Finding Your Way in IEEE
or... What is the SFBA Council?
or
What did I get myself into?

Bill DeHope
2017 SFBAC Chair

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Michael’s Restaurant
Shoreline Drive and Amphitheater
Mountain View, CA
IEEE (and its website!) can be a bit of a maze. Here’s help to find your way.

Turns out there’s lots of cheese. But don’t waste time in the maze.
What is the IEEE? The Big Picture.

• The World’s largest (>421,000) technical professional society
  >800 active standards; >100 periodicals; >300 conferences/year;
  “responsible for 30% of the world’s knowledge”

• Our charter:
  “Scientific advancement and diffusion of knowledge”
  “Advancement of the profession” (our careers)
  “Use skills to enhance the quality of life for all people”

• Our strengths:
  Peer-reviewed Transactions, practical publications, newsletters
  International conferences & workshops, published proceedings
  39 active technical Societies & 7 Technical Councils*
  2116 chapters in 334 sections; grassroots member involvement
  Professional advancement, support; networking; career benefits

You are part of something big. Welcome!
What are the IEEE’s “entities”? (Finding yourself in the alphabet soup)

- **Societies**
  - Communications, Computer, NPSS, etc
  - “Matured” from Technical Councils*
  - Active at the national level (journals, conferences)
  - Active at the local level (Chapters)

- **Geographic entities**
  - Regions, Areas, Sections, Councils*, Chapters

- **(Student) Branches**
  - Berkeley, Stanford, etc
  - Can have technical chapters

- **National entities**
  - PACE, IEEE-USA, TISP, etc.

- **Affinity Groups**
  - GOLD, WiE, Consultants Network, Life Members

*Note “council” can mean 2 different things in IEEE!
The two main players in the IEEE organization are **TAB & MGA**

- Like the Kramdens, they’re meant for each other.
- And there’s occasional “drama”. To the moon, Alice.
- Technical Activities Board is organized by technical discipline: 39 Societies in 10 Divisions, with 100’s of Technical Interest Profile codes
- MGA is organized by geography: 334 Sections in 10 Regions. We are SCV, OEB, & SF, the best sections ins Region 6!
Yes, IEEE has an org chart!

- Chapters are in multiple places at once.
- Chapters are where TAB & MGA coalesce
- See why chapters are the ♥ of IEEE?
The key to understanding IEEE organization:

**Viewed “Technically”**

The Technical Activities Board

**Viewed “Geographically”**

Member & Geog. Activities Board

But what is a Council?
What is an IEEE Council?

- “An optional collaboration of contiguous sections”
- The **San Francisco Bay Area Council** consists of:
  - Santa Clara Valley Section
  - Oakland/East Bay Section
  - San Francisco Section

Note there’s no money arrow in this schematic!
What does your Council do?

• **Provide a vehicle for services aided by section interaction**
  – When “more is merrier”
  – When the “extra mile” is worth it
  – Like this Officer Training Event
  – Like tri-section summer banquets or BBQ

• **Coordinate communications**
  – The Online Grid
  – Enhance Region ties

• **Host Tri-section Events**
  – Officer Training; sharing of Best Practices
  – Sponsor Sections Congress, GHTC13!
  – PACE activities, consultants network
  – affinity groups: WiE, GOLD!

• **Provide shared resources**
  – in the past, an office & secretary
  – Now, ideas and volunteers
A little more re. SFBAC & money…

- **Rules**
  - Council’s cash-on-hand < 1 * Yearly Budget (directed by MOU)
  - Chapter’s cash-on-hand < π * Yearly Budget (my rule of thumb)
  - Audits if any entity’s cash-on-hand > 100 k$ (IEEE’s rule)
Thanks to the 2016 SFBAC ExCom…

- Santa Clara Valley
  - 2016 Council Chair
  - Ed Aoki
- Oakland/East Bay
  - 2016 Council Secretary
  - Bill DeHope
- San Francisco
  - 2016 Council Treasurer
  - Jonathan Burrows

The right-hand rule of SFBAC positions
Meet your 2017 SFBAC ExCom…

- **Oakland/East Bay**
  - 2016 Council Chair
  - Bill DeHope

- **San Francisco**
  - 2016 Council Sec’y
  - Ted Grabowski

- **Santa Clara Valley**
  - 2016 Council Treasurer
  - Ed Aoki

The right-hand rule applied to 2017 SFBAC positions
Summary

• IEEE is a unique, highly-beneficial organization to the world and to you.

• Active local chapters (you!) are the heart of IEEE.
  – Support your Society’s conferences and publications. (TAB)
  – Support your Section’s initiatives; you can help each other. (MGA)

• Know about your Council:
  – The Council is the geographic entity above Sections, but below Areas and Regions.
  – The Council is below Sections in terms of control and finances.

• Your Council coordinates tri-section activities, like this!
IEEE: Lots of cheese for you, your career, your colleagues, and your Chapter

Find your way today...and have a great 2017!