

## *Chairman's Corner*

Now we are in full swing for a schedule of interesting and informative meetings. With the co-sponsorship of our Society Chapters and Affiliate Groups, we have several topics planned that should represent many areas of technical activity in our profession.

At the March meeting co-sponsored with the student branch at SUNY New Paltz, Dr. Guru Rao provided an interesting presentation on the topic of Autonomic Computing.

May's meeting should be of great interest to a wide audience as everyone is aware of the challenges and extreme efforts that have gone on in the WTC recovery and restoration.

The June meeting will be co-sponsored with the Computer Society, and we take this time to welcome as new Chair, Paul S. Basile.

In the Fall, we plan to have our PACE meeting and we expect to have our annual dinner meeting. Stay tuned for more...

*William F. McCarthy, Chair*  
[wfmcc@ieee.org](mailto:wfmcc@ieee.org)

## *Mid-Hudson Section Website*

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r1/mid-hudson/index.htm>

### **April Meeting Update**

**DATE:** Thursday, April 25th, 2002

**TIME:** 7:00 PM

**LOCATION:** Conf. Rm. #1, Bldg 600  
IBM Semiconductor Research and Development Center  
ASTC Complex  
Rt. 52, East Fishkill

## **Mid-Hudson Section Leadership**



**Chair:** William F. McCarthy  
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**Society Chapter Chairs:**  
**Power Society:** Hal Turner  
**Electron Devices Society:** Michael Hargrove  
**Computer Society:** Paul S. Basile  
**Education Society:**



### ***Contact Information***

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[blair@exmail.usma.edu](mailto:blair@exmail.usma.edu)

# May Meeting: Rapid Restoration of Electrical Power to the World Trade Center District Following 9/11/01

Co-Sponsored with Mid-Hudson Chapter Power Society

**CONTACT:** Hal Turner  
Power Society Chair,  
Mid-Hudson Section  
<mailto:hturner@cenhudson.com>

**DATE:** Tuesday, May 21st, 2002

**TIME:** 6:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Central Hudson Gas & Electric  
South Road Auditorium  
Poughkeepsie, NY

**SPEAKER:** Mr. Elie Chebli, P.E.  
Con Edison

**ABSTRACT:** Mr. Elie Chebli, P.E., Con Edison's Manager of Network Systems will make a presentation covering the electrical power distribution system of the area impacted by the September 11, 2001 attack.

He will show how the integrated electrical system was arranged prior to the attack and will provide an overview of how the system was designed to meet the most demanding capacity and reliability requirements in the USA.

Mr. Chebli will then cover the permanent electrical restoration projects that are ongoing at this time to replace the emergency system in time for the summer of 2002.

**Directions:** From the north, take route 9 south to the Academy Street exit. Veer to the right at the end of the off ramp onto Central Hudson property. Make a right into the parking area. Walk up the inclined walkway (not the stairs) at the end of the lot – you'll be facing the side of the auditorium building. The doors to the auditorium are around to the left side of the building.

From the south, take route 9 north to the Academy Street exit. Make a left at the stop sign. Veer to the right after the overpass onto Central Hudson property. Make a right into the parking area. Walk up the inclined walkway (not the stairs) at the end of the lot – you'll be facing the side of the auditorium building. The doors to the auditorium are around to the left side of the building.

**The Public is Invited**

# June Meeting: The Bayesian Renaissance in Artificial Intelligence

Co-Sponsored with Mid-Hudson Chapter Computer Society

**CONTACT:** Paul Basile  
Computer Society Chair,  
Mid-Hudson Section  
<mailto:Paul.S.Basile@ieee.org>

**DATE:** Thursday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2002

**TIME:** 7:30 PM

**LOCATION:** Taconic Hall, Room 103  
Dutchess Community College  
53 Pendell Road  
Poughkeepsie, NY 12601

**SPEAKER:** Dr. Ron Coleman,  
Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer  
Informeta, LLC

**ABSTRACT:** The Bayesian approach is recognized as the only rational and consistent way to manipulate uncertainties and beliefs employed by modern Artificial Intelligence (A.I.) applications for machine learning, computer vision, natural language processing, and diagnostic expert systems. However, historically Bayesian statistics has been a source of insight, confusion, and fierce, tortured debates among some of the greatest minds of science starting with Bernoulli more than 300 years ago and including Laplace (c. 1770) who generalized Bayes rule as we know it today. The controversy still lingers today as many students and professionals of science and engineering usually learn only orthodox statistics, a collection of techniques and methods that were set down as the *de facto* standard just in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. Yet in the 1930s, Sir Harold Jeffreys, a British geophysicist, single-handedly rekindled interest in Bayesian methods that lend themselves to computer application and inference problems that cannot be solved using orthodox methods. In this talk, we will discuss how the Bayesian approach has led to a renaissance in the field of Artificial Intelligence, particularly for diagnostic fault analysis of hardware and software information processing systems.

**SPEAKER BIO:** Ron Coleman completed his doctorate in computer science at Polytechnic University in 1989 while working for Bell Labs from 1984-1989. After graduation Dr. Coleman came to IBM to participate in the development of the SP1, the company's first scalable parallel supercomputer, forerunner to the SP2 and Deep Blue. In 1993, Dr. Coleman went to work for Citigroup where he was part of a team that developed quantitative software to measure and diagnose the global credit risk of foreign exchange and interest rate derivative contracts. In 2000, after leaving Citigroup, Dr. Coleman co-founded Informeta, a core technology company in Poughkeepsie that develops artificially intelligent software to "explain" and correct information faults in databases and process workflows for major corporations.

Dr. Coleman is a member of the New York Academy of Sciences, the American Statistical Association, the Society for Scientific Exploration, and a member of the adjunct faculty at SUNY/Dutchess.



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