



# Watt's New



In the Baltimore Section

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## IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) Affinity Group Starts Bimonthly Lecture Series

Tina Kohler

In October 2001 the IEEE Washington Area formed a local affinity group of the Women in Engineering (WIE) society. This group includes Washington, D.C., Northern Virginia, and Baltimore sections. The executive committee of the local affinity group was elected at the first meeting and has been meeting regularly since then.

Their focus in the last four months has been to start a bimonthly lecture series with speakers discussing the rewards and challenges of women in science and engineering careers. The first speaker of the lecture series will be Prof. Carol Espy-Wilson, from the University of Maryland. The lecture will be on April 8th at the University of Maryland in the Judith Resnick Hall auditorium in the Martin Hall building. Refreshments will be served at 7:00 p.m. and the lecture will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Questions or info, please contact a WIE officer.

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<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore>

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## Robots Returning for the 6th Year at the Baltimore Museum of Industry

Neville Jacobs

For more information, <http://www.robotchallenge.com>

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## IEEE PROMOTES PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENCE

*If you are technical/scientific professional, we invite you to become a member of IEEE to further your technical excellence.*

The Baltimore Section also congratulates the following individuals who were elevated to the IEEE Senior Member level (January 2001 to Feb 2002). It is a testimony and recognition for at least 10 years of success and service to the Electrical and Electronics Engineering professions.

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**Robot Challenge, 7 and 20 April at the Baltimore Museum of Industry**

**IEEE Sections Congress, 18-21 October, Washington, D.C.**

High School Challenge

# Robot

Sunday, April 7, 2002 and  
Saturday, April 20, 2002

Sponsored by IEEE,  
The Institute of Electrical and  
Electronic Engineers



The Robots will be returning for the sixth year, and we expect some exciting designs and a good turn-out for this High School event - we anticipate that this year we will also have a number of teams that will be registering for a second run under Automated control. On specially marked tables two Robots will compete against each other and the clock, Each robot has been created and built by a team of 2 to 8 students from kits provided by the IEEE, and some of the robots have 2 powered legs and others have 4. Their objective is to complete a 6 foot course, climb over two hurdles, stay upright and avoid breakdowns. They get penalty points for handling or touching the robot after the start of the race, and credit points for the distance traveled and the time taken. There is a premium for good teamwork. In addition:

- A Written Report is submitted prior to the competition, and describes the planning and implementation of the project.
- An Oral Presentation and a Workmanship critique takes place after the competition, and is held in side rooms off the main hall.

The highest number of total points decides the winner. Last year's (2001) 2-leg robot winner was The Athletes from Beth Tfiloh Dahan High School, who completed the course under Manual control in 4 minutes and 21 seconds, and under Automated control in 13 minutes and 25 seconds. They received a total of 102 points; and were closely followed by team A to Z from CHEN with 100.5 points. The 4-leg robot winner was the Better Than Yours team from Parkville High School. Their time was 14 minutes and 28 seconds, and they received a total of 67.5 points.

For more information, Please call Neville Jacobs at 410-653-4176, or by e-mail at [Nevilleed@aol.com](mailto:Nevilleed@aol.com).

## Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers



We are excited by the number of high school students who have entered this challenge. We hope you enjoy it and feel you've learned something special from the experience.

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<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/Officers.pdf>

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## Alonzo Decker Jr., 94; Led Baltimore Power Tool Firm

*(from the washingtonpost.com news)*

Alonzo G. Decker Jr., 94, who turned Black and Decker into an industrial giant by marketing power tools for use at home died March 18, 2002 at his home from a heart ailment. Mr. Decker who was born in Baltimore County and raised near Towson, MD, was a 1929 Electrical Engineering graduate of Cornell University. After college graduation in 1929, he joined B&D as an electrical engineer, focusing on engineering, research, and manufacturing. In the 1960s, Alonzo Decker was directly responsible for the first cordless drill. ❖❖❖

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

A 2002 Planning Calendar can be found at  
<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/Calendar/Calendar2002.pdf>

**PLEASE CONTACT THE SECTION OR SPONSORING CHAPTER DIRECTLY FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION AND TO CONFIRM THE EVENT.**

### Annapolis Sub-section

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/Subsection/crab-line.html>

### Aerospace and Electronic Systems

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/AES/>

### Antenna Propagation / Microwave Techniques Theory

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/Chapter/ApMTT/AntennaMicrowave.html>

### Communications

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/Chapter/Comm/>

### Computer

<http://ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/Chapter/Computer/>

### Electron Devices / Solid State Circuits

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/edss/>

### Electromagnetic Compatibility

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/Chapter/EMC/emc.html>

### Engineering in Medicine and Biology

<http://www.bme.jhu.edu/~cpatel/hopkins/embs.html>

### Industry Applications

<http://www.iasbaltimore.org/>

### Power Engineering

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/baltimorepes/>

### Reliability

<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore/Chapter/Rel/Reliability.html>

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#### Errata from Winter Issue - The Editors apologize

- Omission of the Reliability Chair, Walt Willing
- The Robot Challenge Project is on its 6th year (not 4th year).

## Section Chair's Corner



Virgilio Arafiles

Greetings! Our first quarter of 2002 had come and gone, with quiet successes. I would like to take this opportunity to extend congratulations to our members and at the same time challenge our readers to volunteer and help the section.

### RAB Achievement Award

We are all honored and pleased to announce that the Regional Activities Board (RAB) recognized Carole Carey with the 2001 RAB Achievement Award for her service as Baltimore Section Chair (2001), Vice chair, (2000), Secretary (1999), Treasurer (1998), and as Chair for both the Baltimore and Washington EMB Chapters. Carole is also our Webmaster and is currently the Watt's New Editor. Great job, Carole!

### New Senior Members

Membership in our section continues to grow, posting around 2.6 % increase from last year. Most notably, we were successful with our 2001 drive to elevate members as we now have 24 new Senior Members. Congratulations to all new Senior Members, especially to our volunteers, Neville Jacobs, Boris Grammatikov, Jim Cummins, and Steven Talabac. Senior Membership is a well-deserved recognition to those who have been members of the IEEE for at least 10 years. The section supports applications for elevation and can provide references. The first half-hour of our monthly Executive Committee meetings is reserved for the review of SM applications and resumes. A complete list of new Senior Members is included in this issue of Watt's New.

### Volunteers Needed

The section is seeking member-volunteers for leadership positions in the Baltimore Section and local Society Chapters. In the Section, we have a leadership succession program, providing for leadership training for those seeking to serve and learn about IEEE. One usually serves as Treasurer, Secretary, Vice Chair, Chair, and then serve in various capacities as Chair of various Section Committees. This year, the Section Secretary office is open for appointment, and other positions are open for nominations for the November annual election. We also have 10 local technical societies seeking volunteer leaders. ❖❖❖

## NEW SENIOR MEMBERS

Congratulations to our new Senior Members!

### FEBRUARY 2002

Dr. Naresh C. Das (*Electron Devices Society*), Linda Mullen (*Microwave Theory & Techniques Society*), Michael Peng (*Communications Society*).

### NEXT PANEL MEETING

The next Admission and Advancement Panel Meeting is scheduled for 23 March 2002 in Morrisville, NC.



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*For information on how the Section or Society  
can earn cash rewards for nominating a Senior  
Member candidate, see*

*Nominate a Senior Member initiative at*

<http://www.ieee.org/ra/md/sminitiative.html>

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### January to February 2002

Dr. Naresh C. Das, *Electron Devices (EDS)*  
Linda Mullen \* *Microwave Theory and Techniques (MTTS)*  
Michael Peng *Communications (ComSoc), Computer (CS)*  
William G. Bath, *Aerospace and Electronic Systems (AESS)*  
Louis L. Whitcomb *Control Systems (CSS), Oceanic Engineering (OES), Robotics & Automation (RAS)*  
Neville E. Jacobs \*

### January to December 2001:

Jim Cummins \* *Computer Society*  
Mark W. Brown *AESS, Signal Processing (SPS)*  
Donald F. Merritt \* *Computer Society \**  
Kent B. Rochford \* *Lasers & Electro-Optics (LEOS)*  
Boris I. Gramatikov \* *Engineering in Medicine and Biology (EMB)*  
Scott C. Horst, *LEOS*  
David J. Parsley \* *Industry Applications (IAS), Power Engineering (PES)*  
Gerard L. Schmitt \* *Power Engineering*  
Patrick B. Dever \* *MTTS*  
Mark T. Frank \* *Ultrasonics, Ferroelectric, & Frequency Control (UFFCS)*  
William A. Huting \* *Antennas & Propagation (APS)*  
Charles M. Kennedy \* *CS, ComSoc*  
Qing Z. Liu *ComSoc, LEOS, MTTS*  
Stephen J. Talabac \*  
Paul Thouin \* *Signal Processing*  
Dwayne Rosenburgh, *ComSoc, Engineering Management (EMS)*  
Mountain, David J \* *Electron Devices*  
Chen\*, Shuguang, *APS,, MTTS*  
Cole, John L, *Computer*  
Hobbs, Benjamin F *Power Engineering*  
Stitzer, Steven N *Magnetics, MTTS*  
Xu\*, Jian, *MTTS*  
Althouse, Mark L G *ComSoc., EDS, SPS, Geoscience And Remote Sensing*  
Gorti, Bhanuprasad V *Industrial Electronics, Industry Applications, Power Electronics ❖❖❖*

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### **EDITORIAL POLICIES AND PROCEDURE**

Watt's New is the official newsletter of the IEEE Baltimore Section as a medium for both news, articles, and opinions that are of newsworthy IEEE activities taking place in and around the Baltimore metropolitan area.

The electronic version and back copies are published in the Baltimore web page at [www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore](http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r2/baltimore)

### **E-NEWSLETTER FORMAT AND FREQUENCY**

Beginning 2002, the Watt's New newsletter will be published quarterly in the Baltimore web page. Paper copy will be mailed only upon request. Contact Len Bathgate. To receive notices by e-mail and e-newsletter subscription, contact Jim Cummins, [jcummins@ieee.org](mailto:jcummins@ieee.org).

### **ADVERTISING**

Contact editors about rates and to place advertising orders.

### **CALENDAR, CONFERENCES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please submit items in a timely manner to provide members with a newsletter that is informative and timely. Contact editors about accepted format.

### **DEADLINES**

Deadline for upcoming issue will be published on this page. The deadline for the 2002 July-Aug-Sep issue is June 1, 2002. Deadlines must be strictly adhered to keep our publication schedule.

### **ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS**

The Baltimore section, Annapolis sub-section, and Chapter technical Society meetings are open to all members and guests. ■