IEEE life members newsletter

contents

1st & 2nd quarters
2003

By the time you read this article, the IEEE Board of Directors will have acted on one of two proposals to change the qualifications to attain Life Member (LM) status. Currently, LM status is granted after attaining age 65 such that one's age and total years of paid membership equals 100. This means that at age 65 you must have paid IEEE dues for 35 years to qualify.

Proposal (1), which was endorsed by the IEEE Life Members Committee (LMC), keeps the minimum age at 65; however, the number of dues-paying years required jumps to 40. Thus, the minimum total would become 105 (65 years old plus 40 years of membership).

Proposal (2) gradually raises the minimum age from 65 to 68 with the total age and membership again equaling 105. In the end, one would have to be at least 68 years old with 37 years of IEEE membership. This is a compromise from the initial proposal to raise the minimum age to 70, which was rejected by the LMC.

The reasons given for changing the qualification requirements for Life Member status are many; essentially, however, it is a financial decision. The number of Life members is projected to grow to over 40,000 by year 2013 if present qualifications are maintained. The associated dues subsidy to IEEE is predicted to be $1.8M in 2004 and $3.6M in 2013. The total over the ensuing years will exceed $25M under the existing rules. The projected savings over the next 10 years under proposal (1) is $1.7M and under proposal (2) is $4M. An alternative—not being considered—was to start assessing Life members a service fee.

Many of you responded to my last article on this subject and no one was in favor of the proposed changes. Your concerns have been forwarded to the appropriate IEEE Board of Directors' members.

This year all LMs received in their IEEE annual membership renewal outreach a request to return the included profile indicating your interest in maintaining LM status and receipt of any IEEE publications for which you were qualified. Failure to respond resulted in you being dropped from the IEEE LM roster. Since many LMs may have overlooked this important request, we are sending one more issue of the LM Newsletter to those who did not respond. If you forgot to respond, you can reinstate service by contacting IEEE Members Services by phone: +1 800 678 4333 (USA) +1 732 981 0060 (worldwide) or email: <member-services@ieee.org>.

Lastly, the results of the LM survey have been tabulated. It is heartening to report an astounding 63 percent response rate. This indicates your interest in LM activities. One issue that received positive response was the formation and maintaining of Life Members Chapters. As a result, the LMC is renewing its efforts to start and fund new Chapters and provide guidance on running successful Chapters. Also, apparently, many of you (77%) prefer the paper version of this newsletter so it will not go solely electronic in the near future. See page 2 for the survey report. Please send comments or suggestions to me or the staff to the addresses noted on page 8.

B. Leonard Carlson, Chair
IEEE Life Members Committee

And the survey says . . .

First, thank you to everyone who received a survey (1000) and responded (630). The 63% response rate is very good. As a result, the level of confidence for the results is 95% with a +/-4% margin of error. So what did you tell us?

1) Most of you like being an IEEE member and "consider the status that comes with being a Life member important." Those of you active in IEEE activities tend to also be the ones happier with IEEE overall. There is also a strong link "between active participation in IEEE functions" and valuing the "Life member status."

2) To this end, about 25% of you have attended local Section/Chapter meetings in the past three years. However, you must make up a substantial chunk of the voters in the IEEE elections. Roughly 57% of you have voted in an IEEE election in the past three years. Thus, you have more power than you (or apparently the IEEE Board of Directors) realize as a group. Consider that 2002 President-Elect and Life Fellow Art Winston won by garnering 17,949 votes out of the 38,038 votes counted. In 2002, Life members totaled 30,425 at year-end/ 57% of that number is 17,342. Now simply connect those "just suppose" dots.

3) Most of you are not aware that Life Members Chapters exist (even though we have been running bits on them for several years now...sigh). However, if one were in your locale, about a third of you would attend LM Chapter activities (see adjacent box for more details).

4) On the other hand, over 75% of you are aware of the IEEE Life Members Fund (LMF) and our constant quest for donations. About half of you say you gave last year (thank you) and those of you who did give plan to give this year as well (again, many thanks). However, getting non-givers to change their ways is not looking terribly promising. Part of the reason may be that none of the current projects supported by the LMF pique your interest particularly. So please let us know what projects you would support.

5) Regarding this newsletter, if you like being an LM then you like this newsletter. No surprise to us, the "war stories" is your favorite section.

6) Lastly, while the vast majority of you are Internet-connected, most of you are not interested in using the Internet for IEEE communications and activities or for getting your IEEE publications.

IEEE membership—activity participation

Top reasons for attending		Top reasons for NOT attending	
Interesting subject	86%	Inconvenient location	30%
To socialize with peers	53%	Not interested in subject	27%
Convenient location	35%	No time/too busy	25%
Schedule is convenient	26%	No activities in my area	11%
Networking opportunities	14%	Schedule is not convenient	9%
		Not informed about activities	9%
		Times are not convenient	5%

Q4: Base = "those who attend (146), "those who do not attend" (440)

Regarding the

LM chapter survey results

Apparently only "roughly 4 in 10" of you even know that LM chapters exist. That number drops to roughly 2 in 10 for knowing whether or not one's local Section has a Life Members Chapter.

However, according to the survey, a third of you would participate in LM Chapter activities if they were available to you. Right now, around 24% of you participate in local Section activities.

What LM Chapter activities would draw the highest attendance? Well, ones with interesting program content. And what constitutes interesting program content? Those program topics that are "more technology-oriented, more specialized and more relevant to" LMs' needs. "This is especially true for those likely to participate in future activities and those still in the workforce," states the report.

Finally, the best time for a LM Chapter to hold a meeting would be in the afternoon or the evening. Obviously, those who still work prefer the evening while retirees prefer the afternoons. Weekends were a wash with less than 10% of the vote from any category. The morning timeframe got only 21% from retirees and 11% from those still working.

NOTE: The actual number of responses to the questions varied dramatically. While 630 LMs out of 1000 answered the survey, general questions fared much better than detailed ones. The general membership/LM questions often got a 95 to 100% answer rate. However, the response rate often dropped to less than 25% for detailed responses.

The Life Members Fund

As of December 2002, the Life Members Fund (LMF) had received $180,532 (USD) in contributions for the year. This was $10,532 more than had been budgeted ($170k). However, interest and dividends were $35,702 or $4,298 under the budgeted $40k. This year the LMC is being very conservative with regards to income from investments ($20k). So contributions from you, the Life members, are more important than ever just to keep the status quo in funding projects and programs. And just because it's fun to look at some of the donation breakdowns, FYI—

- 1453 LMs gave from $10 to $20,
- 2198 LMs gave $25,
- 885 LMs gave $50
- 300 LMs gave $100
- and 3 LMs gave $1000.

In total, 5,609 LMs made contributions to the LMF. With 30,425 of you as of 31 Dec. '02, that's around 18%. Even though, according to the survey, around half of the respondents say they gave. Obviously, these recollections don't quite jell with reality....so how do we make reality and fantasy one and the same percentage number? Apparently, the key to getting more of you to give includes communication and promotion with details about the projects and programs. The web <www.ieee.org/lmc> has those details on the projects and programs.

Special projects for 2003 total $101,600 (USD). They are RE-SEED, the Washington Internships for Students of Engineering (WISE), Connecting Engineers with the Precollege Community and the IEEE Virtual Museum. (Note: *PC Magazine* (30 May 2003) states that the IEEE Virtual Museum web site <www.ieee-virtual-museum.org> has a "simple and attractive layout...[and] throughout, the information is pitch-perfect; not too tough for the neophyte, but not too watered down for those who once knew but now need a refresher.")

Ongoing programs are the Student Prize Paper Contest, the Graduate Fellowship Program/History EE, the Graduate Student Summer Intern Program (history), the Donald G. Fink Prize Paper Award, the Life Member Prize in Electrical History, LM Chapter Support, the James Mulligan Education Medal (2003 only) and this newsletter. The total for these programs is $102,600 (USD). This makes the budgeted grand total $204,200.

As of 28 February, the LMF had received $52,648 in contributions. Although most donations come in response to the profiles/dues packet mailed in October. All donations are greatly appreciated. Please make your check payable to the "IEEE Life Members Fund" and use the address on page 8 under "How to reach them." Thanks!

Forgot to tell IEEE that, "yes, you do want to keep getting *IEEE Spectrum* and the other publications/services," and have been cut off?
Contact Member Services by email <member-services@ieee.org>
or phone +1 800 678 4333 (USA) +1 732 981 0060 (worldwide)

Forming LM chapters
—opportunities abound

As of 24 March, there were 17 IEEE Life Members Chapters. However, there is lots of opportunity for expansion. For starters, there are over 50 Sections with 100 or more Life members and no LM Chapter. Granted some cover a fairly large terrain; but, quite a few serve just one city.

The two essential keys to forming one is a petition and at least one or more "go-getters." The petition just needs to state 1) the Section, 2) the name of the organizer (go-getter) who serves as interim Chair pending elections, and 3) the names of the Life members who have agreed to join the LM Chapter if formed.

After the petition is submitted to and approved by the Regional Life Member Coordinator in coordination with the Section Chair, the chapter is considered established. It is that simple.

For more information, check the LMC web site given in the box on the right. Or if you have specific questions, you can email them to <lm-chapters@ieee.org>.

LM Chapters. A Life Members Chapter can help Life members and other IEEE members remain active and involved. The LMC makes funding available as seed money. Om Malik oversees this program for the LMC as the Regional LM Chapter Liaison. For more information about creating a LM Chapter contact him or your Regional LM Chapter coordinator.

Region	Coordinator	Email alias
1	Edward Altshuler	edward.altshuler@hanscom.af.mil
2	TBA	lm-chapters@ieee.org
3	Dave McLaren	d.mclaren@ieee.org
4	Jack H. Hotchkiss	110330.2615@compuserve.com
5	Ross Anderson	r.c.anderson@ieee.org
6	Len Carlson	l.carlson@ieee.org
7	Ron Potts	r.potts@ieee.org
8	TBA	lm-chapters@ieee.org
9	Eduardo Bonzi Correa	e.bonzi@ieee.org
10	Matt Darveniza	matt@csee.ug.edu.au

Om Malik, Regional LM Chapter Liaison, Email:
<maliko@ieee.org> or <lm-chapters@ieee.org>

Life members web site lists LM relevant IEEE Bylaws and the IEEE Life Members Committee (LMC) activities. It also gives summaries concerning funded projects and programs as well as reports on recent LMC meetings and more (like this newsletter).

LM web site: <www.ieee.org/lmc>

war stories

Repairing radars in the South Seas

(1944)

Late in 1942, I gave up my draft deferment working as a junior engineer at General Electric Co. in Schenectady, NY. I enlisted in the US Army Signal Corps. I was assigned to Electronics Training Group at Ft. Monmouth, NJ that was intended to work on the English Channel Radar.

Their plans changed and I was assigned to the 413th Signal Radar Maintenance Unit. It was part of the Provisional Coast Artillery Harbor Surveillance Detachment in the South West Pacific Area. Our tour took us through San Francisco, California, Brisbane and Townsville, Australia, Port Morsby and Finchaven, New Guinea, and finally to Lion Four Naval Base Lorengau, Manus Island. We set up our SCR-582 (Signal Corp Radar) surface surveillance radar on a hill overlooking Seadler Harbor to report ships entering or leaving to the Naval Port Director's Office.

In July 1944, the focus coil for our SCR-582 burned out. My team sergeant installed the only spare focus coil we had in the spare parts equipment. Soon after, this one also burned out. We removed the PPI (Plan Position Indicator) cathode ray tube and installed a pointer to mechanically indicate azimuth position. Our A-scope CRT (Cathode Ray Tube) still indicated range for the targets. This did work but not optimally. Meanwhile, I made up a stiff paper form in accordance with the dimensions allowed for the focus coil. Then I obtained a roll of No. 36 cotton covered copper wire from the Navy CB's (Construction Battalions). I rigged a board to hold the coil form with a crank and also mounted the coil of No. 36 wire. My guys took turns winding the coil. Figuring the time and the rpm of the average winder, we estimated that there was 8000 turns to the allowed space. The original focus coil had 20,000 turns. When we installed the new coil, there was enough variation in the current control Potentiometer to obtain focus. So it worked! Eventually, we received a replacement (SCR-682).

Later that same year, Captain Greenwald, a radar officer of the 43rd Coast Artillery Battalion, asked me to go with him to service one of his SCR-584 gun laying radar sets. It had a fault in the azimuth drive system. We took off the pedestal cover and removed some of the drive gears. There was this one set with an internal gearing about eight inches in diameter. Inside a sun gear of 19 teeth and three planetary gears of 18 teeth were enmeshed. These four gears had needle bearings and were corroded and rusted. I took this gear assembly to a CB machine shop for repairs. To pay for the repairs, I gave the machinist a fifth of Seagram's VO that I had purchased from the Naval Base Officer's Club for $2.00(USD)! The bearings were freed and I took them back the next day. The 584 radar was in operation again.

Another time late in 1944, Captain Greenwald asked me to service one of his SCR-268 early warning radar sets. The radar operator said that they were not getting any targets. In this situation, the radar receiver was the suspect. Thus, I removed the receiver and measured various d-c voltages. About the fourth voltage measured was the screen voltage of the intermediate frequency amplifier (vacuum tubes in those days). It had been turned down to 100 volts. It should have been 190 volts. Somebody had accidentally turned the potentiometer on top of the receiver chassis. I simply set the voltage where it should have been. The receiver was re-installed and the targets came back big as life! Now my story just illustrates that some problems are easily solved and some require a bit of doing.

William Barrick, LM
New Hartford, NY

pop goes the cap

Some 25 years ago, my company was negotiating with a prospective customer for several large, pulse rated thyristor converters for plasma fusion experiments. The customer was concerned about the ability of our current regulator system to operate correctly in the presence of deep commutation notches in the power line. An engineering representative and the customer's consultant were scheduled to visit our plant and see a demonstration.

A young engineer in my group devised an elaborate demo system consisting of two converters, inductors, regulators and all the ancillary equipment. He had tested the system for several days in advance of the customer visit and it had performed flawlessly. On the demo day, we all gathered in the lab with our management group and the engineer threw on the power switch. For some strange reason (Murphy's Law?), a small electrolytic capacitor in the regulator power supply decided on self immolation. With a loud bang, it launched itself in a graceful arc toward the lab ceiling, trailing a rather pretty spiral of aluminum foil. The poor engineer was aghast. But the customer engineer and consultant had both blown up their share of components over the years, and they took it all in stride. After a good laugh (and a quick patch), the demo proceeded successfully and the order was ours.

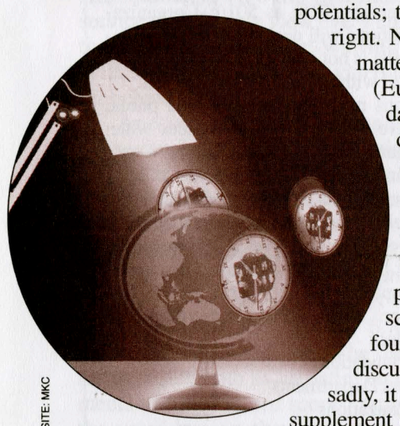
Keith H. Sueker, SM
Pittsburgh, PA

A "war story" related to "The guild of relativity" by Roger Easton

(3rd/4th qtrs 2002)

While I was working on User Equipment & Application in support of the GPS Joint Program Office, my boss could and would get from me information on eclectic and "out-of-sight" subjects. One noon he told me that he had been in a large, high-level meeting where a disagreement arose as to whether there would be a relativistic-frequency-shift in GPS satellite clocks on orbit versus on ground. As reported, the "great father" of our think-tank opined there would be none; but an even "greater father" from tanks much closer to relativistic effects stated there would be a significant relativistic-frequency-shift.

An admirer of Albert Einstein, I recalled his thought experiments on the General Relativity Theory (equivalence of gravitational and acceleration forces). Thus, the GPS clocks would be moved to different gravitational potentials; the "greater father" was right. Not having studied this matter since my Gymnasium (European high school+) days, I asked for time to do research. I was told to have an answer the next morning.



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The library there had nothing relevant but proceedings of the physical society. After scanning many issues, I found a note with relevant discussion and formulas; but, sadly, it seemed to be more of a supplement or refinement of earlier treatments on the subject. After crunching some numbers I was left with the concern that my results—though small but quite significant—were only second-order effects. As the day got long, I gave up the plan to visit the physics library at my alma mater.

Early the next morning, I gave a note of my results to my boss along with my concern that the exact value needed more study or expert work. That afternoon my boss appeared before me very angry saying that I had embarrassed him and our "great father." "Don't let that happen again," my boss exclaimed.

Apparently our "great father" had reported my results; but probably without my "cautionary preamble." He was promptly challenged by the "greater father" who supposedly "off-the-top-of-his-head" had calculated a value some 10 to 100 times larger.

The morals of this story (things I have had to learn repeatedly): 1) never volunteer; 2) no good deed shall go unpunished, and 3) it's not fun being on the receiving end of someone flying off the handle.

Erik Unt, LM
Tarzana, CA

Two quick tales to tell

1) My first war story goes back to WW II when I was a kid in high school. While trying to build a superhetrodyne receiver, I found that my receiver transmitted just fine. Never mind that it was against the law to have a transmitter that was not registered.

Things got complicated when Signal Corps training aircraft from a nearby training camp started "buzzing over the farm." I was put out of business when the Commander of the unit called our local telephone operator to inquire whether she knew any kids who might be transmitting. She told the commander she knew of no one.

Immediately after the telephone call from the Commander, the telephone operator called my mother. My broadcasting days were over. But the experience was instrumental to launching my career in Electrical Engineering.

2) My second story goes back to the late 50s when I was an antenna design engineer at the Tulsa Division of Douglas Aircraft. Our entry into the space program was a third stage vehicle for the Thor/Able series missile. We had design and fabrication responsibilities. We were to fabricate two vehicles, the primary and a back up.

After we completed the design of the antennas, we tested performance on our antenna range for every angle of the calculated trajectory. The test results were excellent. On the day of the launch, we waited with anticipation for the good news of our success. The good news never came.

Instead, we got the news that a "trigger happy" Range Safety Officer had blown up our missile. We were both disgusted and disappointed; but, we also soon learned that the Range Safety Officer had done his job properly. The telemetry data indicated that the C-Band tracking radar tracking beacon was about to lose signal.

Our own analysis later revealed that we had missed one critical factor in our design parameters. The location of the first C-Band tracking radar was such that at a certain point, close to launch, on the trajectory, the transmitting and receiving antennas were cross polarized with each other. This was the reason for the rapid signal strength decrease observed by the Range Safety Officer. If he had held off for a few more seconds, the signal strength would have come up again.

My reputation was at stake. However, all was forgiven when I found a circularly polarized antenna developed by another company that worked perfectly on the second vehicle.

Carol L. Crom, LM
Garland,TX

IEEE 2003 Life Members Committee

Front row (L-R): Daniel C. Toland - RAD staff, Cecelia Jankowski - Secretary (Staff), Arthur W. Winston - 2003 IEEE President-Elect, B. Leonard Carlson- LMC Chair, Mary Campbell - RAD staff, Edward E. Altshuler

Back row (L-R): Michael Geselowitz - History Center Staff, Om P. Malik, Theodore S. Saad, Daniel J. Senese - IEEE Executive Director, Eduardo Bonzi Correa, Warren A. Kesselman, James E. O'Neil, Richard S. Nichols

Life members active in Region 7

Life members in Canada have remained active since the last newsletter. There are now four Life Members Chapters. Toronto (211);Vancouver (106); Winnipeg (37) and the Hamilton, KW & London (125). This joint chapter was originally the Central Canada Chapter. With the objective of having a strong liaison with the Local Sections, a formal joint section LM Chapter evolved.

The interest and effort by Life members was most important in getting the initial meetings organized to form these LM Chapters. For activities of these Chapters to continue, the close collaboration and help of their respective Section executives and committee chairs will be required.

The Hamilton joint chapter is actively working on a History Milestone Project of the transmission of power from St. Catharines to Hamilton Ontario prior to 1900. The Winnipeg Section Life Member Chapter held their inaugural meeting April 23rd. The meeting had 35 attendees. A presentation on Alternative Energy Power was given by Tom Molinski and Jeff Leung of Manitoba Hydro.

Ron Potts, Region 7
LM Chapter Coordinator

Donor Advised Funds 101

The Donor Advised Fund (DAF) is one popular vehicle that people in the United States are using to balance their philanthropic goals with their estate planning and financial needs. DAFs are easy to set up, offer an immediate tax deduction, and enable donors to plan their charitable giving, while avoiding the administrative and regulatory issues and costs of establishing a private foundation. Any individual, family, group, business or organization can create a DAF.

DAFs are established when a donor selects a host organization and makes an irrevocable contribution. The full amount of the contribution is immediately tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law in the United States. Once established, the donor is able to recommend grants to be given from the DAF to his or her favorite charities that are classified by the US Internal Revenue Service (IRS) as 501(c)3 organizations. Host organizations will decline a recommendation if the organization is not a 501(c)3 organization or the grant does not fall within its charitable mission.

Host organizations must be classified as a public charity. Donors have a wide array of choices when selecting a host organization. Before selecting a host organization, it is important to compare the policies and procedures of several organizations with regard to such things as contributions, grant making, successorship, investments, reporting and fees. In addition, the donor should verify that the host organization's charitable mission is compatible with his or her own philanthropic goals. Options for host organizations include (in no particular order):

- Community Foundations
- Banks and Trust Departments
- Religious Organizations
- Public Foundation and Special-Interest Funds
- Educational Institutions
- Commercial or Proprietary Funds, such as *Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund* and *Schwab Fund for Charitable Giving*™

Before you decide if a Donor Advised Fund is right for you, please meet with your financial advisor. If you decide to establish a DAF, or you have already established one, please consider recommending a grant to the IEEE Life Members Fund of the IEEE Foundation. These grants provide the financial fuel the IEEE Life Members Fund needs to support projects that encourage students and young electrical engineers to pursue a career in engineering, investigate the history of electrical engineering, and represent the interests of IEEE Life members or similarly mature members.

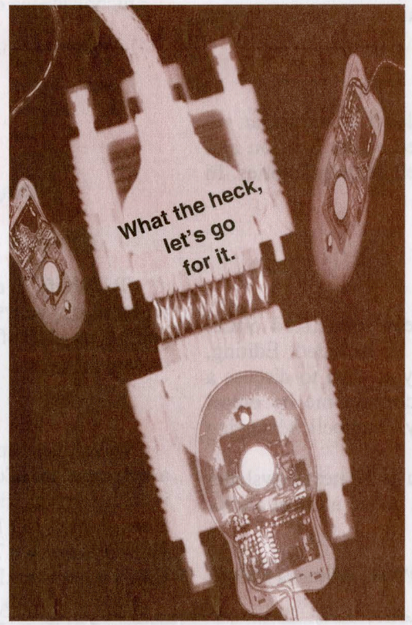
To learn more about supporting the IEEE Life Members Fund of the IEEE Foundation, visit the IEEE Foundation web site at www.ieee.org/foundation or contact the IEEE Development Office by telephone at +1 732 562 3915 or by email at <supportieee@ieee.org>.

Karen Galuchie, IEEE Development Office

Internet for the chronologically challenged

In my column a year ago, I agonized over what Internet applications might possibly motivate me to take the step from dial-up to broadband access? Has anything happened to tip the scales? Yep.

For one thing, more material is becoming available on the web that begs for higher speed download times. While I am not a big music fan, that could change now that Apples iTune online music store is making a huge number of titles available conveniently (and legally) for $.99 (USD) a pop. Still expensive in bulk, but a million songs were sold in the first week of operation. The main thing for me is it transforms the ripping of MP3s from a practice suitable at college dorms to a legitimate activity of responsible seniors. According to David Pogue, *The New York Times* State of the Art columnist, "It's the first music service that doesn't view every customer as a criminal-in-waiting." With music as a start, can video be far behind?



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Another change is the quality of the service and the support being offered by some broadband access providers. Information about these providers' services is posted on <www.broadbandreports.com>, a very useful web site. This site presents data on the experiences of customers in the US with both access providers and ISPs. The data are available both as verbatim comments and aggregated scores rating the providers on the attributes of sales/ installation, reliability, tech support and services. The most recent customer reviews are sorted into three categories—Smooth Ride, Mixed and Horror Story. The result is an indicator of what these service providers have done for their customers lately. While past performance is no guarantee of future results, looking at this information is much better than flying completely blind.

Another source of comparative information on broadband ISPs is <www.pcmag.com/broadband>, a site maintained by *PC Magazine*. There you learn that there is a lot more to selecting a service provider than just looking at customer generated report cards. In my particular case, I spend five months of the year away from home in a lakeside cabin. It would be great to have a service that also gave me dial-up access while I am there, all for the same price and without incurring toll charges. I suspect, though, that I am going to be stuck with the cost of maintaining separate dial-up and broadband accounts for home and travel. But the only way to find out is to research the terms and the features of specific service offerings.

You, as a potential customer, are likely to have a choice of only one cable Internet provider and a hand-full of DSL providers, IF your telephone central office (CO) is equipped for DSL and your telephone cable run from that CO is less than 18,000 feet. A neat feature of <broadbandreports.com> is that it will estimate whether those conditions are met based upon your physical address. For example, the site told me that I am between 4265 and 6216 feet from the CO and that six different DSL providers compete to provide service in my area. The cable competition is Optimum Online. Let the research begin.

But wait, there is more. What kind of home networking should I install so that I can connect my multiple PCs to the broadband modem I select? That is a whole new issue that goes along with the decision to go broadband. There are several options now readily available — newly installed Ethernet cables (100-Mbps), electrical house wiring (14-Mbps), existing phone wiring (11-Mbps) and wireless using IEEE Standard 802.11b (11-Mbps). (Wireless standards 802.11a and 802.11g work at up to 54-Mbps; but, they are in an earlier stage of product offerings.)

The decision need not be to go with one or the other. All the products are based upon the Ethernet standard and can be combined in ways that best match a particular physical placement of equipment, power outlets and phone jacks. My own inclination is an all-wireless approach, since it appears to be the industry trend and provides maximum physical flexibility.

A final consideration is security. Broadband, always-on connections typically have a fixed IP address. Once a malicious hacker has found you, he's gotcha forever. A way around this is to use a router on your local network which has the public IP address, while the individual PCs on your network are assigned private addresses. This setup is said to frustrate virtually all attacks. Nonetheless, strong passwords, firewalls and virus protection are still very much in order.

Do I have the energy to work through all this? Yes, but when? Leaving for the lake tomorrow, so maybe in the fall.

Fred Andrews
Life Fellow
f.andrews@ieee.org

Stopping IEEE services

Those Life members who wish to have all services stopped should contact IEEE Member Services, 445 Hoes Lane, PO Box 1331, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331. Phone calls are accepted but submitting this request by email, fax or snail mail is preferred. This way IEEE has something for its record.

If you are doing it at the request of someone else, submit the member's name, number, grade, address, change date and your connection, e.g. Section Chair. To reach IEEE Member Services—fax: +1 732 562 6380 or phone: +1 800 678 4333 (USA) +1 732 981 0060 (worldwide) or email: <member-services@ieee.org>.

Our mailing list

The Life Members Newsletter is distributed to Life members and those who are **NOT** Life members but are 1) IEEE members 65 years and older, 2) retired IEEE members aged 62 through 64 and 3) members of special boards and committees.

Submitting articles

We welcome articles for this newsletter. In particular, we seek articles about projects initiated at the Section and Region level by Life members as well as "war" stories. In general, published story lengths are:

quarter page—175 words
half page—350 words
three-quarters page—525 words
full page—700 words

Acronyms should be completely identified once. Reference dates (years) also should be included. Editing, including for length, may occur. If you wish to discuss a story idea beforehand, you may contact me by email <james.oneil@ieee.org>, or call Mary Campbell, Managing Editor, at +1 732 562 5526.

The deadline for possible inclusion in the next newsletter is 15 October 2003. Please include a phone number and/or an email address with your piece.

James O'Neil, Editorial Liaison

Qualifying for LM status

To qualify as a Life member, an IEEE member must be at least 65 years old, and the sum of the member's age and the number of years of paid membership must equal or exceed 100 years.

How to reach them

Have questions, opinions or problems you would like a response to? Contact the Life Members Committee or its Staff by writing to: IEEE Regional Activities, 445 Hoes, Lane, PO Box 1331, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331, USA. Phone: +1 732 562 5508, Fax: +1 732 463 3657 or Email them to: <Life-members@ieee.org>.

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