



The Current Source

Newsletter of the Schenectady Section of the IEEE

Greetings from the Schenectady Section Chair

Welcome to the restoration of *The Current Source*, our Schenectady Section IEEE newsletter. For those of you that remember the newsletter, it was produced quarterly to serve the membership with news of upcoming events and articles of interest. Due to a lack of support, we were forced to suspend publication of the newsletter several years ago. The past year our call for volunteers was greeted with tremendous success. Through the efforts of one of those volunteers, Sri Pillutla, we are thrilled to be able to revive its publication.

In addition to Sri, we have welcomed a number of new volunteers into the organization. Please join me in welcoming Kutty Nair as Awards Chair, who will oversee the recognition of local membership through the IEEE Awards program; Shadrack

Orero and Bassil Youakim as Power Engineering Society Chapter Vice-Chairs, who will assist with the administration of programs and activities for chapter membership; Ray Lee as Microwave Theory and Techniques Chapter, who stepped in to save the chapter from dissolution and will promote programs and activities for the chapter membership; and Jagdish Gajjar as Steinmetz Chair, who will coordinate the annual Steinmetz Lecture.

For those of you that may be interested in volunteering, we have a number of open needs within the Section. In particular, we are interested in identifying an individual for the position of PACE (Professional Activities Committees for Engineers) Chair. This organization is a network of IEEE membership whose purpose is to "promote the professional inter-

ests of IEEE U.S. members and provides a mechanism for communication of members' views on their professional needs." For more information on current chapter volunteer needs or to offer your time to fill those needs please visit the Section website (www.ieee.org/schenectady) or contact me at r.pike@ieee.org or 356-6156.

Accompanying the new volunteers has been a series of proposals to expand the active society chapters within the Schenectady Section. We currently have active chapters for the Power Engineering Society, Computer Society, Industrial Applications Society and the Microwave Theory and Techniques Society.

The new chapters being proposed include Engineering Management Society, Antennas and Propagation Society, and a Life Member Chapter. As these chapters progress through the formation stages we will bring you more news on their activities. To express interest in these

chapters (or maybe volunteer) please contact the following:

- Engineering Management Society Chapter—Sameh Salem, sameh.salem@ps.ge.com or 385-0931
- Antennas and Propagation Society Chapter—Ray Lee, ray.lee@crd.ge.com or 387-7357
- Life Member Chapter—Kutty Nair, kuttynair@ieee.org or 385-5143

While we have seen a recent infusion of new ideas and energy, we would welcome your thoughts and suggestions for improving the services we are offering and suggestions for topics of discussion. Suggestions and offers can be submitted at any time to any of the section volunteers. Remember to keep an eye on the website as information is readily posted on upcoming events of interest.

—Robb Pike

From the Past Chair:

I'd like to thank everyone who helped plan, who volunteered, or who attended a Section event during the past year. Meeting and working with the IEEE members who live and work close by is what makes IEEE membership worthwhile for me. I hope you found some value in the events that occurred! As always, suggestions and offers for help are welcome! Thanks.

—Rebecca Nold

Nominations sought for IEEE awards

The IEEE Awards Board is inviting nominations from IEEE Sections, Societies, and individual members for medals, recognition, and prize

papers to be presented in 2003.

The Institute of December 2001 has a section that details various awards given by IEEE. In addition to these, there

2002 Section Officers

Executive Committee

Robert Pike, Chair
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r.pike@ieee.org

Ricardo Austria, Vice-Chair
Treasurer
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Kristin Short, Vice-Chair
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Rebecca Nold,
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Section Chair
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Lou Tomaino, Meeting
Coordinator
W: 385-0967
l.tomaino@ieee.org

Kutty Nair, Awards Chair
W: 385-5143
kutty.nair@ps.ge.com

The Executive Committee also
includes appointed Chairs of the
following active Chapters within
the Section.

Power Engineering Chapter (PES-31)

Ricardo Galarza, Chair
W: 356-6039
rgalarza@nyiso.com

Sameh Salem, Secretary/
Treasurer
W: 385-0931
sameh.salem@ps.ge.com

Shadrack Orero, Vice-Chair,
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Bassil Youakim, Vice-Chair,
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Computer Chapter (C-16)

Howard Halstead, Chair
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Industrial Application Society

Ed Owen, Chair
W: 385-3012 Fax W: 385-5703
edward.owen@ps.ge.com

Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD)

Chandra Reis, Chair
W: 346-1414 ext. 3074
creis@igc.com

Microwave Theory and Techniques Chapter

Ray Lee, Chair
W: 387-7357
ray.lee@crd.ge.com

Steinmetz Committee

Prof Jagdish Gajjar, Chair

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Jim Feltes, Member
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Bill Price, Member

Dan Durbak, Member
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RPI Student Chapter

Mark Loose, Chair
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Dr. Sheppard Salon, Advisor
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Union College Student Chapter

Barnard Rojas, Co- Chair
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Newsletter Editor

Srinivas (Sri) Pillutla
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are awards presented by the
Regional Activities Board,
Educational Activities Board,
Technical Activities Board,
GOLD, etc. The awards are
too numerous to be listed in
this brief article. You may visit
the IEEE web site at
www.ieee.org/about/awards
to know more about the
awards and to electronically
nominate deserving candi-
dates or download a nomina-
tion form.

The deadline for receipt of
nominations at IEEE Head-
quarters is July 1.

Many IEEE members in
our Schenectady Section

would qualify for many of
these awards. Unless we take
the time to identify these indi-
viduals and send in the nomi-
nations, their achievements
will go unrecognized by IEEE
and its entities. Please actively
look for candidates for the
awards and nominate them
before the deadline. As the
Awards Board representative
of your Schenectady Section
Executive Committee, I shall
assist you in any way I can.

I may be contacted by e-
mail at kutty.nair@ieee.org or
by phone at home, (518) 399-
1774. Thanks.

—Kutty Nair

“Voices of Innovation” radio program to promote engineering awareness

If you are or know of an engi-
neer whose work can help
bring a new understanding
and awareness of engineering
to the public, your story can
be told via “Voices of Innova-
tion.”

Developed by the Ameri-
can Association of Engineer-
ing Societies, of which IEEE is
a founding member, “Voices
of Innovation” will be a daily
radio series of two-minute
programs featuring engi-
neers talking about their
innovations, careers, and
work. Each day the program
will tell how engineering con-
tributes to the overall well-
being of society.

“Voices of Innovation”
allows engineers to tell their
own stories and speak with
personal passion about their
professions and how engi-
neering affects everyday life.
A prelaunch demonstration
CD has been produced fea-

turing engineers talking
about artificial hands, earth-
quake engineering, and the
world's fastest plane.

“Voices of Innovation” is
slated to begin on April 1 and
run through March 31, 2003.
It is made possible by a gener-
ous grant from the United
Engineering Foundation and
is being produced by Jim
Metzner, the radio personality
behind the widely successful
program “Pulse of the
Planet.” Several major-mar-
ket radio stations have
expressed interest in carry-
ing the series.

For more information on
this exciting new concept and
to submit your story idea, go
to www.voicesofinnovation.org. You may also contact
David Gately, AAES Director,
Communications and Public
Awareness, (202) 296-2297 or
dgately@aaes.org

Five Section members elected to IEEE Fellow grade

Congratulations to the five Schenectady Section members who were elected to the grade of Fellow as of Jan. 1 (see sidebar). The grade of

Fellow is conferred by the IEEE Board of Directors upon a person with an extraordinary record of accomplishments in research,

education, or engineering aspects of their particular disciplines. A brief citation is issued to new Fellows describing their accomplishments.

In memoriam—Harold Chestnut

Harold Chestnut, 83, died Wednesday Aug. 29, 2001 in Schenectady. Born Nov. 25, 1917 in Albany, Mr. Chestnut was a lifelong Schenectady area resident. He earned the B.S. in Electrical Engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1939 and the M.S. in E.E. degrees in 1940. He received an Honorary Doctorate of Engineering from Case-Western Reserve University in 1966 and an Honorary Doctorate in Engineering from Villanova University in 1972.

Mr. Chestnut was President of the IEEE in 1973 and recipient of the IEEE Centennial Medal in 1984, the Richard M. Emberson Award in 1990 and the IEEE Millennium Medal in 2000. He was elected a Fellow in the AIEE in 1962 for contributions to the theory and design of control systems. He played an important role in the creation of the IEEE History Center.

Mr. Chestnut was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1974 and was a member of the committee on sociotechnical systems of the National Research Council from 1975 to 1978. He was a fellow of the Instrument Society of America and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He received the Engineer of the Year Award from the Schenectady Chapter of the National Society of Profes-

sional Engineers in 1965. He was awarded the Honda Prize by Japan's Honda Foundation in 1981 and the Bellman Control Heritage Award in 1985 from the American Automatic Control Council. He was designated a Case Centennial Scholar by Case-Western Reserve University in 1980. He also received the Rufus Oldenburger Award from the American Society of Mechanical Engineers in 1990.

Mr. Chestnut worked for the General Electric Co. from 1940 until his retirement in 1983. During World War 2, he worked on the design of the central fire-control system and remotely controlled gun-turrets used on the B-29 aircraft. He worked in a variety of automatic control and systems engineering assignments, including GE's Advanced Engineering Course (electrical), the GE Aeronautics and Ordnance Department; and the Systems Engineering and Analysis branch of the Advanced Technology Laboratory, where he served as manager from 1956 to 1972. He worked on the Apollo Project and was a systems engineering consultant for GE Corporate Research and Development from 1972-83.

Mr. Chestnut was one of the founding fathers of the International Federation of Automatic Control in 1957 and helped to establish and

became its first president. Following retirement from GE in 1983, he helped establish and became president of the Supplemental Ways of Improving International Stability (SWIIS) Foundation, the purpose of which is to identify and implement supplemental ways for improving international stability. He also wrote, with R. W. Mayer, two volumes of *Servomechanisms and Regulating System Design* in 1951 and 1955 and wrote *Systems Engineering Tools*, and *Systems Engineering Methods* in 1965 and 1967, respectively. Although not the first to write on servomechanisms, he is most remembered for his book, which was used as a textbook around the world. His writing style was easily followed; he started at a very basic level and brought the reader along as he built the subject.

Survivors include his wife, Erma Ruth Callaway Chestnut, whom he married in 1944; three sons, Peter Callaway Chestnut, Harold Thomas Chestnut, and Andrew Trammell Chestnut; and five grandchildren.

Known to friends and family as Hal, he served the IEEE and its predecessor organizations (AIEE and IRE) in many capacities over the past half century, and his experience and expertise were widely sought. His work is now done and we will miss him.—Ed Owen

NEW IEEE FELLOWS

Hamid Elahi

GE Power Systems
Energy Consulting,
Schenectady

"For developing simplified methods of overvoltage analysis and insulation coordination for high voltage AC and DC transmission systems."

John Erik Hershey

GE Global Research,
Niskayuna

"For contributions to secure communications."

Nicholas W. Miller

GE Power Systems
Energy Consulting,
Schenectady

"For technical leadership in the analysis and control of voltage instability in power systems."

Juan Jose Sanchez-Gasca

GE Power Systems
Energy Consulting,
Schenectady

"For contributions to small signal analysis, identification, and control methods for power system dynamic performance"

William Alan Wallace

Rensselaer Polytechnic
Institute, Troy

"For contributions to decision support systems with application to emergency and crisis management."

RPI Student Chapter Seminar

"Trends in Power Generation Equipment Design"

Dr. Brian Gott, retired engineer, GE Power Systems

Tuesday, April 23
7-8:30 p.m.

RPI Campus, CII, room 4050

For more information, contact Mark Loose at 271-9513 or loose@albany.net

The Current Source is published by the Schenectady Section of the IEEE. Issued three times a year. If you are interested in volunteering for *The Current Source* or wish to submit material for consideration, please contact Sri Pillutla, 783-2088 or srinivas.pillutla@ieee.org

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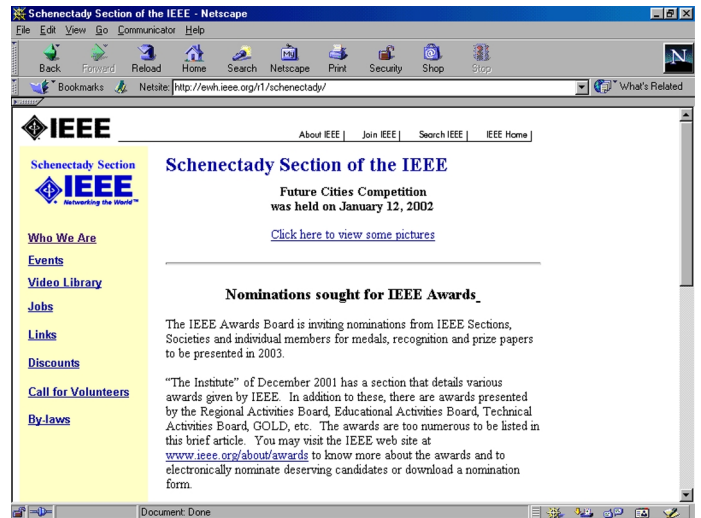
The IEEE Schenectady Section occasionally notifies Section members of upcoming activities, events, and seminars via e-mail. There are several ways to submit or update your e-mail and mailing addresses:

- Submit changes directly through the interactive "change of address form" on the internet: <http://services1.ieee.org/membersvc/coa/intro.htm>.
- Call IEEE Member Services, (800) 678-IEEE or (800) 678-4333.
- Send mail to IEEE, 445 Hoes Lane, P.O. Box 1331, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331.
- Send a fax to (732) 562-5445.

Be sure to include your name and membership number with your request.

Check it out...

IEEE Schenectady Section website



Check out and bookmark the IEEE Schenectady Section Web Site, www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/schenectady



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