

# IEEE Region 8 50th Anniversary

**97<sup>th</sup> IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting  
San Francisco, CA, USA, 19 August 2011**

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IEEE R8 Jubilee Book Coordinator  
IEEE R8 Director Elect

# Important dates in the early history

## ▣ **14 February 1962**

Informal meeting of the Inter-Sectional Committee, Europe (4 Sections: Benelux, France, Geneva, Italy).

## ▣ **6 March 1962**

Sending of a petition (by the Benelux Section) to the IRE Board of Directors to form a new Region, with its territory based on the European Broadcasting Area (Greater Europe) defined in the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union.

The **European Broadcasting Area** includes the Western part of the USSR and the territories bordering on the Mediterranean.

# Important dates in the early history

## ▣ **24 April 1962**

Approval of a new Region (Region 9 = Greater Europe) by the IRE Executive Committee.

## ▣ **24 May 1962**

Final approval of this new Region by the IRE Board of Directors.

## ▣ **6 June 1962**

Inaugural Regional Committee meeting (12 participants) in Geneva, ITU Building.

6 Sections: Benelux, Egypt (not present), France, Geneva, Israel, Italy.

## ▣ **22 October 1962**

Second IRE Region 9 Committee meeting.

7 Sections; new Section UKRI (10-07-1962).

# Important dates in the early history

- ▣ **1 January 1963**

Merger of IRE and AIEEE to form IEEE.

- ▣ **8 January 1963**

Re-approval by the IEEE Board of Directors (after the merger): renaming of IRE Region 9 to IEEE Region 8.

- ▣ **22 April 1963**

First IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting  
8 Sections; new Section Norway (28-03-1963).

- ▣ **4 November 1963**

Second IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting  
9 Sections; new Section Germany (22-04-1963).

# Important dates in the early history

## ▣ **The IEEE Regions**

After the merger, USA formed Regions 1-6; Canada was Region 7; Region 8 comprised Europe, Middle East and North Africa; 'the rest of the world' was Region 9.

## ▣ **1966**

Region 9 was limited to South America; 'the rest of the world' was now Region 10.

When the South Africa and Nigeria Sections were founded (5 August 1977 and 12 January 1978), they were part of Region 10.

## ▣ **June 1981**

The whole of Africa (including South Africa and Nigeria) is now part of Region 8; Region 8 gets its present form.



# THE INSTITUTE OF RADIO ENGINEERS

INCORPORATED

August 7, 1962

To: Board of Directors  
Section and Subsection Officers

From: Emily Sirjane, Office Manager

Subject: IRE Section Manual Revisions

The following actions were taken by the IRE Executive Committee under dates of April 24 and July 10, 1962:

- (1) Approval of the formation of a new Region, Region 9.
- (2) Approval of the establishment of a new Section, the United Kingdom Section.

The necessary corrections have been made to the IRE Section Manual, and you are requested to substitute the enclosed sheet for that page which immediately follows the territorial assignment of Region 8 in Section 20 of your copy of this Manual.

# When to celebrate?

- ▣ **Three celebrations during three Region 8 Committee meetings**  
Spring 2012 / Autumn 2012 / Spring 2013.
- ▣ **Spring 2012** ( $\approx 50$  years after 24 April 1962)  
? Presentations about the development in Science and Technology during the past 50 years by two prominent speakers from academia and industry.  
Presentations will be included in the Jubilee Book.
- ▣ **Autumn 2012**  
? Presentations by some selected Sections.  
Presentations will be included in the Jubilee Book.
- ▣ **Spring 2013 – the culmination !**

# Spring 2013 celebration

- **100<sup>th</sup> IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting**  
(not counting the two IRE Regional meetings).
- **50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of IEEE as an Institute**  
Why not synchronize with the celebration of 50 years IEEE! Invite all Regional Directors. Maybe even a Board of Directors meeting?
- **Presentations by some Past R8 Directors**  
All living Past Region 8 Directors will be invited.
- **Presentation of the Region 8 Jubilee Book**
  - Compact (but complete) history of Region 8.
  - Presentations given at the two 2012 meetings.
  - Personal reflections by Past Region 8 Directors.
  - One-page contributions from all R8 Sections.
  - ...



# We need help from the Sections

- ▣ **Dig into your archives** and look for Regional meeting agendas, minutes, and lists of participants; look for rosters; for old copies of R8 News (since 1967!); ...

The Region's history before 1985 is vague! Special request to old Sections, formed before 1985.

- ▣ **Update your Section's history** on the IEEE Global History Network (<http://www.ieeeghn.org>).

- ▣ **Write a one-page article** about your Section, to be included in the Jubilee Book.

No dull statistics, but something that is easy to read and specific to your Section: how it was formed, difficulties that you have encountered, relations with other organizations, best practices that you are proud of, stupid mistakes from which we can learn (!), anecdotes, ...

# We need help from the Sections

## ▣ **Venues for the Fall 2012 and Spring 2013 meeting**

You can still apply for hosting the celebration meetings.

Initial ideas were Geneva (where it all started: the first 7 meetings were held there!) and the Benelux (which took the initiative in 1959).

However: Geneva seems rather expensive and Amsterdam (Benelux) has already been chosen as the venue for Sections Congress 2014.

## ▣ **All celebration suggestions are welcome!**

These were just some ideas. Tell us yours!

OpCom will discuss jubilee activities in its next meeting (October).