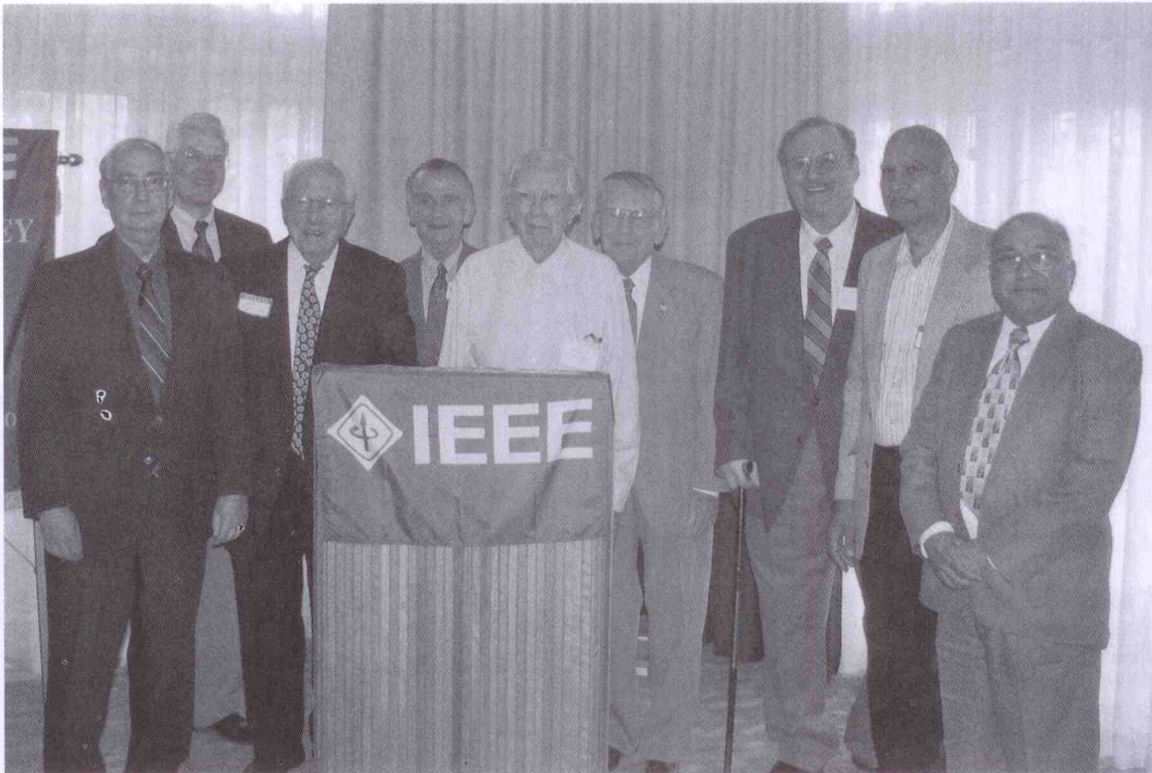


In Memoriam, Jerry B. Minter

By Howard Leach, Historian

In 1947, he organized and chaired the first Northern New Jersey Subsection of the Institute of Radio Engineers (IRE), the predecessor organization of the IEEE North Jersey Section. He was named a Fellow of the IEEE in 1969 and became a Life Fellow in 1979. He is shown below with other past Section Chairs at the seventh annual Life Grade Luncheon on October 18th, 2008, at the Hamilton Park Hotel & Conference Center, Florham Park, NJ.



From left - Dr. Michael Liechenstein (1993), Howard Leach (1989), Steve Mallard (1966-67), Ken Oexle (1979-80), Jerry Minter (1947), Herb Blaicher, Jr. (1970-71), Al Stolpen (1980-81,2000), Har Dayal (2005-06), and Kirit Dixit (2007-08)

Jerry B. Minter, 95, engineer, inventor, and businessman of Morris Township, NJ, passed away on May 19, 2009. He will be remembered by his family, friends, and business and professional colleagues for his many remarkable accomplishments and contributions.

He grew up in Fort Worth, Texas, and graduated from MIT in 1934 with a BS EE. During that time he showed his technical gifts at an early age with the building of crystal radio sets and the sale and installation of radios at the age of 12 through stores in Ft Worth, Texas. He went on to build, sell, and service other radios and public address systems in Texas and in Massachusetts while at MIT. After graduating from MIT, he returned to Fort Worth to build a ham station. From one of his ham contacts, he heard about a job in New Jersey. As a result he arrived in Boonton on May 20, 1935 with his portable 5-meter ham rig on his old Model A roadster. He used to drive to Sheep Hill in Boonton and work ham's at Rocky Point, Long Island.

In 1935, he joined Boonton Radio at \$15.00 per week in the development of band-pass intermediate frequency transformers. In 1936, at the Radio Frequency Laboratories of Boonton, he help design aircraft receivers for new tower frequencies. Unfortunately, RFL was closed when the IRS ruled in 1936 to tax all surplus corporate profit at 100 percent. He then joined the Ferris Instrument Corp on Boonton Ave in 1936 and worked on the Model 16 and 25A Standard Signal Generators. He also worked on the US Navy Model 32A Radio Noise and Field Strength Meter.

In 1939, he helped found the Measurements Corporation, Boonton, NJ, as VP and Chief Engineer with some of his associates from the Ferris Instrument Corp. They were successful with the design and production of test equipment, particularly signal generators models 78, 79, and 84 that supported the WWII radar development and operation. In fact the first Model 84 was shipped to England to help with a countermeasures laboratory. Another of their signal generators was in use at Pearl Harbor during the Japanese attack. At that time, they were producing about ten percent of the test equipment made in this country. Later they developed the Model 90 Signal Generator for color television receiver testing.

In 1947, he formed the Northern NJ Subsection of the IRE, the predecessor organization of the IEEE North Jersey Section. This became the IRE Northern NJ Section in 1954 which was eventually re-named the IEEE North Jersey Section in 1962-63 with the combination of the IRE and the AIEE into the IEEE. The Section is now celebrating its 55th anniversary.

