

Toronto Section Life Member Newsletter



Dear Life Member,

This is our first newsletter to you in 2006, and is being distributed via email and will also be mailed to all LMs.

Your Life Member Chapter Executive consists of:

- Chair (Acting): Patrick Finnigan
- Vice Chair: Sim Murthy
- Past Chair: Wallas Kellah
- Secretary: Ian Dutton

And the Activity Chairs are:

- History: Patrick Finnigan
- Energy Policy: John De Groot
- School Outreach: Joe Karnas
- Internet Assistance: Bob Alden

Your Acting Chair



Pat Finnigan would like introduce himself as the acting chair:

He graduated from York University in 1971 (B.Sc. Honors Physics) and obtained his M.Math (Computer Science) from the University of Waterloo in 1994.

With the IEEE Pat has been a reviewer for IEEE Software, has also served on

the program committee for IEEE conferences, and has been an IEEE member for 23 years. Pat has been a member of the PEO since 1984, and is also a licensed radio amateur (VA3ZIM)

He has worked in the IT industry for 34 years, the last 27 at IBM Canada in a number of roles at the IBM Canada Lab (special engineering and compiler development), and at IBM Global Services working on enterprise IT architecture, design, and systems implementation for banks, government and the telecommunications industry. Pat has been involved with the research and development community through various projects at the IBM Centre for Advanced Studies and has served as Chair of NSERC strategic grants committees.

Pat has quite an interest in the history of technology (especially calculators and computers), and has amassed a collection, some of which gets displayed at events such as a recent recognition event for "Pioneers of Computing" in Canada (shown in the photo below).



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A particularly fascinating topic for Pat is the algorithms and devices which made EEs lives easier in the “old days” (such as nomograms).

This is to let you know that Pat is “on the lookout” for your stories about the History of electrical engineering and the IEEE Toronto Section!

On with the Program

Because you have expressed interest in the following areas:

1. Use of Internet
2. Energy Policy (triggered by recent events)
3. Plant tours (Auto, Steel ...etc)
4. Culture outings

Your executive proposes the following:

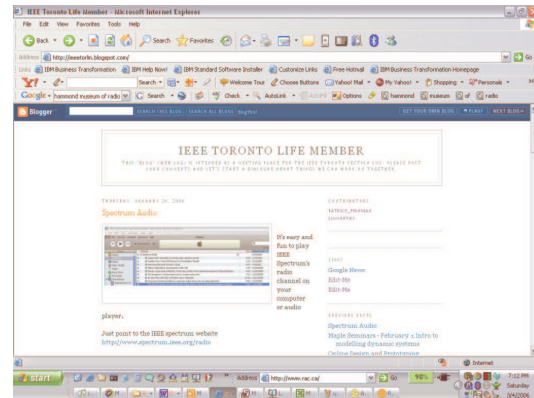
The Internet

We have created an IEEE Toronto LM “Blog” (Web log) site for you to share all of the exciting things you have been up to, and also to share exciting technical sites etc. you have found on the internet (and elsewhere) which you think are of interest to other LMs. The blog is also a place to put out queries for info from your fellow LMs or just to say hello and re-connect with old colleagues.

Please add your ideas and comments at:

<http://ieeetorm.blogspot.com>

This site has been in “beta” testing for some time, but if you are on the internet, you will have been sent an invitation to join in.



As you can see in the picture above, there is a “toolbar” for “Blogger”. In order to add your comments your need to select you member name, or click on an article and add our comments..

There is even a telephone number which you can call to record your greetings, queries etc. directly on the IEEE TOR LM Blog:

Call: 1 - 4 1 5 - 8 5 6 - 0 2 0 5

1. Listen very carefully to the Voice Prompts
2. Enter the Primary Number 416-434-9353
3. Enter the PIN 5112 , press #
4. Record your post, Press #
5. Press 1 to post, 2 to review, 3 to re-record.

When you or other LMs check the IEEE TOR LM blog site your phone message will be there to be replayed.

The “<http://toronto.ieee.ca>” Site

Toronto Section web site is at <http://toronto.ieee.ca> , and our life members pages are linked from the left side menu. All LM newsletters are posted on our LM pages for future reference. Check there for the on-line community where you can view and join

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discussions on a wide range of technical topics and also life member activities.

Energy Policy



A tour of the Independent Electricity Systems Operator facility has been arranged

(Photo © IESO)

- **Date:** Tuesday March 21
- **Time:** 10:00 AM – Noon
- **Location:** IESO, location to be provided to tour members by separate email (Oakville area)
- **Host:** David Sterin, 416 506 2812. david.sterin@ieso.ca
- **Emergencies:** If you need to be contacted, or need to contact IESO on the day of the event (lost?), please contact Sandy Kelly at: 416 420 1936
- **Confirm:** Please confirm your attendance with Pat using email (Patrick_Finnigan@ieee.org) or phone: 416-434-9353.
- **Agreement:** If you plan to attend, please complete the Visitor Nondisclosure Agreement at the end of the newsletter and bring it with you!
- **Note:** Tour is limited to 40, first-come, first served via your confirmation note.

You can find out all about the IESO (if you don't already know how many GigaWatts we use in Ontario, daily for example), by visiting their website at: http://www.theimo.com/imoweb/market/mi_index.asp

Attached is the story from the IESO on energy consumption in Ontario for a not-so-cold March 4th. (daytime high temperature around freezing).

MARKET AT A GLANCE

At 1:00 p.m. EST
March 4, 2006

ONTARIO DEMAND

Ontario Demand:	18,382 MW
Today's Projected Peak: (at 8:00 p.m. EST)	19,284 MW

SUPPLY

Generation Availability by Fuel Type:	
Nuclear:	93%
Coal:	67%
Hydroelectric:	92%
Other (Oil, Gas, etc.):	87%
Hourly Imports:	847 MW
Hourly Exports:	1,940 MW
Today's Generator Capability at Peak:	23,831 MW

Figure 1 IESO Stats for March 4

IESO has kindly promised us a 1 ½ hr. briefing on the policy framework for energy management in Ontario, the technology they use to monitor and implement the policies, and a description of the problems presented by the Blackout of 2006, followed by a “behind the scenes” tour of the IESO

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system control center, and detailed answers to your technical questions.

Plant tours

We hope the IESO tour helps continues the tradition of the LM group to date (2 or more per year). In order to plan more of these. any LMs with contacts at such plant facilities, please send email or call your acting chair, or post your possibilities on the IEEE TOR LM blog. The LM executive, with your help can organize more plant tours or other tours of interest this year.

Social Outings

The first of several informal lunch get-togethers has been scheduled to line-up with the IESO tour:

- **Date:** Tuesday March 21
- **Time:** 12:30 PM – 2:00PM
- **Location:** Tratoria Timone, 263 Lakeshore Rd. E, Oakville
- **Note:** we have a private room for 20. More will need to sit in small groups in the restaurant itself.
- **Host:** Call 905-842-2906 for details or directions
- **Menu:** Check out: <http://tratoriatimone.ca>

This is intended to be an informal get-together to meet your LM executive and fellow LMs, but also to start informal discussion on a number of planned activities for the year:

- Future tours – factories, bus tours etc.

- Future social activities – cards, bowling, garden tours, chess, lunch, dinner, you name it!
- The proposed IEEE Toronto Milestone package submission – i.e. the Jack Hopps Defibrillator (see below).
- Other milestone possibilities.
- Opportunities open to LMs: i.e. small work teams who will propose items of interest and which can potentially appeal to several other LMs

More on your fellow LMs

In reviewing our membership we find that some “local” events could appeal to our members who are downtown, or on the west, east, or north of Toronto or indeed out of town.

Downtown	49
East	19
West	48
North	47
Out of town	27
Internet	105
No Internet	80

Also, we will continue to distribute a newsletter by regular mail since many of you have not indicated that you have internet access.

If this is just a matter of updating your records, please let us know your Internet mail address when you get this in the mail.

As to location, we can appreciate the address you are known to IEEE may be your home or office address, etc. and also that events can be scheduled across metro Toronto. But—scanning the LM

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roster there do seem to be clusters where we could plan upcoming events. Based on the clusters - a good choice for informal luncheons this year might be: downtown, Mississauga, Markham.

Are you aligned?

Of course as LMs you know of the great work of the IEEE Toronto technical sections, and can follow their upcoming events at: <http://toronto.ieee.ca>.

However, your LM executive can plan events which appeal to as wide a variety of your technical interests as we possibly can if you can let us know what your background and/or interests are. So... please drop us a line, call or leave a message on the blog with your vote(s) for the areas where tours etc. might be of most interest:

- Circuits & Devices
- Communications
- Computer
- Computational Intelligence
- Dielectrics & Electrical Insulation
- Electromagnetics & Radiation
- Engineering & Human Environment
- Industry Applications
- Power Engineering
- Signals & Applications
- Solid-State Circuits

Clearly we can all be interested in several (or, actually all) of the above, but if there are real preferences (i.e. Power seems to be of most interest) this is your chance to let us know for future planning.

Proposed IEEE Milestone – the Jack Hopps Defibrillator

The first external pacemaker (actually a defibrillator) was designed and built by the Canadian electrical engineer John Hopps in 1950. A substantial external device, it was somewhat crude and painful to the patient in use. The pacemakers built in the late 1950s were bulky, relied on external electrodes, and had to be plugged into a wall outlet.



IEEE Toronto Section LMs are working to nominate this as an IEEE Milestone. We have received guidance and have the active support of Ron Potts, IEEE Canada LM Chair (who has participated in many successful IEEE Milestone nominations) to make this happen. It was a pleasure to meet with Ron and discuss this over lunch in Burlington recently.

If you are interested in doing research on this package, please contact Pat Finnigan..

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Please Renew Your IEEE Membership

It is important to renew your IEEE membership annually, either on the web site:

<http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/membership/renewal/index.html>

or by phone:

1-800-678-4333

Please remember to do it!

IEEE Bylaw 16.6 - LIFE MEMBER INACTIVE STATUS AND REINSTATEMENT

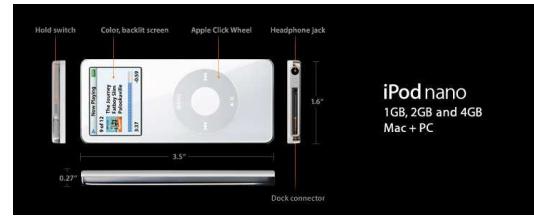
“If a Life Member does not annually confirm that they would like to continue to receive the services/publication(s), they will be removed from the active membership roster and placed on inactive status. An IEEE Life Member with an inactive status will not receive services/publication(s) or an election ballot. Active Life Membership shall be reinstated, with no loss of continuity of membership upon notification that the Life Member confirms that the services/publication(s) and/or distribution of an election ballot are still desired, subject to the limitations of IEEE Bylaw I-308.10.”

Just for Fun

As examples of what you might contribute to the IEEE TOR LM blog, or the newsletter, we've included a couple of “fun” items in the newsletter. Your contributions along these lines are welcome and encouraged!

For the next newsletter, we will provide a very nice prize for the most interesting and useful contribution to this “fun” column.

Just for Fun – iPod Notes



We'll not be recommending any particular manufacturer's products in these newsletters, but the Apple iPod is quite a technical marvel, and seems to have caught the attention of not only music-oriented youth, but also of us “techie”.

A fascinating feature (besides the games) is the Notes facility. You can use the iPod as external storage to your computer to store files, as well as your pictures, music, calendars (and videos if you spring for the Video version). iPod Notes seems like a great place to store all of the miscellaneous technical data (or the eText of a good book) – until you find out the iPod only lets you store 4 Kbytes in each note – about 100 lines. This was pretty apparent when first viewing the text of a novel which abruptly ended in mid-sentence.

But .. there is a work-around documented in iPodNoteRead.pdf file on the Apple web iPod website:

<http://developer.apple.com/hardware/ipod/ipodnotereader.pdf>

Apple envisioned using these iPods in museums, for example as a multi-media tour guide, so they provided capability to invoke text, music, pictures and movie clips from internet-browser-like pages stored as Notes. Read on to find out how

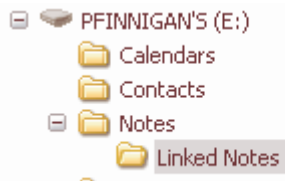
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to setup these links. The basic method described here is just intended to show you how to split large text files and at least be able to store and read them easily on the iPod.

Create a file called “preferences” which you store in the Notes folder on the iPod. The “preferences” file needs at least the first line shown below, but you can supply our own “banner” text for the top of the iPod screen as shown in the 2nd.
Line:

```
<meta name="NotesOnly" content="true">
<TITLE>Linked Notes</TITLE>
```

Create any sub-folders you want within the Notes Folder using your computer connected to the iPod. (the iPod device shows up as a “Drive” in Windows similar to the C: drive). In this example we call the sub-folder “Linked Notes”



Then in the first of 2 files, for example, insert this line at the bottom of the file:

```
<A HREF="/Linked Notes/Sample2.txt">Part 2</A>
```

When you browse the first file you will see:

.....at the end of file 1....

[Part 2](#)

which shows what text you entered in the <A...> line.. Press the Centre button on the iPod (the round one), and bingo – you will see the second file displayed.

This is just a brief intro. If your mind is racing with the possibilities of how this could be used in the classroom, or to organize our own archives of text, pictures and video check the NoteReader guide.

--LM Experimenter

Just for fun - Hammond Radio Museum

It's (almost) spring again and for some that means some short jaunts to interesting places near and far. One very interesting place is the Hammond Museum of Radio. This was started by the legendary electrical manufacturer (and noted Ham radio operator) Fred Hammond in Guelph..(shown in the blue jacket and glasses in the photo).



Photo VE3BQN

The Museum is open during normal business hours Monday to Friday and weekends by request.

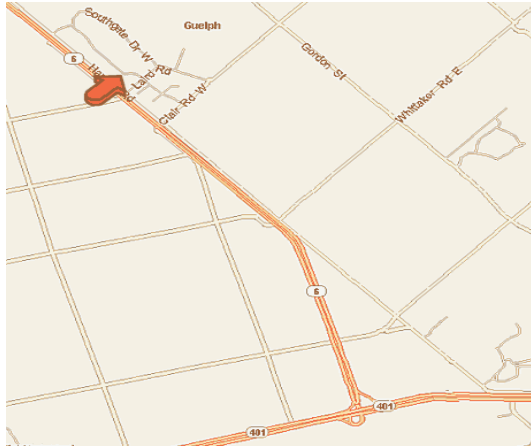
To confirm a tour, or for more information please call the Museum at 519-822-2441, ext. 590. Or, email the Curator, Nori Irwin-Hahn at

curator@HammondMuseumOfRadio.org

**595 Southgate Road
Guelph, Ontario
N1G-3W6**

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Guelph is located 40 minutes West of Toronto. Driving directions are included here but are quite simple – 401 West to Hwy 6 North, then past the Sleeman Brewery (also offering tours) and exit Hwy 6 as shown on the map at Laird Dr. onto Southgate.



A truly interesting place which you may not have known about, with not only radios, but a wealth of other electronic test equipment and historic photos and displays. Warning – there is A LOT of fascinating stuff here and you may find it takes several hours if your really want to take it all in. They do run a small snack bar, however so you can pause a while and enjoy your outing.

---LM Traveler

Information Update

Please take time to update your contact information for our mailing lists and for email contact, and send it back to your acting chair via email or post. Thanks!

Name:

Address:

e-mail address:

Home Phone:

Business Phone:

Comments and any requests for assistance:

Member No.

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VISITOR NONDISCLOSURE AGREEMENT

This Nondisclosure Agreement (this "Agreement") is between ("Visitor") and the Independent Electricity System Operator (the "IESO").

The IESO and Visitor agree that access to the IESO's facility and the possible disclosure of Confidential Information to Visitor are permitted upon the terms and conditions set forth in this Agreement.

1. **Confidential Information.** "Confidential Information" means all information and data that is commercially or operationally sensitive relating to the IESO or to any third party that may be disclosed, directly or indirectly, to Visitor and includes all derivative work from such information and data prepared by or on behalf of Visitor. "Confidential Information" shall not include information and data that: (a) is in Visitor's possession prior to the visit; (b) is in the public domain prior to the visit; or (c) lawfully enters the public domain through no violation of this Agreement by Visitor.
2. **Use of Confidential Information.** Visitor agrees to use Confidential Information solely as authorized by the IESO and for no other purpose. Visitor agrees not to make copies of any Confidential Information and to comply with any other requirements of the IESO.
3. **Disclosure of Confidential Information.** Other than with the prior written consent of the IESO, Visitor agrees to keep the Confidential Information confidential and not to disclose the Confidential Information to any person or entity other than those members of Visitor's organization who are under a duty of confidentiality to Visitor and who have a bona fide need to have access to such Confidential Information. Visitor shall make such persons aware of the confidential nature of the Confidential Information and shall be responsible and liable for any use or disclosure of the Confidential Information by them.
4. **Compelled Disclosure.** Visitor may disclose Confidential Information when such disclosure is required by compulsory process issued by a court or regulatory authority of competent jurisdiction only after notifying the IESO and shall cooperate with the IESO in any efforts to prevent or limit the disclosure.
5. **Legal Remedies.** Visitor agrees that the IESO's remedies for a breach or threatened breach of this Agreement shall include an injunction, restraining order, specific performance and other forms of equitable relief without limiting any other remedy available at law or in equity.

This Agreement has been executed and is effective as of the date set out below.

Visitor's Signature

Visitor's Name (Print)

Title: _____

Address: _____

Telephone:

Date:

Independent Electricity System Operator

By: _____

Name:

Title:

Date: _____