

Electronic Communications Coordinator Report October 2013**George Michael**

The Region 8 Electronic Communication Coordinator's job is to facilitate communication, both between members of the Region 8 Committee, and between this committee and present or future IEEE members.

IEEE Region 8 website (<http://www.ieee.org/r8>)

The IEEE Region 8 website serves as a common reference point for all information regarding our Region. It supports besides hosting of articles, the hosting of photo galleries and document repositories. From the website you can get information about: latest news regarding R8, offers and services from IEEE, jobs, the full section roster and links to the sections' websites, links to important conferences, IEEE related important links and many more.

We are always accepting new articles so feel free to let us know of what your Section is doing so that we can let the whole Region know. A lot of changes have been made to the page so please spare some time to have a look at the new content now available.

Security Issues:

As part of the activities of the ECC to provide a stable and consistence electronic service to the users, several features of the website and other supporting websites, were tested for security holes. Problematic modules were removed immediately.

Secure File System:

We now have our own web application for data synchronization, file sharing, and cloud storage. It is in beta phase and is only used by the OpCom.

Region 8 Awards Recipients Database:

On this page <http://www.ieeer8.org/awards/ieee-region-8-awards-recipients/> we hold a list of all awards that were given to Region 8 Members since the Award in International Communication of E. Maurice Deloraine in 1966 until last year's awards. More will be added soon to this rich 262-entries list.

The list is interactive and allows the user to sort the data by column (top of the table) or filter using multiple criteria (bottom of the page).

Redirects:

To make it easier for our volunteers to promote the content they post on the website, we created redirects for their pages to shorten the URLs and make them more user friendly.

For example the GOLD group can be accessed from this URL <http://gold.ieeer8.org>, Student activities from <http://student.ieeer8.org> and <http://students.ieeer8.org>.

The same functionality is being applied to sections, for example <http://cyprus.ieeer8.org> translates to <http://ieee.org.cy>

Sections and groups that want to use this functionality, please contact me.

Reports:

During this period we are testing various methods to receive the reports of the committee. For this reason a survey is being used to collect section reports at <http://surveys.vtools.ieee.org> and a word document with limited formatting capabilities is used by the rest of the members of the committee.

Social Media:

Our Facebook group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2490621134/> is doing very well. We now have more than 2,300 registered members and the number keeps increasing. Part of my duties is monitoring the group and removing spam/offensive messages.

Mailing Lists (<http://listserv.ieee.org/>)

It is the responsibility of the ECC to maintain the Region's mailing lists - depending on the type of group or list - this means adding/deleting members if subscribing is not permitted or reviewing/editing messages if moderating is required. In all cases, the owners send the original email to the members of the group or list.

Important R8 Lists:

- R8DIRECTOR - Serves as an alias to contact the Region 8 Director , Director Elect and Secretary
- R8COMMITTEE - Serves as an alias to contact all members of the r8 committee, including all subcommittee members
- R8OPCOM - Serves as an alias to contact all members of the r8 operating committee
- R8SAC - Serves as an alias to contact the Region 8 Student Activities Committee.
- R8MA - Serves as an alias to contact the Region 8 Member Activities Committee
- R8TA - Serves as an alias to contact the Region 8 Technical Activities Committee

These lists and more can always be found at the homepage of our site.

vTools (<http://vtools.ieee.org/>):



vTools abbreviation stands for “Volunteer Tools”. vTools simplify the administrative tasks to our volunteers via use of online tools, reduce time spent managing activities, and assist in member development.

vTools are developed and made possible by IEEE volunteers. The toolbox simplifies administration by offering web based software, reduces time spent managing activities, and assists in member development.

A Few Available Tools:

- vTools.Meetings – is a tool for managing section and chapter meetings. Officers can create meeting announcements with no dependence on webmaster availability and show them on your website. Members and the public may see and register for the upcoming meetings.
- vTools.WebInABox – wizard to assist officers generate simple section websites in an automated fashion with no dependence on webmaster availability.
- vTools.Voting – tool to allow members submit votes in their Section officer elections online.
- WebEx – a Web Conferencing for online meetings, webinars, training, demos and presentations.
- FluidSurveys - can be used to quickly create online surveys using intuitive interface and distribute them via Email, Web link, etc. Collected results can be easily analyzed and graphical reports can be shared with others.

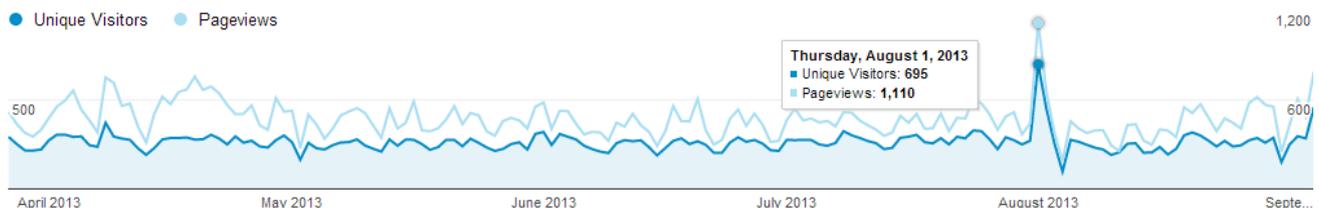
Google Grants:

We're pleased to inform you that IEEE Region 8 has been approved for Google AdWords Grants. We hope that the AdWords grant will help us reach more members.

Benefit: a daily budget set to USD 330 dollars total for all campaigns, which is equivalent to about USD 10,000 per month.

Statistics:

According to the Google Analytics monitoring tool that has been installed on our website these are the statistics that were obtained over the period from the 28th of March 2013 to the 4th of September 2013. Over this period, around 38,000 people visited the website and over 76,000 pages were viewed with our homepage hitting 50.44% of the traffic with more than 38,000 page views. On an average visit, a user stays for about a minute and a half. Our visitors come from 150 countries/territories all around the world, many of whom are outside Region 8.



In the continuous attempt to improve the quality of service for our website we are using the CloudFlare service that provides us with Caching/Mirroring and Firewall services. This handled 2,424,820 requests out of 3,741,828 and saved 44.3 GB bandwidth out of 90.6 GB.

Please contact with me @ xeirwn@ieee.org for more information or assistance.