

IEEE Region 8 Life Members Report – February 2012

IEEE Life Membership Qualifications

IEEE "Life" status is an automatic process based on an individual's membership record. To qualify for Life member status, a member must be at least 65 years of age and have been a member of IEEE or one of its predecessor societies for such a period that the sum of his/her age and his/her years of membership equals or exceeds 100 years.

Benefits of Life Membership

- * Dues and regional assessments are waived for Life Members.
- * For qualifying Life Members, society fees are also waived.
- * Individuals may receive reduced member rates at IEEE sponsored conferences.
- * Life Members continue to receive the same benefits that are available to other IEEE members.

IEEE Life Members Affinity Groups

An IEEE Life Members Affinity Group is a local Unit of an IEEE Organizational Unit, constituted by IEEE members who have obtained Life Member status and established by petition, and concerned to represent and fulfil the needs of the local IEEE Life Members. A petition to establish an IEEE LM Affinity Group www.ieee.org/societies_communities/geo_activities/forms_petitions/DF_IEEE_MIG_MCT_63099 must be submitted and approved by the IEEE LM Committee Chair, Region Director, and Section Chair. For IEEE Life Members Affinity Group Management and Procedures visit www.ieee.org/societies_communities/geo_activities/life_members/group_management.html

LM Group Officers Positions

Officers of the Life Members Group shall be **at least a Chair and a Vice Chair**. Each member of the Life Members Group Committee shall have attained IEEE Life Member status and be an IEEE member of Member, Senior Member, or Fellow grade.

Keeping Life Members Active and Engaged

The LMC believes that keeping LMs active and engaged is a key component to the success of the IEEE in local IEEE activities. This engagement can be conducted through the local Section and/or Technical Chapter but the LMC believes that having a local LM Affinity Group is a more effective method in keeping Life Members active.

If your Section does not have an LM Affinity Group, you are encouraged to discuss the formation of an LM Affinity Group with your Section leadership.

Why Establish a Life Members Group

While many Life Members remain active in IEEE projects at various levels of IEEE, the Life Members Committee encourages the formation of Life Members Groups in Sections because the Committee believes more Life Members will remain involved if there are Life Members Groups.

Life Members Groups enable Life Members to retain active IEEE associations, contribute to the social good in their communities, advance the professional interests of IEEE and allow members to enjoy each other's company.

If you have any questions concerning LM group formation don't hesitate to send me an e-mail a.szabo@ieee.org

What LM Groups Can Do

Life Member Groups should organize at least two meetings during the calendar year to remain active. All meetings are counted (technical, social, administrative).

Life Member Groups can cooperate with Chapters, GOLD Affinity Groups and Student Branches in common projects.

Life Members can help in Section Operation and especially in Membership Recruitment, Retention and recovery.

Life Members often know much about history and can help a lot in LM Group and Section history activities, and participate in the Milestone program.

Life Members Groups are authorized by the IEEE Life Members Committee an annual budget, not exceeding **US\$1,000**, towards meetings or activities acceptable to the Regional Life Members Coordinator. The funding will be provided upon actual expenses. Prior to any Life Members Group expenditure requiring additional Life Members Committee funding, the approval must first be obtained from the Regional Life Members Coordinator.

Life Member Groups in Region 8

During 2011 Sections having enough Life Members have been contacted and invited to form LM Groups and **new Life Member Groups have been formed in Greece, Hungary and Slovenia.**

Now we have LM Groups in 10 Sections.

Section	LM Group Chair	E-mail
Croatia Section	Branka Zovko-Cihlar	branka.zovko@fer.hr
France Section	Michel Poloujadoff	michel.poloujadoff@upmc.fr
Greece Section	Athanasios N Safacas	a.n.safacas@ee.upatras.gr
Hungary Section	Gabor Ban	ban.gabor@vet.bme.hu
Israel Section	Jacob Baal-Schem	baal@013.net
Italy Section	Stefano Levialdi	levialdi@di.uniroma1.it
Slovenia Section	Baldomir Zajc	b.zajc@ieee.org
Spain Section	Jose A.Delgado-Penín	delpen@tsc.upc.edu
Switzerland Section	Hugo Wyss	h.wyss@ieee.org
UK&RI Section	Roland Saam	r.saam@ieee.org

Great Potential to Form New LM Groups

In many other Sections in our Region we have enough Life Members to form LM Groups. There is a great potential to form new LM Groups.

I am inviting Sections in Region 8 having enough Life Members to form LM Groups during 2012.

Here are the counts of Life Members on 26 February 2012.

Section	Count of Life Members on 26 Feb 2012	Section Name	Count of Life Members on 26 Feb 2012
Austria	16	Malta	1
Benelux	98	Nigeria	1
Croatia, LMG	15	Norway	35
Cyprus	2	Poland	16
Czechoslovakia	3	Portugal	4
Denmark	32	Qatar	2
Egypt	29	Rep of Macedonia	1
Finland	23	Romania	5
France, LMG	69	Saudi Arabia	4
Germany	147	Serbia & Montenegro	5
Greece, LMG	25	Slovenia, LMG	9
Hungary, LMG	11	South Africa	7
Iceland	3	Spain, LMG	44
Israel, LMG	101	Sweden	80
Italy, LMG	99	Switzerland, LMG	157
Jordan	4	Turkey	11
Kenya	1	UK&RI, LMG	201
Kuwait	2	Ukraine	2
Latvia	1	UAE	2
Lebanon	3		

Outstanding LM Groups in Region 8

During previous two years some of our LM Groups (Israel and UK&RI twice, Croatia and Italy once) have been recognized by the IEEE LM Committee as Outstanding Life Member (LM) Affinity Groups. The Outstanding LM Affinity Groups identification is based on the number of LM events held, the average attendance at those events, and the number of contributors to the IEEE Life Members Fund (LMF).

Exemplary Activities

I would like to point out, as a good example, the activity of the Israel LM Group with their traditional Technical Friday meetings held three times during 2011 with over 200 participants in each.

The Spain LM Group is active in giving presentations in secondary schools to attract students to study engineering. Another aspect is related with History activities. They intend to promote a Milestone related to telegraphy principles.

In the UK&RI Section the LMAG Committee held five meetings in London which included: review of Oral History techniques; planning & writing R8 Jubilee Book material. At the Region 8 Spring Meeting held in London, LMAG members assisted with the local arrangements, including selection of venue, tour, entertainment, for delegates, as well as helping organise the student support for the registration and logistics. Several LMAG members supported the UK&RI Section Student Branch Meeting in September 2011. The re-vitalisation of Imperial College Student Branch is a continuing project. At the 2011 Autumn UK&RI section meeting, plans were outlined for a new initiative to select Life Members to act as Patrons/Mentors for Student Branches.

In 2012 the Student Branch mentoring initiative in the UK&RI LM Group is taking shape. Further activities were sketched for finding LMs who would "adopt" an SB and offer valid support to them on a continuing basis. Contributions to the R8 Jubilee Book project continue. Two LMAGs are designing (and producing) the 50 Years TimeLine Brochure to be given as souvenir at the R8 meeting in Berlin. The first "Oral History Interview of Past Directors of R8" got started with an interview with Reg Russell (second Director).

Such examples could be a good encouragement for the formation of new Life Member Groups in many of our Sections in Region 8.

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