



Madison Section NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Number 5

Serving IEEE Members of South Central Wisconsin

May 2001

Capital Brewery Tour

- Date/Time:** Tuesday, May 22, 2001, 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM (tour at 6:30 PM)
Speaker: Capital Brewery staff
Location: Capital Brewery, 7734 Terrace Ave., Middleton, WI 53562, 608.836.7100
Menu: Pizza (\$8.00). Beer, wine and soda will be available at a cash bar.
RSVP: by May 18th to Roy Thompson via email (roy.thompson@tdstelecom.com) or call 608/664-4415



Non-member guests are always welcome!

The Capital Brewery was founded in 1984 and it produced its first brew in the spring of 1986. Currently, it produces sixteen different beers. Most of its beers are produced under the strict "Reinheitsgebot". These are the German beer production purity laws, which date back to the 1500s.

Much of the brewing equipment currently used in the brewery, including the two copper brewing kettles, came from the Hoxter Brewery in Germany. At the heart of the operation is an excellent refrigeration system that enables the brewery to produce extremely high quality lager beers, prompting many to refer to Capital Brewery as the finest lager brewery in America. The brewery has received many awards for its beers and was named the #1 Brewery in America at the 1998 Beverage Testing Institute's World Beer Championships in Chicago. It is a publicly held company that currently produces approximately 17,000 barrels annually and has distribution in four midwestern states.

See the Capital Brewery web site at <http://www.capital-brewery.com> for more information.



Summer Recess.
No section meetings June - August.

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IEEE MADISON SECTION NEWSLETTER

Printing and Mailing by: SprintPrint
2790 S. Fish Hatchery Rd.
Madison, WI 53711

Published 9 times per year (Jan. - May & Sep. - Dec.) by the Madison, Wisconsin Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers (IEEE), as a service to its members in south-central Wisconsin.

Mailed at Madison, Wisconsin as 3rd Class, Non-Profit postage. Permit No. 953.

Online at: <http://www.bugsoft.com/ieee/>

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Benefits of Being a Section Officer

Craig Heilman, 2001 IEEE Madison Section Chair

At several of the recent IEEE Madison Section meetings, I promised that we'd be actively recruiting new officers for next year. Well consider this the first installment of my pitch to the IEEE Madison Section membership as to why you should consider volunteering as an officer.

First some background information. Although it's true that some of the layers of IEEE bureaucracy above the section level consist of hired guns, all of us officers here at the IEEE Madison Section are volunteers. The IEEE Madison Section officers (see <http://www.bugsoft.com/ieee/officers.html> if you don't know who we are) are responsible for the day-to-day operation of the section. Here's a short summary of some of the things we do:

- meet monthly (except June-August) to discuss section meetings and other section business and drink beer (not necessarily in that order)
- seek out speakers for the monthly section meetings
- arrange a location for the monthly section meetings
- create the monthly newsletter in both print and electronic formats and get it to the printer
- maintain the Section web site - meeting notices, newsletters, etc.
- keep the membership mailing list up to date - generate a monthly list of active members to be used by the printer for mailing the newsletter
- track section meeting attendance and file an annual report with IEEE Headquarters
- track section finances and file an annual report with IEEE Headquarters
- keep section bylaws up to date

As you can see, we have a few tasks to keep us busy, but there are numerous benefits to participating as an officer as well:

- networking - while seeking out speakers for section meetings you have the opportunity to meet other professionals in your line of work.
- social - the monthly officers meeting is a social gathering as well as a business meeting. The officers also have an annual dinner to look forward to.
- personal growth - want to practice speaking in front of an audience? You can have that opportunity as an officer.
- educational - have you always wanted to write a newsletter, develop a web site or play with a database? As an officer you can do all these and more.

Basically, your tenure as an officer is whatever you make of it. I encourage any and all members interested in volunteering to contact me at craigh@bugsoft.com. Thank you.

A Sightseer's Guide to Engineering

National Engineers Week Launches Online Engineering Travel Guide at www.engineeringsights.org.

E-Week Co-Chair The National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) and the E-Week Committee launched a major new Web site during National Engineers Week 2001. A Sightseer's Guide to Engineering (<http://www.engineeringsights.org>) helps promote engineers and engineering by encouraging both kids and adults to add some exciting engineering achievements and activities - both the famous and the not-so-famous - to their U.S. vacation itineraries or online exploration.

This Web-based travel guide is a map to more than 240 engineering achievements, museums and activities across the United States. The IEEE History Center assisted E-Week Committee member IEEE-USA by submitting several dozen electrical engineering sites across the nation for consideration - many of which are included in the final Guide. Some of the sites submitted by the History Center include:

- United States Army Communications Electronics Museum -- Ft. Monmouth, N.J. Thomas Edison Birthplace -- Milan, Ohio
- Historic Speedwell -- Morristown, N.J.
- Historical Electronics Museum -- Linthicum Heights, Md.
- Edison National Historic Site -- West Orange, N.J.
- American Computer Museum, Bozeman, Mont.
- National Inventors Hall of Fame, Akron, Ohio
- The Franklin Institute -- Philadelphia, Pa.
- Exploratorium -- San Francisco, Calif.

Each site's description tells why the site is worth a trip, along with the engineering connection; a fun fact about the location; and what activities visitors will find there. The Guide makes planning an actual trip easy by including, when available, each destination's address, phone number, hours of operation, a link to the location's own Web site, and a pop-up road map that provides driving directions. The Web site is searchable by state, engineering discipline, category and keyword.

Visitors will also find a suggestion form where they can recommend their favorite destination for inclusion in the Guide. NSPE received more than 100 suggestions from the public, engineers, other associations and corporations during the site's initial development.

For more information on the IEEE History Center, visit: www.ieee.org/organizations/history_center/



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Summer 2001 Telecommunications Short Courses

- **Advanced Topics in Operating PCS and Cellular Radio Systems**, June 5-8, 2001, in Madison, WI
- **Basic Telephony and Digital Switching**, June 19-22, 2001, in Madison, WI
- **Engineering and Planning Telecommunications Local Loop Facilities**, June 26-29, 2001 in Madison, WI
- **Electrical Grounding of Communications Systems**, August 1-3, 2001 in Madison, WI
- **DC Power System Design for Telecommunications**, September 12-14, 2001 in Madison, WI

For further information...

Web: epdweb.engr.wisc.edu or E-mail: danbeck@engr.wisc.edu

Salary Benchmarks: A Personal Workbook

1999-2000 WORKBOOK

IEEE-USA's Salary Benchmark Workbook is a new career tool that will allow electrical, electronics and computer engineers to pinpoint their personal salary estimate. For the first time, electro-technology professionals have an effective and inexpensive way to evaluate their own current compensation and determine salary expectations for prospective positions.

The Workbook uses IEEE-USA salary-survey data to create a mathematical model to compute comparative estimates of pay for any of thousands of different employment situations. The Workbook guides readers step-by-step through the formula and provides examples that illustrate uses of the data.

"Until recently, the typical way to measure your salary against the broader labor market was to keep an ear cocked to office gossip or wheedle reluctant acquaintances working at other companies," said Robert Nash, chair of IEEE-USA's Surveys Committee. "Our new salary workbook makes the process fast, easy and -- most importantly -- accurate."

Order Number: UH2982

Member Price: \$14.95

List Price: \$19.95

Order from IEEE-USA at <http://www.ieeeusa.org/catalog/workbook.html>



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For more information, contact John Hicks at (608) 233-4875 or jhicks@facstaff.wisc.edu.

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