Keeping Chapters Alive in your Section

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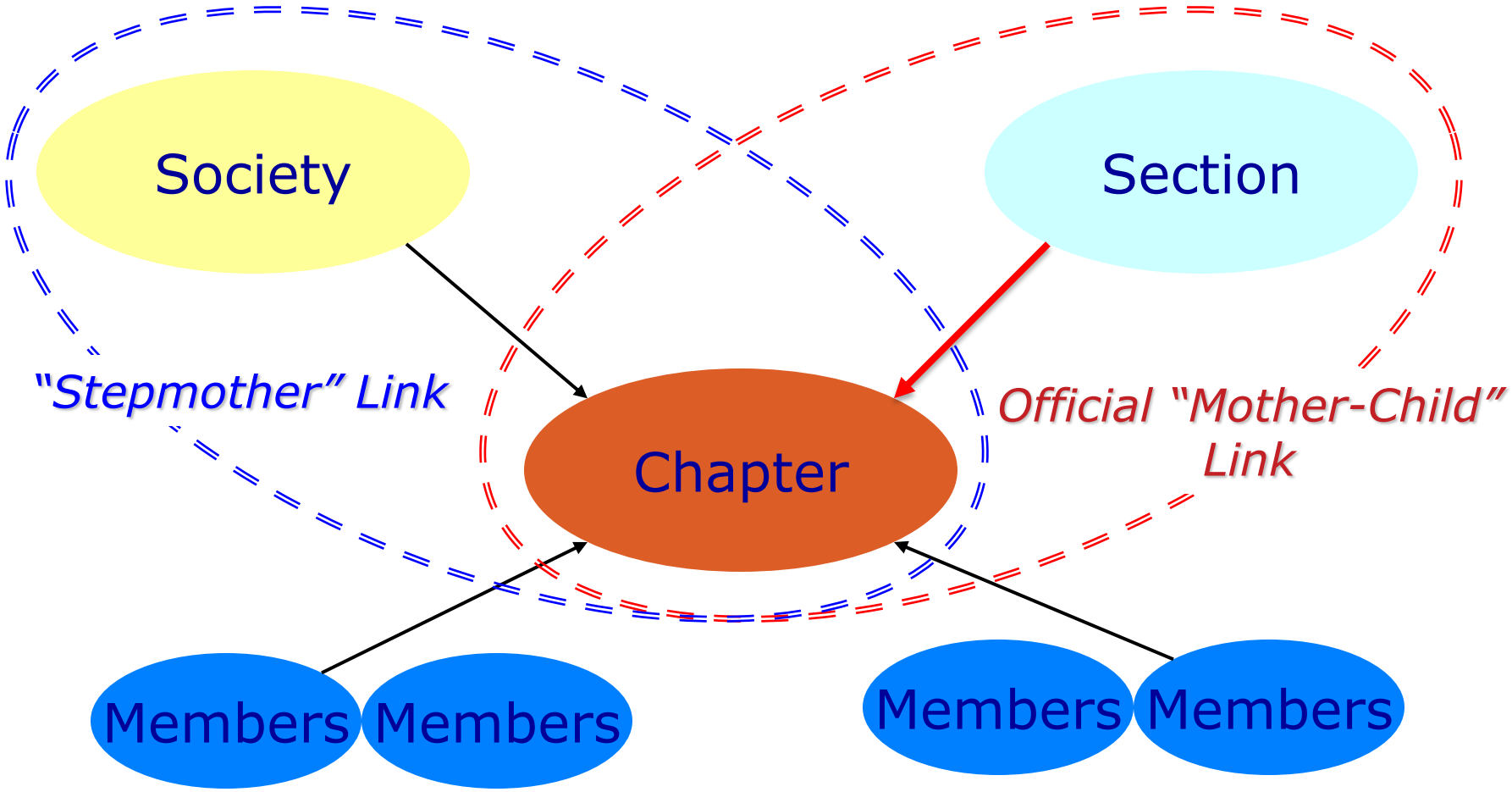
Outline

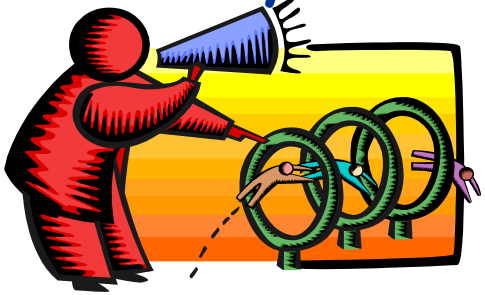
- IEEE Section-Chapter-Society Triangle
- Why should the Section Care about (it's) Chapters?
- The Section's Chapter Services and Support Toolkit
- Engagement of IEEE Students and Young Professionals (formerly GOLD)

IEEE Section-Chapter-Society Triangle



What is a Chapter for?

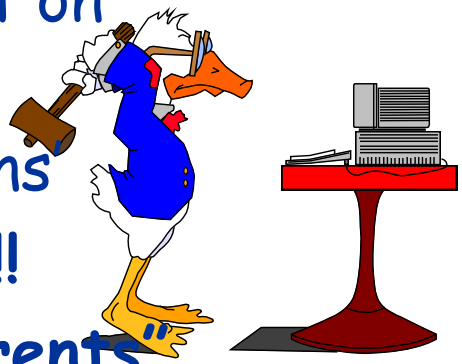
- Provide services to local members
  - Bring **information and knowledge**
  - Be a **Place for Networking**
  - Be a **"safe" Leadership Training Ground**
  - Represent **members interest at the Society**



☺ ***Chapters are where everything happens and activities meet the members***

Chapters have two "Parents"

- Section (primary responsibility for Chapters)
- Society (support and technical activities)
- In a healthy family both parents share in raising the children
- But… sometimes the two parents are not on speaking terms
- Sometimes the Chapters are like 'orphans
- **This can lead to delinquent behaviour!!!**
- **Chapter's health depends on both "parents being present and supportive**
  - **Sections** allow interaction with the local community
  - **Societies** facilitate interaction within a given FOI
  - Networking and membership growth draws from **both**



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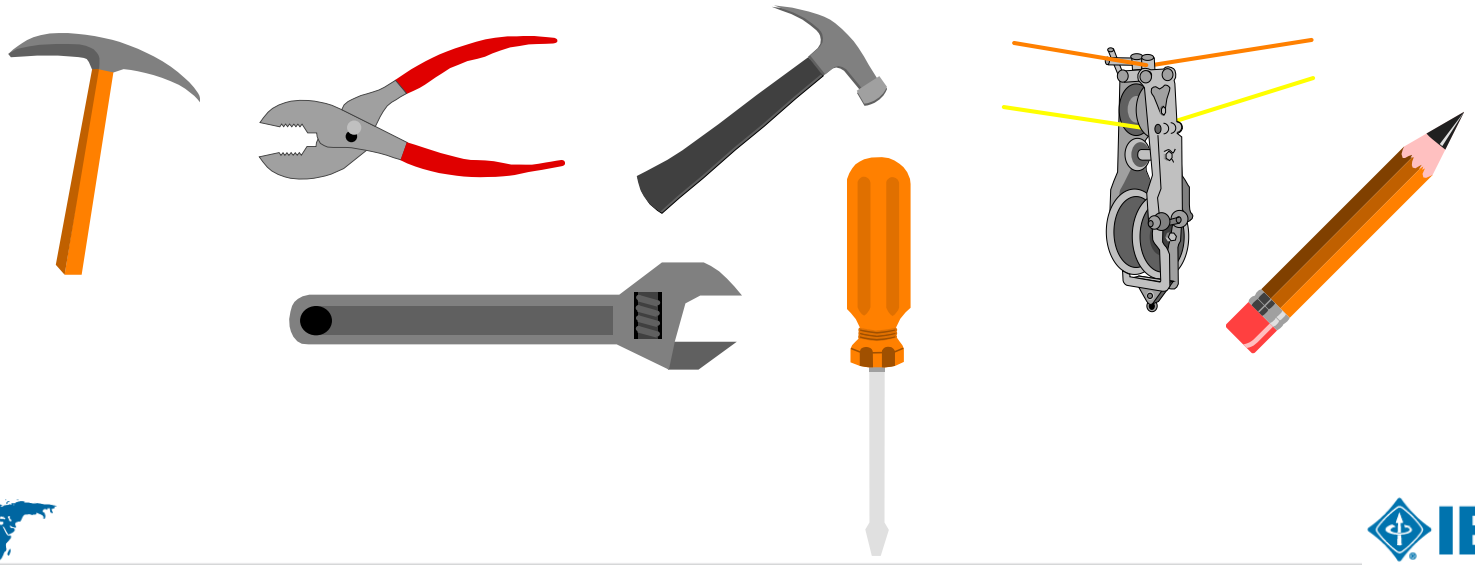
Why should the Section Care about (it's) Chapters?

- **Member Development**: Increased **Networking and Technical activities** for Members
  - Lectures, Workshops, Social and Professional events
  - Resource for hosting Society Symposia/Conferences
- **Membership Development**: Activities draw potential IEEE & Section members
  - Especially where IEEE is not well-established
- **Leadership Development**: Resource for potential Section leadership
  - Most Section Leaders evolved from their Chapter activities
- **Visibility and Outreach**: Increased visibility of the Section
  - Its structure - its publications - its meetings

The Section's Chapter Services and Support Toolkit



Activity… Activity… Activity…

- **Technical Meetings**
  - Facilitate/support technical meetings: The Core of Chapter activity
- **Visit and participate in chapter meetings**
  - Outreach to the members
  - The chapter feels the "parent cares"
- **Invite Chapter leaders to Section meetings**
  - Make them welcome and encourage active participation
- **Distinguished Lecturers**
  - Encourage chapters to make use of service, when available
  - Facilitate joint meetings with talks of interest to several chapters
  - Maintains ties with the Societies/Councils

Activity… Activity… Activity…

- **Section-wide Socials**
  - "Get to know" and "ice breaker" events
  - Opportunities for cooperative events
- **Organize wide-interest activities**
  - Humanitarian/Community activities, Science Fairs, Competitions…
  - Senior-member nights
- **Cross-Section-Chapter activities**
  - Cultural/technical knowledge transfer and sharing with other sections' or other societies' chapters
  - Joint events with different sections and chapters
- **Organize "Society Showcases"**
  - Form new chapters in your Section
  - "Win-win" for Section, Society and Chapter

Chapter Interactive Leadership Training Workshops/Camps/Retreats

- Train and Mentor the Chapter Leadership
  - Soft skills improvement
  - Leadership responsibilities
  - Resources and Contacts
  - Finances
  - Membership development
  - IEEE structure and operations
- **You are training them for future IEEE roles in the… Section**
- **Hold Section-Chapter "get together-s"**
  - Socializing helps
  - Exchange best practices
  - Complain…

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Chapter Reporting…

- **The first sign of a chapter in trouble is when you receive no reports for a long time…**
- **If you did not report it – you did not do it…**
- **Reporting is essential!**
  - **The Section** needs to know – to submit annual returns to IEEE HQ – otherwise they do not get the Section Rebate!
  - **IEEE HQ** needs to know - to judge if a unit is active or inactive (inactive units may be dissolved)
  - The **Society** needs to know – That is where the technical activities stem from…

    …but typically more interested in technical details
  - **Do not assume that if you tell just one part of IEEE, the other parts will find out!**
    - IEEE HQ has many databases (with lots of obsolete, conflicting or incorrect data)

Chapter Funding

- **Money makes the World go around…**
  - Running chapters requires funding (surprise!)
  - Sections are the first financial resource for its chapters
  - Set a simple process for chapter funding
  - An excellent training for chapter officers:
    - Budgeting
    - Financial responsibility
    - Reporting and book keeping

Chapter Recognition

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IEEE Israel Section

takes pleasure in presenting the

2004 Chapter-of-the-Year Award

to

IEEE Israel EMC Chapter

Kimball Williams
President
EMC Society

Henry Benitez
Chairperson
EMC Awards Committee

THE INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS, INC. FOUNDED NEW YORK 1884

August 2004
California, USA

- **Recognition NEVER HURTS!**
  - Create a Section-wide **Chapter of the Year Award**
  - Present it in a nice ceremony
  - Publicize in the Region 8 Newsletter!
- **Recognition NEVER HURTS!**

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Chapters' Section in Section's Newsletter

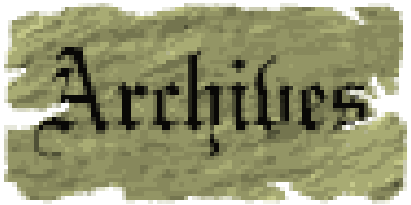
- **Communications ARE important**
  - Sharing successes
  - Exchange DL information
  - Publicize meetings
  - Publicize chapter successes
- **Chapter visibility within the Section and Beyond!**

Chapter Visibility

Section Chapter Coordination Resources

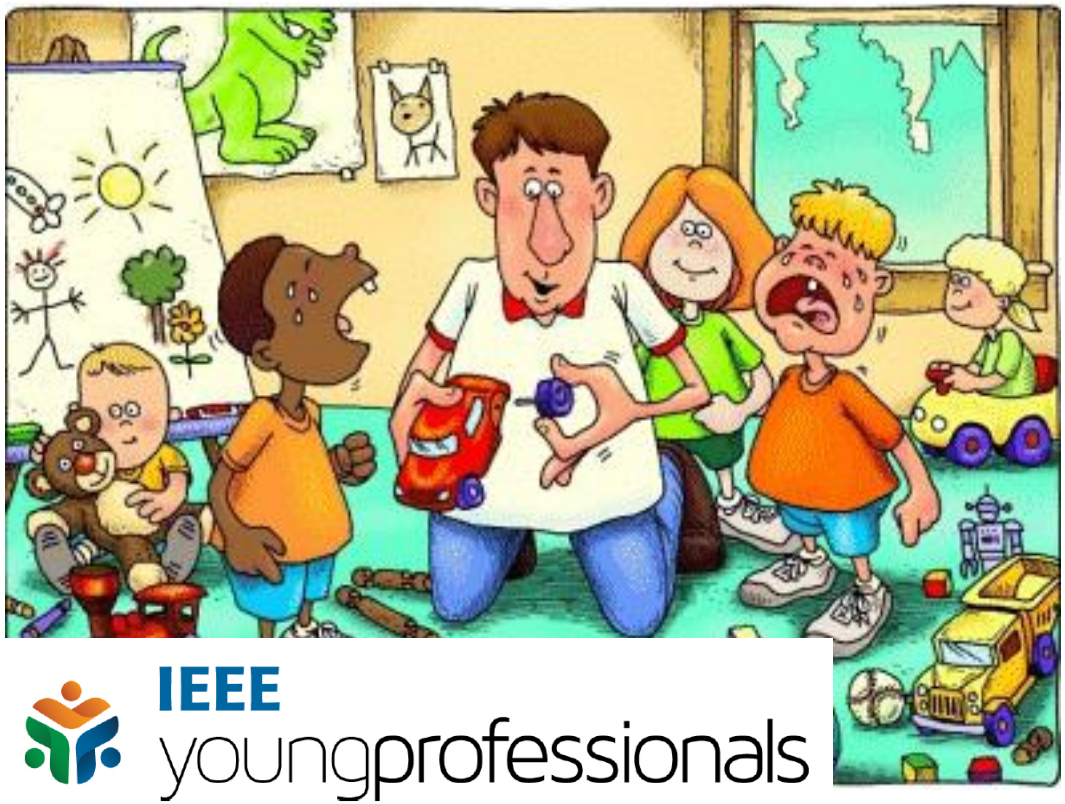
- **Dedicated people at the Chapters' service:**
  - Chapter Coordinator
  - Vice Chair for Member Services
- **Focal points for chapter coordination**

- **Maintain a Section Chapter web page**
  - Resources for Chapters
  - Best Practices
  - Announcements
  - Links to Forms for Chapter Reporting
  - Distinguished Lecturer information
  - Helpful e-mail and web addresses
  - Chapter Briefs



Engage IEEE Students and Young Professionals (formerly GOLD)

- Students and Young Professionals are the future of the Chapter and the Section



IEEE youngprofessionals

Promote Students and Young Professionals Engagement in Chapters

- **Students & YP are:**
  - The **best resource** of Section and Chapter (S&C) **membership**: Most YP members tend to join at least one Society (and its chapter)
  - **The future of the S&Cs**, who can cultivate their future leadership within an enthusiastic and willing group
  - **An energetic and enthusiastic group** seeking to streamline their talents into IEEE-related activities
  - Ideal candidates to tackle **"special projects"** of the S&C

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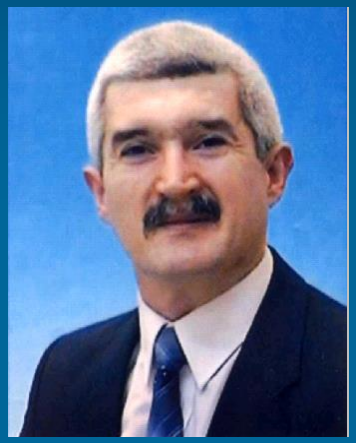
Thank You

For your *Attention*



Questions?
Comments?
Snide Remarks?

Thank you!
Any questions ?

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