



IEEE New York Monitor

Advancing Technology for Humanity

Posted online monthly except in July and August

February 2020, Vol. 67, No. 2

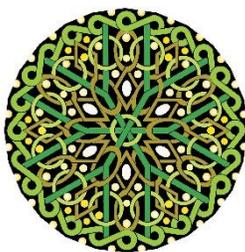


MESC banner at the Port Authority 42nd Street Bus station during the National Engineers' Week, 2020. Note "IEEE" on the last line, second from left [Photo courtesy: Gregory Homatas]



Only two things are infinite, the universe and human stupidity, and I'm not sure about the former

Albert Einstein (1979 – 1955)



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**Currently, the New York Section of IEEE comprises of the following
Active Chapters of the IEEE Societies:**

- **Computational Intelligence Society**
- **Computer Society**
- **Communications Society**
- **Technology Management Society**
- **Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society**
- **Instrumentation and Measurement Society**
- **Power and Energy Society**
- **Industrial Applications Society**
- **Solid State Circuits/Electron Devices Societies**
- **Systems, Man and Cybernetics Society**
- **Vehicular Technology Society**
- **Broadcast Technology Society**

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The following Affinity Groups as defined by IEEE

- **Consultants' Network (CN)**
- **Life Members Affinity Group (LMAG)**
- **Women in Engineering (WIE)**
- **Young Professionals (YP)**
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WELCOME

to the February issue of the New York Monitor of the IEEE NY Section. In these turmoiled (climate change, politics and the threat of a pandemic) days our publication may bring you a ray of hope in our chosen profession and humanity at large. In this edition you will find:

p. 6	Engineers Week celebration and MESC; Burton Dicht on the history of space shuttle on p. 9; photos of the celebration are posted on p. 10 and an image of the NYC mayor's proclamation may be found on p.12;
p. 13	The final of the Future City Competition, Washington DC
p. 14	Looking for job opportunities? Our Long Island Section may help
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P. 15	Cumulative list of presentations by Chapters and Affinity Groups of the NY Section

ENGINEERS CELEBRATE THE 2020

ENGINEERS WEEK

Many engineers, some of them enormously active in the profession, may not even know that indeed there is an Engineers Week that is nationally observed. In 2020 the week started on 16 February and ended on 22 February. Wouldn't it be nice if we could take one whole week off our demanding work schedule?. Nevertheless, it is the week during which engineers (of all flavors) are honored for their dedicated efforts to make the world a better place for the next generation. The IEEE New York Section celebrates it by actively participating in the Future City competition and the dinner at which a notable person is invited to give a presentation that emphasizes the history and the importance of engineering in our society. The dinner is organized by the Metropolitan Engineering Societies Council (MESC) of New York City.

Let us digress a little to discover the origin of the Engineers Week.

The National Engineering Week (now aka EWeek) was conceived in 1951 by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) to maintain and expand a diverse engineering workforce by augmenting the understanding of engineering and technology and thus to motivate the young people to pursue careers in engineering.

Now, after more than half a century some 70+ engineering, education and cultural societies and 50+ corporations and government agencies participate in a formal coalition for organizing activities during EWeek.

The EWeek is dedicated to raising public awareness of engineers' positive contributions to quality of life; it promotes recognition among parents, teachers, and students of the importance of a technical education and a high level of literacy in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM), and motivates youth, to pursue engineering careers in order to provide a diverse and vigorous engineering workforce in the nation. Each year, EWeek reaches thousands of schools, businesses, and community groups across the USA. This year the EWeek was celebrated during the week of 16 - 22 February.

The NSPE through the non-profit DiscoverE (earlier known as National Engineering Week Foundation) offer many programs that encourage the young to study engineering. Some of these activities are:

- *Engineers, how are you changing the conversation (encourages the engineers to communicate better and more effectively)*
- *Discover, let's make a difference (teaches engineers how to relate engineering and technology to the real benefits in life)*
- *Discover new faces (recognizing the impact of the work of young engineers on our society)*
- *Future City competition*
- *DISCOVERe Girl Day (introducing girls to engineering—this year the Day was celebrated on 20 February)*
- *Discover Global Marathon (provides regional and global opportunities to women in engineering—11 March through 20 April (please see <http://www.discovere.org/our-programs/global-marathon>)*
- *Discover Engineering Family Day (to introduce children and their entire families to engineering through visits to technology museums)*

To learn more about NSPE and programs offered by DiscoverE please visit: <https://www.nspe.org/resources/partners-and-state-societies/engineers-week>



Metropolitan Engineering Societies Council (MESC), New York

As mentioned above the Engineers Week is celebrated in New York City by the constituent members of the Metropolitan En-

gineering Societies Council. The MESC is composed of 26 Societies, Institutes, Associations and Alliances in the engineering community and IEEE is one of them. We send a representative to the MESC administrative body. This year David Weiss, PE is our man there.

For the commemoration of the EW 2020, the MESC offered the guests a sumptuous dinner in a Manhattan restaurant on 13 February. Having happily gorged on the excellent food we were ready for the ceremony. Wasyl Kinach, PE, chairman of MESC began by welcoming the guests. He outlined the history of MESC and emphasized the importance of engineering in our lives. I personally wish politicians and society leaders took education and training of engineers seriously and at par with other professions such as

those of lawyers and medical practitioners. Not everybody can be an engineer. Learning how to solder well is not a study in engineering as a quack is not recognized as a medical doctor! Being well intentioned is not enough; one needs to be certified by the state medical board before treating a patient.

Kinach then showed the customary Proclamation of the EW honoring engineers signed by Bill Blasio, the mayor of New York City.

That evening's highlight was a talk by Burton Dicht, CAE and director, Student and Academic Programs at IEEE. The title of his talk was "From Moonwalks to Spaceplanes — A History of the Space Shuttle." The following excerpt from Dicht's bio will make clear why we were lucky to have him as the speaker at EW celebration.



Burton Dicht, CAE joined IEEE in 2011 and is the director of Student and Academic Education programs where he oversees IEEE's accreditation efforts and is responsible for the development and implementation of programs for pre-university and university educators and students. Before joining IEEE, he was

the Managing Director of ASME's Knowledge and Community Sector. Prior to that he was a lead engineer for Northrop Grumman Rockwell Space Transportation Systems Division. Specializing in systems and configuration integration, he worked on programs such as the YF-23A Advanced Tactical Fighter and Space Shuttle. He is a member of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics (AIAA) and a Fellow of ASME.



Burton Dicht has authored diverse articles on the history of aerospace and is a frequent guest speaker on the topic. He volunteers as an Exhibit

Explainer at the Intrepid Museum anchored at New York and serves as a Captain and Aerospace Education Officer for Civil Air Patrol. He is also the vice president for membership for the National Space Society.

The presentations of Burton Dicht transported us to the back-
fices of planners and design engineers of the shuttle programs.
Normally, in newspaper and magazine articles we read only about
the glorified accounts of space programs. Nobody tells us about
the rationales of certain design criteria. But Dicht knows much
about the nitty-gritty issues that go into the planning of a space
flight. He was involved in some design work himself and has done
a lot of research into the subject. His narrative was authentic and
most informative. Those members of IEEE and the community in
our vicinity who want to hear him speak will get an opportunity to
do so in the summer. We have invited him to speak to us in a tra-
ditionally joint meeting of PES/IAS/LMAG at ConEd Building, 4 Ir-
ving Place (one block east of Union Square) in Manhattan. We'll
notify you about the date.

For this report we are unable to reproduce the voice of Burton
Dicht. But he has been kind enough to grant us the permission to
offer the Power Point presentation used that evening. Thank you,
Burton!

To access the presentation please go to https://site.ieee.org/ny-monitor/files/2020/03/DICHT_From-Moonwalks-to-Spaceplanes-Feb-2020.pptx



Wasył Kinach, MESC Chairman



Salvatore Galletta, MESC Program Chair



Peter Kontogiannis representing NYC mayor Bill Blasio, Salvatore Galletta and Wasył Kinach



Guests at the MESC dinner



David Weiss, IEEE representative introducing Burton Dicht, the speaker of the evening



Burton Dicht giving his presentation on space shuttle



A group photo taken at the MESC Engineers Week dinner. We have been able to identify: (From Left to right) April Berkol, MESC Treasurer; Greg Homatas, Delegate at Large; Individual not identified; Burton Dicht, IEEE; Wasyl Kinach MESC Chaiman; David Weiss, MESC Secretary; and Salvatore Galletta; MESC Program Chair; two individuals not identified

The NY Monitor thanks David Weiss and Greg Homatas for the photographs.

Office of the Mayor

CITY OF NEW YORK



Proclamation

WHEREAS: NEW YORK IS PROUD OF ITS STATUS AS A GLOBAL LEADER IN SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND CUTTING-EDGE URBAN DESIGN. AS WE ELIMINATE OUR CONTRIBUTIONS TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND PREPARE OUR CITY FOR THE CHALLENGES OF THE FUTURE, MY ADMINISTRATION IS DEDICATED TO ENSURING THAT NEW YORK BECOMES A CLEANER AND STRONGER CITY. AS WE WORK TOWARDS THESE GOALS, WE RELY ON THE TALENTS AND VISION OF OUR CITY'S ENGINEERS AND ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE METROPOLITAN ENGINEERING SOCIETIES COUNCIL, INC.

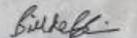
WHEREAS: THE MESOC HAS UNITED A VIBRANT COMMUNITY OF ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALS AND PROVIDED ITS MEMBERS WITH TREMENDOUS SUPPORT. BY HOSTING TALKS FROM INDUSTRY LEADERS, OFFERING ASSISTANCE WITH ADVANCED EDUCATION, AND HOLDING ITS MEMBERS TO THE HIGHEST STANDARDS, THE MESOC HAS MADE AN INDELIBLE IMPACT ON THE ENGINEERING LANDSCAPE OF THE FIVE BOROUGHES. EVERY YEAR, MESOC GENERATES GREAT INTEREST IN THE REALM OF ENGINEERING THROUGH ITS ENGINEERS WEEK ACTIVITIES AND KEYNOTE ADDRESS, INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION OF ENGINEERING PIONEERS, AND ENSURING THAT NEW YORK WILL REMAIN A HUB OF INNOVATION FOR DECADES TO COME.

WHEREAS: FOR 69 YEARS, ENGINEERS WEEK HAS PROVIDED ALL OF US WITH A WONDERFUL OPPORTUNITY TO RECOGNIZE THE INCREDIBLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OUR CITY'S ENGINEERS, WHICH ARE EVIDENT NO MATTER WHERE ONE LOOKS. THE TOWERING SKYSCRAPERS, THE BRIDGES AND TUNNELS THAT FORM THE CIRCULATORY SYSTEM OF OUR CITY, AND THE STATE-OF-THE-ART TECHNOLOGY IN OUR HOSPITALS AND BUSINESSES ARE ALL A RESULT OF THE TIRELESS WORK OF ENGINEERS. I AM PROUD TO APPLAUD THE MESOC FOR ALL IT DOES TO UPLIFT NEW YORK'S ENGINEERING COMMUNITY, AND I THANK ITS MEMBERS FOR FORGING A BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR ALL NEW YORKERS.

NOW THEREFORE, I, BILL DE BLASIO, MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM FEBRUARY 16TH – 22ND, 2020 IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK AS:

"ENGINEERS WEEK"




BILL DE BLASIO
MAYOR



Last month we wrote about the Future City competition in New York City. On 18 February the competition played out on a national scale in Washington D.C. The final 2020 competition was won by the Norwell Middle School from Indiana with their city Yemoja. Please visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jrmS-1nTi5c> to see how they have won.

Next year the finals will be held on 16 February 2021. The regional competitions will take place during January. Please inquire with the local coordinator and volunteer as judges. It is our civic duty to do so.



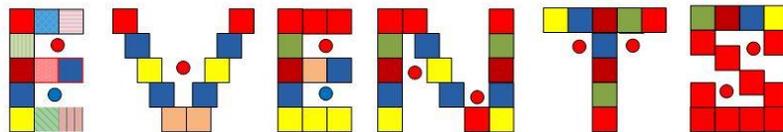
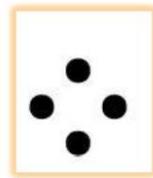
Students of Norwell Middle School that won the 2020 Future City championship



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Did you know that IEEE’s Long Island Section has an Employment Assistance Committee to help members in job hunting? The EAC focuses upon the needs of those engineers located in the Long Island area who prefer direct employment to independent consulting. The committee makes available materials and provides periodic meetings and/or workshops. Since we are part of the same IEEE and are so near to Long Island, our members could also take advantage of this generous feature of the LI Section. For more details go to the following web site:

<https://ieeeli.com/committees/employment-assistance-committee/>



DATE	SPONSOR	WHAT	WHEN	WHERE
23 MAR	PES/IAS/LMAG	TBD	5.00 pm	ConEd Bldg 4 Irving Place NYC. RSVP to: Wongar@coned.com
16 APR	Tech. Mgmt	Engineering and Ethics (Speaker TBD)	5.00 pm	ConEd Bldg 4 Irving Place NYC

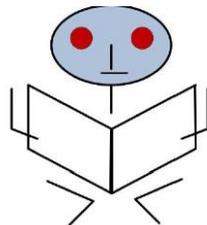
06 MAY	NY Section	Annual Award Dinner and Dance	6 pm	Hilton Hotel and Towers, Av. Americas, NYC
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If your Chapter or Affinity Group has scheduled a presentation and that does not appear in the events list, please send us the details and we will take care of it in the next edition of the NY Monitor. Thank you.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Executive Committee (ExComm) of the Section meetings on the second Wednesday of every month, except July and August at the ConEd building, 4 Irving Place, New York, usually at 12.30 pm and end at 2 pm. Members who are unable to attend the meetings may take part through tele-conferences. The meetings are postponed only by unforeseen circumstances such as inclement weather. All members of the Section are welcome to attend the meetings provided they notify the chair in advance.

CUMULATIVE LIST OF PRESENTATIONS/VISITS ORGANIZED BY IEEE NY SECTION: 2020					
Seq.	Date	Sponsor	Title of Presentation/Place of Visit and Speaker	Total attendance	Percentage of IEEE members
1	28 Jan	PES/IAS/LMAG	Gas Monitoring for HVAC Applications: Keith Miller		
2	25 Mar	PES/IAS/LMAG			
1	26 Feb	YP	Winter Mixer: Board Games, Drinks and Food		



The End