

partners into Israeli folkdances.

IEEE Spectrum for May featured a Special Report on "Israel - a high-tech haven." This coincided both with the National Independence Day (15 May) and **MELECON '98** (18-20 May). Some of the Israeli activities were presented at the different Sessions.

**MELECON '98** again justified the importance of holding face to face meetings "to provide an atmosphere to enhance the interpersonal rapport of a large number of engineers" and "to provide opportunities for students and young engineers to meet their experienced peers," as stipulated in the IEEE Meetings Manual. In an era when most of our connections are made electronically, there is still a need for personal contacts between peers.

The representative of the IEEE Cyprus Section has already invited the participants to **MELECON 2000**, to be held from 22-24 May in the welcoming island of Cyprus (URL: [www.cycollege.ac.cy/iee.html](http://www.cycollege.ac.cy/iee.html)). ♦

*- Dr. Jacob Baal-Schem and Prof.  
Anthony J. Weiss, Israel*

# News from the Sections *continued*

the IEEE. In 1973 he was awarded the IEEE Hermand & Sozenes Behn Award "for great contribution to the theory and practice of communications, fundamental investigations and leadership of radar astronomy research."

Professor Kotelnikov is a founder and Honorary member of the Russian Popov Society for Radioengineering, Electronics and Communications as well as of the international Telecommunication Academy. In spite of his age he continues his creative activity. He is full of new ideas and often amazes his coworkers by the originality and depth of his thoughts.

- Dr. Henrich Lantsberg, Vice-Chair, Russia Section. E-mail: h.lantsberg@ieee.org

## NEWS FROM ROMANIA

### HPC Colaborator Project Benefits Academia, Research, Industry and Commerce

On April 2-3 1998, the Faculty of Automatics and Computers at the "Politehnica" University of Bucharest organized the second edition of the Symposium "The Role of Academic Education and Research in the Development of the Information Society." This edition was centered on the subject of the CoLaborator project: the development of a *Multi-User Research Environment for High-Performance Computing (HPC)* in Romania. CoLaborator will be developed by the joint effort of Research teams in the "Politehnica" University of Bucharest (Department of Computer Science and Engineering, Group of Numerical Methods), the Technical University of Iasi, the University of Galati, and the Medicine and Pharmacy University of Cluj-Napoca. The funding for the first two years of the project comes mainly from the Romanian Ministry of National Education.

The aim of the Symposium was to discuss the technical and organizational solutions required to achieve the ambitious objectives of CoLaborator. These are: the setting up of a Research Center for parallel, distributed, and cooperative computing, acquisition of a high performance computing system, widely accessible through RoEduNet, the Romanian academic computer network, the development of education, research, and consultancy activities in the domain of HPC, international compatibility with similar resources and researches, and good national and international visibility.

The long term goal of the CoLaborator project is to disseminate the effective use of high performance computing systems throughout academia, industry and commerce. Part of the research supported by Colaborator will be advanced research projects in several scientific domains requiring HPC. Another part will be devoted to cooperative and contract projects with industrial and commercial partners.

The team of CoLaborator aims to provide novel business solutions for the application of high-performance technologies to real-world problems, a comprehensive range of training programs, and consultancy to raise the effective exploitation of HPC in Romanian enterprises. Participation in several national and European programs devoted to HPC will lead to a better coordination of Romanian research and education with international trends. Coordinator of CoLaborator project: Prof. Dr. Valentin Cristea, Email: valentin@cs.pub.ro, Tel: (401)-4100400 ext 194, Fax: (401)-4112181 CoLaborator's URL: <http://sunsite.pub.ro/projects/CoLaborator>

- Professor Valentin Cristea

## NEWS FROM FRANCE

### OBITUARY - JEAN VOGÉ

In the last days of May we suddenly lost our good friend Jean Vogé, who between 1972 and 1981 was the Chairman of the IEEE France Section, after being SEE Vice-president for electronics between 1962 and 1965. Born in 1921, a graduate from Polytechnique and ENST, he began his career in Centre National d'Etudes des Telecommunications as a researcher. He also spent most of his time in teaching in many engineering schools abroad, and in France at ENST, where he was the managing director. As a consequence of the very large domain of international technical activities in which he had been involved, many scientists in the world will mourn the death of so sympathetic and distinguished a colleague. Jean Vogé was an IEEE Fellow, a Commander of the French Legion of Honor as well as an Officer of the Belgian Leopold Order.

- Tribute by Prof. Michel H. Carpentier

## MEETINGS

The French Chapter of the IEEE EMC Society has for its program for 1997-1998 the pleasure of hosting M. Art Wall, responsible for EMC matters at the Federal Agency FCC,

for a presentation concerning "Global Trends in Commercial EMC-Requirements" (in cooperation with the French SEE, Club 25).

The Int. Conf. on Parallel Architectures and Compilation Techniques (**PACT'98**) will be held on October 14-17, 1998 at ENST (Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Telecommunications), 46 rue Barrault, Paris 13. Inf.kemal@watson.ibm.com, <http://www.inf.enst.fr/pact/>. The IEEE France Section Computer Chapter presents the "Best paper award."

The **OCEANS'98** Conference on "Engineering for Sustainable Use of the Oceans" (with student posters) and Exhibition will be held in Nice, Acropolis Convention Center, 28 Sept. - 1 Oct. 1998. Inf. Rene Garello: rene.garello@enst-bretagne.fr, <http://oceans98.ifremer.fr/oceans98>; fax: 33 (0)2 98 00 10 98.

The Int. Symp. on Computer Employment and Education (**ISCEE'98**) sponsored by the IEEE, IEEE CS, European Commission, U. of Picardie Jules Vernes will be held on October 8-9 1998 in Amiens. General Chair: Ch. Cerin, c.cerin@computer.org; fax : 33 (0)3 22 82 75 02; <http://w3.u-picardie.fr/~cerin/ieee/Iscee98/>.

## Les Anciens de la Radio et de l'électronique

invite you to their series of evening lectures, always at 5 p.m. at the headquarters of the FIEEC, 17 rue Hamelin, 75 116 Paris, followed by a cocktail:

♦ June 16, 1998, "Cryptography today," by Edouard **Richard** (Thomson-CSF) and Pierre **Benaiteau** (formerly Thomson-CSF);

♦ October 20, 1998, "Computer Science vs. health: present and future," by Doctor Patrick **Dhont**, chairman of Formation & Sante;

♦ November 24, 1998, "Present tools for producing shows," by Alexandre **Joly**, chairman of **Tanaris**;

♦ January 19, 1999, "Evolution of T.V. control-desks toward digital." by Jean-Pierre **Acotte**, VP in charge of operations, Thomson Broadcast Systems;

♦ March 19, 1999, "How to detect fires in Eurotunnel - a true test," by Guy **Roux**, A.R.E. member.

- Professor Edwige Pissaloux, E-mail: [Edwige.Pissaloux@univ-rouen.fr](mailto:Edwige.Pissaloux@univ-rouen.fr)

## Editorial

Hi folks,

The times, they are a-changin.' As you can see from this issue, a lot of things have changed for the Region 8 News and its Student Section, as well as for the organizational structure concerning student affairs.

First of all, we have a new Regional Student Activities Chair. She is Gozde Bozdagi (bozdagi@baskent.edu.tr). She has been Student Representative before, so she's perfectly qualified. You can read her introduction in an article on this page.

Although my call for articles went out very shortly before the actual deadline, I received more articles than I have space to put them in. Very special thanks for that to the Eindhoven Branch, who submitted 4(!) articles. I'm planning on putting up a Website to present all this additional information along with an electronic copy of the regular Student News.

I am sure, however, that the new way of making and distributing this newsletter will take a lot of pressure out of our work thus enabling us to take things a little easier.

- Jens and Gozde

## From the Student Activities Chair

It is a great pleasure for me to be appointed as the new SAC Chair of IEEE Region 8. I had the chance to be the R8 RSR about 6 years ago and it is really exciting to be with the students again. First of all, I would like to thank my predecessor, Levent Onural, for the outstanding work he has done since 1995. I believe, together with Jens Hannemann and all the student members in Region 8, we will continue to be one of the most active regions in the world.

Before going through the upcoming events, I would like to congratulate the student paper contest winners, P. Bienstman, M.C. van Beurden, C. Wolters and Dick Poortvliet award winner, University of Gent Branch.

A couple of exciting events for students are approaching. The first Student Branch Congress in Region 8 is going to be held in **ISTANBUL** on August 10-13, 1998. During this four day congress, there will be leadership training sessions, intercultural exhibition, and lots of social events where students can interact and have a chance to initiate new activities for their branches. Right after this congress, there will be another student event, the **STUDENT'98** conference organized by Bogazici student branch for students. The first day of this conference will be a joint event with the Student Branch Congress. On the following 3 days tutorials will be presented by several distinguished lecturers. In order to get more information about this conference you can e-mail to [ieeesb@boun.edu.tr](mailto:ieeesb@boun.edu.tr)

Another important deadline for the students is the application for the outstanding branch award. The purpose of this award is to recognize and encourage student branches that accomplished outstanding activities among Region 8 in accordance with the IEEE Bylaws. The nominations for this award should be done by August 15, directly to the R8 SAC chair at the following address:

Dr. Gozde Bozdagi  
Baskent University  
Dept. Elec. and Electronics Eng.  
Baglica Campus,  
06530 Ankara, Turkey

The winner will also be automatically nominated for the IEEE International RAB Outstanding Student Branch Award. The nomination package should include the nomination form completed by the nominator, branch bylaw, branch annual plan, branch annual report, number of members for the current and the previous years, the officers list, detailed list of activities, attendance at this activities, copies of newsletter or other promotional efforts. For award consideration, the Branch must be nominated by a Branch officer, satisfy the nomination package requirements and be endorsed by the Branch Counselor/Advisor and appropriate Section officer. The details of the nomination package for this award can be found at <http://www.baskent.edu.tr/ieee/oba.html>. Once again, it is very exciting for me to be in the Region 8 committee as the Student Activities Committee Chair. I will be more than

happy to help you in any way regarding IEEE student activities from now on.

- Gozde Bozdagi, Student Activities Chair

## Student Branch Congress and Student'98

At the time of writing, the organizing of a joint event in Istanbul in August is well under way. Most of you have already heard about both of these events but for those who are unaware or have a blurred idea, I want to give information about both events.

The first event is IEEE Region 8 Student Branch Congress, which will take place at Bogazici University in Istanbul between August 10-13, 1998. This congress is mainly for student branch chairs, and counselors. Other IEEE student activities related guests are welcome too. Air fare, four nights of dorm accommodation and the cost of participation in all SBC events, including tours and social dinners, of authorized student branch chairs in Region 8 will be reimbursed by IEEE Region 8. The main purpose of the congress is to provide information regarding general IEEE structure and operations, with special attention to student affairs within IEEE. For further information on this congress, please contact Levent Onural ([onural@ee.bilkent.edu.tr](mailto:onural@ee.bilkent.edu.tr)).

The second event is **STUDENT'98**, the International Conference for Undergraduate Students in Electrical, Electronics and Computer Engineering, which will again take place at Bogazici University in Istanbul between August 13-16, 1998. This conference is open to all undergraduate students. The scope of this conference covers tutorials on several subjects in electrical, electronics and computer engineering such as lasers, VLSI technology, and pattern recognition; besides various social activities. For further information such as conference program, attendance fee, etc., please surf in the web page of **STUDENT'98**: <http://ieee.boun.edu.tr/student98>.

Even though both events are overlapping, registration for each event must be done separately. The participants of first event will have a chance of participating in the second event if and only if they apply to the **STUDENT'98** organizing committee, as well.

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**Editors:** Levent Onural Region 8 Vice-chair (Student Activities) l.onural@ieee.org Gozde Bozdagi (Student Activities Chair) bozdagi@baskent.edu.tr Jens Hannemann (Student Representative) j.hannemann@ieee.org

If you have further questions, please do not hesitate to drop an email to [ieeesb@boun.edu.tr](mailto:ieeesb@boun.edu.tr). I hope that both events will turn out to be a success for our student branch.

Looking forward to meeting you in Istanbul in August.

- *Emre Sucu, Student'98 and SBC'98  
Organizing Committee Co-Chair*

## IEEE SB Ege (Turkey) meets IEEE SB Eindhoven (Netherlands)

From April 25<sup>th</sup> till May 2<sup>nd</sup>, eight students of the IEEE Student Branch Ege were on a study tour in the Netherlands. They visited Amsterdam (Rijksmuseum with the Nightwatch, canal cruise), shopped and were given a tour of the first Philips factory in Eindhoven, and walked on the pier in Scheveningen. Since a week is far too short a time to see everything of "Holland," Madurodam was also on the program. Madurodam is the smallest city in the Netherlands and all the major attractions can be found here, but on a much smaller scale.

Of course a study tour is not just meant to learn about the cultural aspects of a country. So two company visits and a complete program at the faculty of Electrical Engineering of the Eindhoven University of Technology were also scheduled. The first company on the program was Philips Semiconductors in Nijmegen. After a general introduction, the latest developments in CMOS and BIMOS semiconductor technologies were explained. Because the Turkish students all study computer engineering, they had a hard time understanding every detail. After Philips another "typical" Dutch company was visited: Ericsson Telecommunications in Rijen. Except for the standard introduction, attention was also given to the employment opportunities at Ericsson. Two of the Turkish students wanted to learn even more about these possibilities and made an appointment with some engineers.

What remained was to give an insight into "the life and times" of an electrical engineering student in the Netherlands. After a university video, both the Ege and the Eindhoven branch gave a presentation on the activities and (im)possibilities of each branch. The afternoon was filled with a tour around the faculty. The enor-

mous equipment of the "High Voltage Hall" and the robots of the Measurement and Control Systems Department made the biggest impression on our Turkish colleagues. Of course the day ended with a traditional drink at the Walhalla, the faculty's pub in the basement of the building. The projects that are worked on there went down as smoothly as beer! And all these subjects were repeated in the evening at the pub where all students meet in the evening: the AOR, of course after having a "typical Dutch" dinner: Indonesian sateh.

More than just tired, our new friends went back to Turkey with twice as much luggage, an Ericsson hammock and of course a good impression of the way electrical engineering students in the Netherlands live. An invitation for a visit to Turkey stands - so if your branch is interested in trying some real kebabs . . .

- *Iris Haubrich, chair IEEE Student Branch  
Eindhoven 97/98*

## 1998 Student Paper Contest Winner is from GENT BRANCH

As you all know, the regional student paper contest is one of our most important activities. Students may participate by submitting papers reporting their work; the work must be completed before the student gets his/her first professional degree. Submissions to the regional contest must be made through the branches; each branch is expected to run their own local contest and then submit the local winners to the regional contest. Larger branches may submit more than one paper: as the total number of members in the branch exceeds a multiple of 50, the number of submissions may be incremented by one. This year we had 19 submissions.

The six best submissions were selected by an

international jury on the basis of content and written presentation. The authors of these six papers were invited to the oral finals, which were held in Tel Aviv, Israel, during **MELECON'98** on May 19. As befits the high standard expected, the presentations were all excellent; there were a large number of conference participants in the audience. All of us were honored by the presence of the Past President of the IEEE, Charles Alexander, and the Past Director of Region 8, Peer Martin Larsen, among the observers. The jury members were Prof. Ove Skovgaard (Denmark), Prof. Javier Macias Guaresa (Spain), Prof. Erol Sezer (Turkey) and myself.

After careful evaluation, the jury decided on the winner: Peter Bienstman, from University of Gent (Benelux Section) with his paper entitled "Analysis and Characterization of Microcavity-LED's for Optical Interconnection Applications." Peter will get a \$500 award from the IEEE Life Members Fund. Peter's achievement means that the Gent Branch will get the 1998 Dick Poortvliet Award consisting of a plaque and \$250. The second prize went to M. C. van Beurden (Eindhoven Branch, Benelux Section) with an award of \$300; and the third prize went to Christian Wolters (Ruhr-University Bochum Branch, Germany Section) with an award of \$200. The costs associated with the visit of all six finalists to Tel Aviv were covered by the IEEE Region 8 funds.

I invite all our student members and our branches to participate next year. The deadline will be announced later by the Student Activities Chair, but usually it is mid-December. Branches may hold their local contests at any time which suits their programs, in order to establish their winners by the regional deadline.

- *Levent Onural, Region 8 Vice-Chair  
(Student Activities)*

## Deadlines & Upcoming Events

**August 1** - Fall Promotional Mailing sent to all Branch Counselors. So, after the usual mail delay (4-6 weeks) check with your counselor whether that stuff has arrived.

**August 10-13** - IEEE Region 8 Student Branch Congress in Istanbul, Turkey in conjunction with **STUDENT'98**.

**August 15** - Rebate Checks will be sent if the

Annual Report of Activities has been received by headquarters in time (deadline May 1).

**November 1** - Annual Plan of Activities due to student services

**December 15** - Student Paper Contest deadline

If you want *your* local student branch activity listed here, just drop us an email.