

# IEEE

# Foothill Section

## March-April 2026 Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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Prepared by: [Max Cherubin](#) | Proofread by: [Prof. Gerald Herder](#)

## IEEE Foothill Section March ExCom/OpCom Monthly Meeting

The IEEE Foothill Section April Monthly Meeting was scheduled for March 10, 2026, but due to a chair's scheduling conflict, it was held virtually.

The chair asked the secretary to give an update about the election. The secretary said there is a delay in the election results due to the ballots, and the election period has been extended until March 22nd. The chair left at 8 PM for work, and the vice-chair facilitated the meeting.

## Membership Development

Kim Mosley was not available to report. 780 members, 117 student members; we had a decrease of 283 members due to non-renewing members. No senior member elevation, but working with one member on the process.

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## Social Media and Website

Osman Ceylan reported that 961 visitors last month and just reminded the section to keep posting and engage in LinkedIn page. During the latter part of the meeting, Osman showed photos of MATHCOUNTS to which he volunteered alongside Prof. Moe Saouli and Art Sutton.

## Technical Committees

**Ed/CAS:** Richard Fung available. Ed/CAS will provide a \$500 fund, and Richard also reminded the section about the OFC Conference (IEEE Photonics-sponsored) in LA, March 15-19, with free exhibits.

**Com/Soc:** Tamer Omar reported. The After School Engineering is currently working with Walnut High School and the Bonita School District, looking to move forward. SCSETech conference planning is ongoing, with work now underway on the paper process, workshops, and sponsorship. Meeting with IEEE to finalize the MOU on financial arrangements involving the CPP Foundation as the required non-profit partner.

**PES:** Koji Yamashita. They had a Fiji speaker in February and got a total of 20 attendees. In March, a speaker from Japan will give a talk about Batteries/BESS Integration. In April, a speaker from Palau and maybe Samoa. A slide was presented on future PES events, or you can visit the section website for updates.

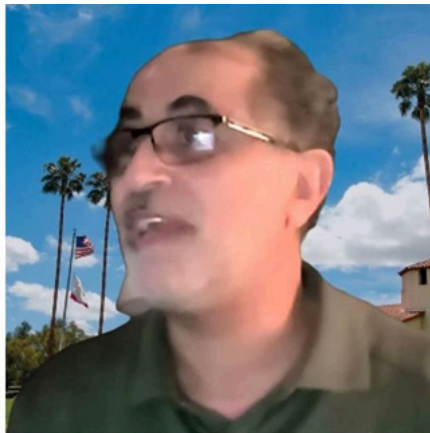
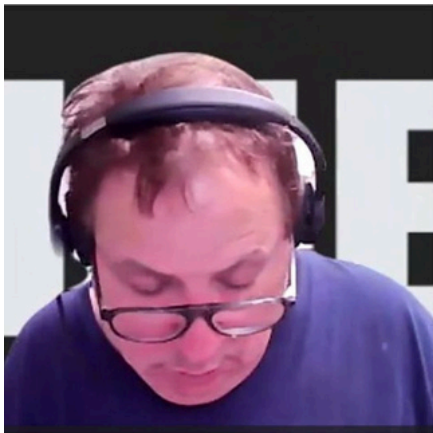
**CS:** Nazila Safavi reported that they are working with Pankaj Bhowmik, the Charlotte Section chair, and have nothing to report on the section's Local Blockchain Group.

## Affinity Group:

**YP.** Sachin and Adesola reported. Their Pizza and Networking will be in Claremont. See next page for photos and a report.

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## IEEE Foothill Section April ExCom/OpCom Monthly Meeting



The IEEE Foothill Section April ExCom/OpCom Monthly Meeting was held virtually on April 14, 2026. The election results have already been announced, and the section will still have the same officers for a two-year term.

- **Chair: Max Cherubin**
- **Vice-Chair: Osman Ceylan**
- **Secretary: Gerald Herder**
- **Treasurer: Keith Reno**

SusTech 2026 will be held this month in Santa Ana, CA, from April 19-26. The chair congratulated the student branches for submitting their Annual Student Branch reports on time. There is a new update: each university must have at least 12 IEEE members to qualify for the annual rebate. We were also contacted by Tomlinson Holman, a section member who invented the THX sound systems. Who asked the section to announce his upcoming events. The section is yet to decide, since it is a non-IEEE event,

but Gerald Herder will attend it in Burbank this coming June.

## Membership Development:

Kim Mosley is not available to report; however, she sent an email to the chair regarding the membership status. We had a total of 827, 47 new members from the student branches, no senior elevation.

## Technical Committees:

**Ed/CAS.** Bo Chen reported. They received a \$500.00 fund subsidy from Ed/CAS to support the chapter's plans for upcoming events. He is also interested in the Apticon event in Burbank, and they will consider supporting it. The OFC Conference 2026 at the Los Angeles Convention Center was attended by Richard Fung.

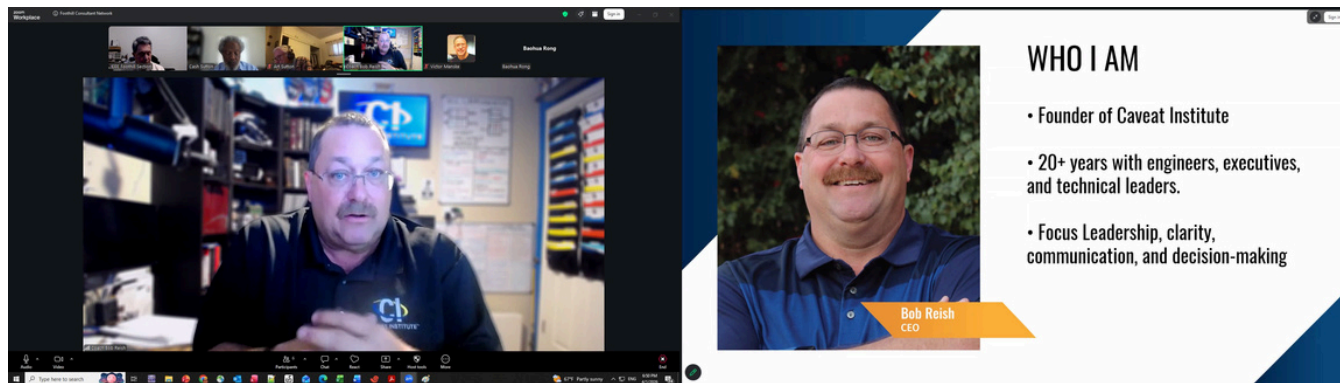
**MTT/APS.** Scott Wedge reported. One of their activities, or the first this year, was held on March 19, 2026, in Santa Clara, CA. He also attended the Chippet Summit, where he met Tom Coughlin, and there is a separate report about that on the next pages. The IMS Conference will be in June.

**ComSoc.** Tamer Omar finally settled the date of his SCSETech Conference, which will be held from December 2-6. He also invited two of his students, Rachel and, who will attend the RoboBoat Competition, so they can explain what RoboBoat is and how they can get support from the section. The After-School Engineering is still on going.

**PES.** Koji Yamashita reported. Koji has been very active in events since the start of the year. He has speakers confirmed for upcoming months, and he will try to invite women engineers to speak at their future events. He has had two events for the past month and one for today, April 14. All of their events somehow had a good turnout.

## Affinity Group:

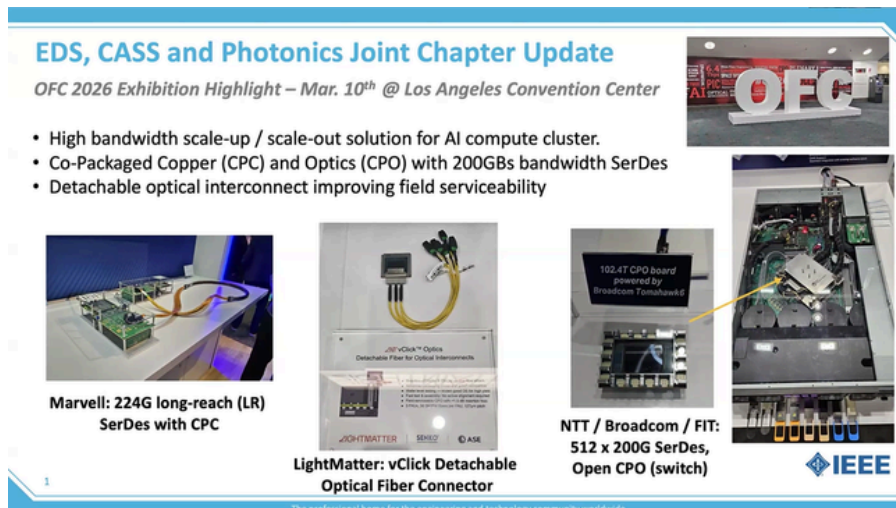
**CN.** Nick Ng reported. The CN April Meeting was held successfully, as scheduled. There are all 7 attendees, with one from NY State & one from Michigan State. Speaker Bob Reish is from AZ with the topic: The cost of being technically correct. He also thanked Cash Sutton for guiding him in managing the CN Monthly Meeting.



The image shows a Zoom meeting window on the left with Bob Reish as the main speaker. On the right is a slide titled "WHO I AM" with the following text:

- Founder of Caveat Institute
- 20+ years with engineers, executives, and technical leaders.
- Focus Leadership, clarity, communication, and decision-making

Bob Reish is identified as CEO.



**EDS, CASS and Photonics Joint Chapter Update**  
*OFC 2026 Exhibition Highlight – Mar. 10<sup>th</sup> @ Los Angeles Convention Center*

- High bandwidth scale-up / scale-out solution for AI compute cluster.
- Co-Packaged Copper (CPC) and Optics (CPO) with 200GBs bandwidth SerDes
- Detachable optical interconnect improving field serviceability

Images of hardware components are shown:

- Marvell: 224G long-reach (LR) SerDes with CPC
- LightMatter: vClick Detachable Optical Fiber Connector
- NTT / Broadcom / FIT: 512 x 200G SerDes, Open CPO (switch)

IEEE logo is present at the bottom right.

Richard Fung shared the latter part of the meeting about the OFC 2026 Exhibition, held on March 10, 2026, at the Los Angeles Convention Center, where he attended.

# IEEE PIZZA DAY & NETWORKING



Reported by: Sachin Hirianna

The IEEE YP Group held its Pizza Day and Networking last March 14<sup>th</sup> in Claremont. It was attended by 12 mixed professors, students, and professionals. The atmosphere was very engaging, and we had several great conversations regarding career advice and AI advancements, exactly as we hoped. It was fantastic to celebrate Pi Day while strengthening our local engineering community.



# MATHCOUNTS East San Gabriel Valley Chapter Competition Report:

Reported by Kevin Wood

MATHCOUNTS is a nationwide math coaching and competition program for middle school students. The local (also called chapter) competitions take place in February, state competition in March and national competition in April. Competition consists of written, individual and team rounds and an oral round, which is unofficial at the local and state levels but official at the national level. Local and State Competitions rely solely on donations/grants and volunteer time.

## East San Gabriel Valley Chapter Competition

- Held at San Marino High School, February 28, 2026
- 19 schools, 120 students, 28% girls
- Full results report will be posted at the California MATHCOUNTS Website

Funding provided by Edison International, IEEE and MATHCOUNTS Foundation

## Volunteers:

- 32 volunteers from SCE, IEEE, Cal Poly, Huntington Library, Zillow, Maury Microwave, UCLA, San Marino High School, University of LaVerne, Mt. San Jacinto College, Arcadia High School
- SCE employees participating: Jill Anderson, Ted Gribble, Dongmei Huang, Natalie Mendez, Lisa Nash, Jennifer Ocampo, Jessica Rodriguez, Richard Song, Mark Ulrich
- IEEE members participating: Art Sutton, Osman Ceylan, Moe Saouli

Expenses: Total \$4, 100 which includes \$800 for venue, \$1,100 for trophies and awards, \$1, 600 for t-shirts, \$500 for food for volunteers for volunteers and \$100 for supplies/copies.



## MATHCOUNTS East San Gabriel Valley 2026 Chapter Competition Report

### Results:

- 1st Place Team - Huntington Middle School, Coach Jean Pierre
- 2nd Place Team - Chaparral Middle School, Coach Ivan Macias
- 3rd Place Team - South Pointe Middle School, Coach Alexandra Lew
- 4th Place Team - Foothill Country Day School, Coach Mitesh Shah
- 5th Place Team - Alvarado Intermediate, Coach Linda Kim

# BUILDING THE MAGIC OF STAR WARS



*Credits to Jesse Hofer*

Last September 30, 2025, the CPP-PES had a talk with Mike Senna of Lucasfilm and Disney and conducted a talk about robotics and animatronics. More than 176 students attended the event, including 15 paid IEEE members (6 from PES and 9 from ComSoc) and 8 from the Computer Society. We put out full advertising and club promotion for the IEEE CPP student branch and handed out those neat transformer keychains with the twist tops that have IEEE PES on them to 60 students.



# Chiplet Summit 2026



Photo Credits: Scott Wedge – MTT/APS Chapter Chair

Scott Wedge had the opportunity to visit with former IEEE President Thomas Coughlin at the Chiplet Summit conference in Santa Clara on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Here they are at the IEEE booth sponsored by the Santa Clara Valley Section.

Dr. Coughlin was a keynote speaker at the conference, discussing the “IEEE and the Future of Chiplets,” including the recent milestone that the IEEE now has 500,000 members worldwide. Dr. Wedge was at the conference to present a technical paper on “Enabling Advanced Transceiver Verification for Chiplet Architectures.”

## Event of Interest: Apticon 2026

Tomlinson “Tom” Holman has been an IEEE member for more than 50 years. He was awarded the IEEE 2007 Masaru Ibuka Award and is an Academy Award winner for technical achievement, recognizing his more than two decades of research as an audio engineer at the forefront of movie theater acoustics and speaker technology.

In recognition of his years as an IEEE member and the contributions he has made to the community, our section supports promoting his event.

An analog audio electronic design conference will be held June 6-7 in Burbank, CA. It is called Apticon and is based on the products of Apt Corporation made 1977-1984, which are still available on eBay, etc., as they were made in high volume. Talks about how the noise and distortion of preamps and power amps were tamed, and how this is relevant to designs today, are included.

See [Apticon.org](http://Apticon.org) for registration information, location, hotel room discounts etc.



Tomlinson Holand  
CTO: Google Wikipedia



*Photo Credits: Prof. Tamer Omar - Associate Professor of CPP-Pomona*

The IEEE Foothill Engineering Academy (FEA) organized the Walnut High School students visit to CPP AI Fair. The students attended expert demonstrations of Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and other emerging technology projects and research. The FEA program is associated with IEEE Foothill Section, a program designed to support school students—especially those interested in engineering and related fields—by providing academic, technical, and career development opportunities.

**upcoming**  
**Events**

**IEEE Foothill Consultants May Monthly Meeting**  
May 06, 2026

**IEEE Foothill May ExCom/OpCom Monthly Meeting**  
May 12, 2026

**BE PART OF US!**

The IEEE Foothill Section needs volunteers. Join our growing community, and together, let us promote and share our knowledge in STEM.

For more questions and inquiries, email us at [sec.foothill@ieee.org](mailto:sec.foothill@ieee.org).

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