

# The *Pulse* of Long Island



June 1, 2004 - Vol. 54 No. 6

## Chairman's Message

By *Christian DiFranco*  
*c.difranco@ieee.org*



It is always a pleasure to announce new Section Volunteers. This month we have three additions to Long Island Excom:

Brian Quinn (Verizon): Vice Chairman, Communications Society  
James Voulgarakis: Chairman, Signal Processing Society  
Roman Khazanovich (BAE Systems): Student Activities Coordinator

Welcome to the team, gentlemen!

I hope all of you who attended the Awards Banquet this year had a grand time. I know that I sure did! We were inspired by Tim Farrell's (VP, Northrup Grumman) keynote address. We were serenaded with piano music. We enjoyed a cocktail or two. We enjoyed "talking shop" with each other. Most importantly, we celebrated the achievements of eleven awardees. Dave Wolff, our 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chairman and Awards Banquet Coordinator did a wonderful job organizing this event. Thanks, Dave! Thanks are also in order to our Awards Nomination Committee (J. Taub (Chairman), A. Lopez, R. Lowman, R. James, V. Marsocci, R. Mohr, J. Pierro, S. Shinnars & M. Shooman), and to everyone else who helped us with this event.

Saturday, April 17 was the date for the 2004 Region 1 Student Competition at SUNY Stony Brook. The event was a great success! I would like to thank Babak Beheshti and Greg Hovagim for the hard work they put into this event to insure an exciting and fun day for everyone. Congratulations to the winners!

On April 8, a delegation from the Long Island Section of IEEE met with Congressman Steve Israel to discuss the state of Engineering on Long Island. Our delegation included myself, Dan Rogers (LI Section 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chairman), Bruce Willard (Employment Assistance Committee Chairman) and Herb Kulik (Member). We were grateful that the Congressman took the time to speak with us and explain both his vision, and the views of the House of Representatives concerning the future direction of High Technology, particularly concerning defense and national security. We were also given an opportunity to present our concerns and recommendations regarding the Engineering Industry, summarized as follows:

- (1) - Recommended a local study be done on Engineering and Outsourcing trends on LI
- (2) - Request support for the USA Jobs Protection Act and Trade Adjustment Assistance Program (two bills supported by IEEE-USA)
- (3) - Recommended a national study of Engineering and Outsourcing trends
- (4) - Voiced concern over the security of outsourcing engineering jobs and its impact on LI
- (5) - Provided some initial data: 27,000 engineers on Long Island (estimated)
- (6) - Recommended public works-type of projects, such as alternate energy

(continued on page 2)

**The PULSE is now available on-line!**

To get the on-line PULSE and get up-to-date information about the Section, visit our web site at: **www.IEEE.LI**

*You can also register for IEEE LI Section events online at this web site!*

## The 2004 Region1 Student Conference

The 2004 Region1 Student Conference took place yesterday 4/17/04 at the Stony Brook University. We did miss some teams who were unable to attend due to coincidence with the FE examination. We hope to see these teams in future venues.

The event was nonetheless an extremely exciting and fun one for over 80 students and faculty who attended. I am proud to announce the winners of the paper contest and the Micro-mouse competitions. I should add that the competition was fierce and the judges' decision very tough. There were a good many high quality papers, as well as innovative and creative mice designs. My warmest congratulations to the winners!!

### Paper Contest:

First Place winner: \$800

Cooper Union Team – Paper Title: “The Car sitter – A Non-Invasive Drowsiness Detection System”

Authors: Alan Chan, Jae Kwon, Anuj Sehgal, Vasilios Giannopoulos

Second Place winner: \$500

Cooper Union Team – Paper Title: “Skyscan – A Phased Array Receiver”

Authors: Zhao Feng Mah, Alex Lorbert

Third Place winner: \$200

Tufts University Team – Paper Title: “Transform based Image Compression by Noise Reduction and Spatial Modification Using Boolean Minimization”

Author: Thomas A. Baron

### Micro Mouse:

First Place winner: \$800

Suffolk University – Mouse #1

Team: Justin Falxa, Jill Waldman, Maria Varquez

Second Place winner: \$500

Suffolk University – Mouse #2

Team: Josel Fernandes, Tatsuya Sugimura, Henry Suntoso

Third Place winner: \$200

The College of New Jersey

Team: Greg Sager

**Babak D. Beheshti, IEEE Region 1 Student Activities Chair, [b.beheshti@ieee.org](mailto:b.beheshti@ieee.org)**

(Continued from page 1)

Much time and effort was required to prepare for this meeting. As usual, the members of Ex-com rose to the occasion. I would like to personally thank everyone for their extra efforts regarding this matter, particularly Bruce Willard, Dan Rogers, Ted Pappas, John Peterson, Irwin Weitman, Dave Mesecher, Charles Rubenstein, James Colotti, Rod Lowman and Bill DeAgro. Of course, special thanks are in order to Herb Kulik, without whom this meeting would certainly have never occurred. As a long time IEEE member and former Pulse Editor, Mr. Kulik has contributed much to the section over the years. He has been an invaluable contributor to this process. Thanks, Herb!

There have been two developments worth noting since our meeting on April 8. First, the members of our delegation were invited to attend a press conference on April 16, where Congressman Israel announced a “Call for Government Numbers on Outsourcing”. The details of this announcement can be found at <http://www.house.gov/israel/news/041604-outsourcing.htm>. In a second development, the Congressman organized a kickoff meeting on April 23 and invited us to work with Farmingdale University on a local study as described in (1). We will be sure to keep you informed of any developments regarding these matters.

Enjoy the summer!

Christian DiFranco, Chairman

### **Long Island Section Officers**

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2nd Vice Chair. . . David Wolff

Secretary. . . . . Basiru Samba

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### **PULSE Deadlines**

For Sept. 2004 8-5-04

For Oct. 2004 9-5-04

### **Consultants**

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## IEEE Long Island Section Calendar

(No membership requirements, no registration, no fees at meeting unless otherwise noted.)

Please visit our website at [www.ieee.li](http://www.ieee.li) and click on the calendar for online registration (as available) and for listing updates

June 10, , 2004 - LONG ISLAND ENGINEERING: A PERSPECTIVE ON CAREER DEVELOPMENT, Mr. Timothy Farrell, VP and IPT Leader for AEW Programs, Northrop Grumman Corporation, 6PM, To register and to obtain further details, please visit our web site at: <http://www.ieee.li/eac.htm>.

June 17, 2004 - "Software Cycle Time Reduction" , by Dr. Dennis J. Frailey, 6:00 to 8:30 PM, Located at Telephonics Corporation on Route 110 in Farmingdale, New York. Please register via internet in the Computer Society section of the section web site at <http://www.ieee.li>. Contact Daniel Rogers ([drogers@ieee.org](mailto:drogers@ieee.org)), Computer Society Chair of the IEEE Long Island Section, for more info.

July 7, 2004 - LI Consultant's Network at 7:00 PM at Briarcliffe College. For more details see Announcement on page 4.

Tuesday June 8, 2004 - - Long Island IEEE EMC meeting starting at 6:00 PM at BAE Systems Inc., located at 450 Pulaski Road, Greenlawn. Presentation is on EMC and Tempest Certification, Accreditation and Endorsement. If you wish to attend, RSVP is required by no later then June 1, 2004. Please do this via the IEEE Long Island EMC Chapter Web Site [HTTP://www.ieee.li/emc.htm](http://www.ieee.li/emc.htm).

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Ad

## MEETING NOTICE

On the **First Wednesday of each month** at 7 PM, the IEEE Consultants Network of Long Island will Meet.

The program will be held at Briarcliffe College,  
1055 Stewart Avenue, Bethpage, NY.

Admission is free (no charge).

No pre-registration is required.

For last minute announcements and updates visit:

[www.consult-li.com](http://www.consult-li.com)

**SEE NOTE!!! ———>>>>**

The June 2 meeting of the consultants network will be held at the laboratory of one of our members. Because of the limited space, only members of the Consultants Network are invited due to limited space.

The July 7 meeting, at Briarcliffe College, will surely be an eye opener. LICN member Dick LaRosa will be speaking about "Electric Power from Ocean Currents and the Possibility of Preserving the Greenland Ice Sheet"

## MEETING: of Power Engineering Society

DATE: Thursday May 20, 2004

TIME: Refreshments - 5:15PM, Meeting - 6:00PM

PLACE: Con Ed - 4 Irving Place (14 Street 14 FL), NYC

SUBJECT: Transient Voltage Surge Suppression

SPEAKER: Mr. Jerry Fink, TVSS NE Area Mgr.

TOPICS: NEMA, ANSI, IEEE NEC, UL Ratings Testing to these ratings - which ones? Surge magnitudes - High, Medium, Low exposure

RESERVATIONS TO: Jim Nucito, [j.r.nuito@ieee.org](mailto:j.r.nuito@ieee.org) or Sukumar Alampur [sukumar@jrila.com](mailto:sukumar@jrila.com) to have admission badge waiting.

# EDA AD



The IEEE Long Island Section Computer Society presents a seminar titled:  
**Software Cycle Time Reduction**  
**Thursday, June 17 2004**



**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?** Persons who are interested in software management, design and implementation.  
**The seminar is free and open to all.**

**WHAT ARE THE KEY BENEFITS?** Learn how to reduce software development cycle time variability, simplify processes and achieve smooth flow by removing bottlenecks and constraints.

**HOW TO REGISTER:** . If you wish to attend, please register via internet in the computer society section of [www.ieee.li](http://www.ieee.li).

**Speaker:**

Dr. Dennis J. Frailey, IEEE Distinguished Visitor

**Abstract:**

Being first to market is a critical factor for business success, especially for those in the software business. Yet we often hear complaints about the poor quality of software that was rushed in order to meet a deadline. This talk addresses methods of software cycle time improvement that can also improve quality and lower development cost. The methods are based on techniques widely practiced in other disciplines, such as continuous flow manufacturing and quantitative process management. When applied to software development, these techniques - often counterintuitive - are enabling leading-edge companies to produce high quality software quickly.

**Seminar Coordinator:**

Daniel Rogers, Computer Society Chair of the IEEE Long Island Section.

**Location and Time:**

The seminar will be presented from 6:00 to 8:30 PM Thursday, June 17, 2004 located at Telephonics Corporation on Route 110 in Farmingdale, New York. Refreshments will be provided. The seminar is free and open to all. If you wish to attend, please register via internet in the computer society section of [www.ieee.li](http://www.ieee.li). You may contact the coordinator Daniel Rogers by email at [drogers@ieee.org](mailto:drogers@ieee.org). A confirmation email will be sent by June 1. The seminar is wholly the responsibility of IEEE Long Island Section and the speaker.

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CUTTING EDGE WIRELESS AND IT TECHNOLOGIES**  
CREST HOLLOW COUNTRY CLUB, Woodbury, New York. November 9, 2004

This conference, organized by the Center of Excellence in Wireless and Information Technology (CEWIT), at Stony Brook University is 2<sup>nd</sup> in its technical series. Last year's conference attracted about 600 participants from the academic and business community and the feedback received was extremely positive. The Center is a 250 million dollar government/industry/academic partnership to lead the next wave of the wireless and information technology revolution. The Center partners include some of the world's best technology companies and research institutions. Co-sponsored this year by the Long Island Chapter of the IEEE Communications Society, the conference provides a platform for leading academic and business institutions to explore collaboratively new technologies and their business potential.

Possible paper topics for this year's conference include (but are not limited to):

- Current standards (WiFi – 802.11 b/g/a, 3G, VSAT, Bluetooth, etc.)
- Emerging Standards (Ultra wide-band, WiMax-802.16, MIMO, 4G, etc.)
- Wireless solutions/applications (e.g., locationing, global roaming between heterogeneous networks, interoperability, wireless security, RFID, wireless in space, mobile VOIP)
- Pervasive and wearable computing
- Adhoc networks (topology, performance analysis, validation, methods of tools, architecture, etc.)
- Next generation internet, wireless internet, and location sensitive Internet
- QoS management and provisioning, security Protocols (transport, signaling, access)

Submit an abstract of no more than 500 words (Times New Roman 12) with paper title, authors' names, affiliations, postal address, phone, fax and e-mail address with five key words. Abstract should state the objective and summarize the methodology and key findings of the work. The abstract will be reviewed by the conference Program Committee. Submit all proposals as e-mail attachments (Microsoft Word or PDF) to: [Satya.Sharma@sunysb.edu](mailto:Satya.Sharma@sunysb.edu).

Program Chair: Dr. Satya Sharma e-mail: [Satya.Sharma@sunysb.edu](mailto:Satya.Sharma@sunysb.edu)  
Tel: 631-632-8350  
Fax: 631-632-8205

Abstract Submission: August 1, 2004  
Acceptance Notification: September 1, 2004

# Some Pictures from the 2004 IEEE Long Island Section Awards Banquet



For more photos, visit our web site at [www.ieee.li](http://www.ieee.li)



**Some Pictures from the 2004 IEEE  
Region 1 Student Conference (Paper Contest and Micro-mouse Competition)  
Held at Stony Brook University  
For Details visit [www.ieee.li/student](http://www.ieee.li/student)**





## 30 YEARS AGO *By: Rod Lowman, Historian*

In reading of N. Y. City's plans to update their 911 Emergency System it is interesting to note that 30 years ago the 911 System for Nassau County was in its infancy. It was planned and operated by the police department as a central communication center for the whole county. To give L.I. Section members a working knowledge of this new innovation David Doucette arranged for two tour groups who were given a tour of the new facilities at 10 and 11 o'clock on a Saturday morning.

In the cold war philosophy that prevailed at the time, the center was located underground for maximum safety in case of a nuclear attack. In an adjacent park area above ground, Frank Williams, who was Chairman of the L.I. Section, and Dave Doucette assembled each group for the tour. At the conclusion they reviewed the highlights of the tour before members returned home. The tours were a great success and two groups of 60 engineers and spouses were most enlightened by the experience.

Unfortunately, in the post tour review Irwin Feerst expressed a countervailing view to that expressed by Frank Williams which was not unusual for Irwin. The discussion became quite heated and noisy in what became known later as the "confrontation on the green". Irwin headed an informal competing group of engineers called the "Committee for Concerned E. E's" which attempted to change the IEEE in a number of ways. Irwin had some suggestions that had merit but because of his coarse language and lack of diplomacy he was unable to gain acceptance of them by the IEEE. After running unsuccessfully for president of the IEEE for several years, his influence dwindled and he fell victim of Lou Gehrig's disease. Irwin was a very colorful character who livened up every meeting he attended. Most engineers enjoyed his histrionics, became accustomed to his vile language and considered him as a harmless prankster.

What we did not know at the time was that he had alerted the police that the IEEE intended to cause a riot in the 911 center. After the IEEE left we understand that police in full riot gear came out of every closet and breathed a great sigh of relief. As far as we know this is the only time that he perpetrated something that could have had such dire consequences.

You who think of the IEEE as a prim and sedate organization did not live in the era of Irwin Feerst!



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