

# R8 Technology History Activities

Chair: Tony Davies (UK and Ireland Section)

Corresponding members:

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Immediate-past Corresponding members:

Antonio Savini (Italy Section)

Antonio Perez-Yuste (Spain Section) - MGA representative (ex-officio)



**Primary mission:** *encourage recognition of achievements and inventions in science and engineering fields in R8, promote awareness of them and their significance.*

**Secondary mission:** *persuade Sections and Chapters in R8 to preserve the history of their committee minutes and their events and maintain availability via web access.*

# R8 Technology History Activities

## *Examples to imitate:*

- 1. 11-page document issued at Spring 2017 R8 Committee Meeting in Stockholm, about the 50 year history of the Sweden Section, prepared by Mats Edvinsson. This is available on ETHW.*
- 2. For a simpler example, see the Hungary Section History, posted on ETHW.*
- 3. Many, but not all, Societies have their history on ETHW, see for example those of the Circuits and Systems Society and of the Microwave Theory and Techniques Society. Some Chapters also have their histories on ETHW.*
- 4. Two problems:   A. updating these entries.  
                          B. finding them in ETHW if you are not sure that they exist.*

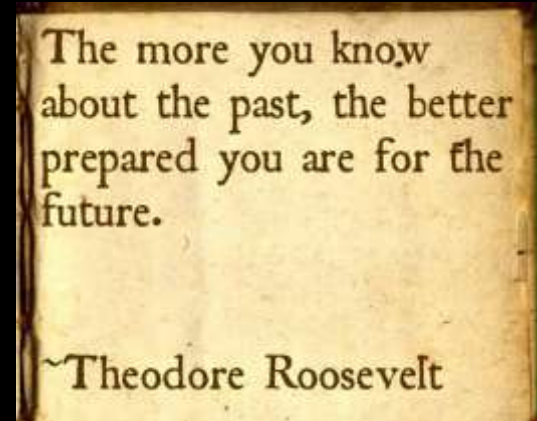
# R8 History Activities:

## *Purposes:*

- 1. Encourage students and young professionals to take interest in the historical development of science and engineering: enables better preparation for “inventing the future”, a central aspect of IEEE’s humanitarian mission.. ....*
- 2. Documenting the historical record of things relevant to IEEE R8.*

Remember:

Not knowing anything of the past means  
having no perspective of the future –  
Theodore Roosevelt said the same!



Absorption of IEEE Global History Network (GHN) into Engineering Technology History Wiki (ETHW) broadened coverage but made finding IEEE-relevant material (especially History Milestone Proposals) much more difficult. The other organisations in ETHW are mostly more 'USA centred' than IEEE so ETHW looks much more of a USA operation than was the GHN. One bad consequence of the structure is that comments on Milestone proposals in process are now rare, because it is harder for members and non-members to find out how to do that !

This risks undermining the rigour of the evaluation process for Milestones.

**Recommendation:** make use of the ETHW resource, ensure that you can access the documentation about Milestone proposals in progress and are able to submit comments about them.

In case of difficulty, report the problems which you encounter!

# Recognition .....



*Challenge for today:*

Identify the language and guess the location of this plaque (not an IEEE one, of course)

# HISTELCON 2019

Provisional: this conference may be at  
**Strathclyde University, Scotland**

A second alternative if this plan does not succeed, is  
in Belfast, Northern Ireland

Tentative date: late August 2019 or early  
September 2019

Primary theme: historic computers, to include the contribution  
special purpose processors have made to the development and use  
of advanced digital signal processing methods in many applications  
areas.