

**Life Member Coordinator****Jacob Baal-Schem****Highlights from the past**

- At the beginning of 2013, IEEE Region 8 had 10 Life Members Affinity Groups (LMAGs):: Israel, France, UKRI, Italy, Croatia, Switzerland, Spain, Greece, Hungary & Slovenia. During 2013 - Germany LMAG was officially founded and Egypt LMAG is in process.
- Most R8 LMAGS were active during 2013 , holding Technical meetings,, being active in Secondary Schools and initiating Milestones.
- Greece LMAG that was inactive in 2013 has returned to activity with two technical meeting in January and February 2014..
- R8 LM activities coordinator serves as member of the IEEE Life Members Committee (2013-2014) and has been appointed as Liaison of the LMC to Section Congress 2014.
- R8 Members of the IEEE LMC have been requested to organize the next "IEEE Technical Tour".

**Future activities**

- A major goal of R8 LM activities is to formalize the founding of the IEEE Egypt LMAG and to found an IEEE Benelux LMAG for the 116 LMs in this Section.
- Region 8 LM Officers and members will be active in setting-up and manning the IEEE Life Members booth at Section Congress 2014 as well as in making presentations during SC14 in Amsterdam.
- Existing LMAGs will continue their activity, mainly by organizing Technical meetings.
- The IEEE Israel LMAG is active in organizing HISTELCON 2015 jointly with ICOHTEC and other History of Technology Organizations, to be held in August 2015 at Tel-Aviv University, Details are attached.
- During 2014 and especially at SC14 a great effort will be made to assist in the initiation of IEEE Milestones in Region 8 Sections.
- A detailed proposal for the next "IEEE Technical Tour", planned to be held in Central Europe will be presented to the IEEE Life Members Committee, with great endeavor of IEEE LMs of Region 8.

**Best practices**

- We learn again and again that there is an interest by IEEE Life Members and by older Technical persons to learn about recent developments in Technology and therefore the main activities of LMAGs are towards holding Technical meetings.
- The initiation of IEEE Milestones is a complicated joint activity between History and LM committees and require cooperation of many organizations at the site of the Milestone. IEEE Section Chairs should assist officers in Milestone activities

**Points of concern / Topics for future discussion**

- The main concern is about the unwillingness of IEEE Life Members to take the responsibilities to chair a Life Member Affinity Group. We possibly should find a way to recognize their effort in order to initiate people to accept these responsibilities.
- IEEE older members are not aware enough of the advantages of becoming Life Member and many of them terminate their membership payments before reaching the LM status.

**Miscellaneous**

- A new system will be set-up by IEEE LMC to recognize distinguished LMAGs.
- Region 8 Distinguished lecturers should propose visits to LMAGs.
- In most Section there exists a good partnership between the LMAG and local Engineering Societies

**Conclusions**

IEEE Life Members have a great potential to assist the Section in its Technical activities. Section Chairs are invited to emphasis the continuing membership until LM status and to assist Life Members activities. Remember: "Experience does not go on Retreat".