



# THE CONSULTANT

The Newsletter of the IEEE Consultants Network of Long Island

Volume 26, Number 2

February 2009

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## *From Chevy to Prius — Samuel Sadinsky*

My first car was a GM 1957 Chevrolet Bell Air. My present car is a Toyota 2008 Prius.

In between these times, I had several other cars, all American made, except for a 2006 Prius.

In 2006, with gas prices reaching new highs, to reduce my fuel expenses I researched the Hybrid auto market. The only car that had the best ratings was the Prius.

As an added bonus, the Prius qualifies as a *Clean Pass Car* and allows me to drive on the HOV lane by myself. This saves me a good hour per trip plus one gallon of gas, hence \$3 per trip

I had to wait more than three months to get it, but I was pleased to get it and it has served me well.

In 2008, I traded it up to a 2008 model equipped with a GPS navigational system.

I was, and still am, disappointed that the American Car manufactures did not see *the hand writing on the wall* and have continued to build large gas guzzlers that the buyers do not want.

The Prius typically gives me 44 miles to the gallon of standard gasoline. In cold weather the miles per gallon drops to 42 Mi/Gal. If I drive conservatively, stay in the right lane and maintain the speed limit using cruise control I can get 46 Mi/Gal.

The car is very responsive and has adequate power. The transfer from Engine to Electric Motors and vice versa is seamless and most of the times, both the engine and motors work together.

The Electric Motors, (there are two) provide drive power when driving, and serve as generators to charge the battery while recovering kinetic energy when slowing down or stopping. The smaller Motor can also use Engine energy to charge the battery, if necessary. This is a very novel system.

The car is Blue Tooth equipped. The Door and Ignition are essentially keyless. The car phone works with the cell phone and is hands free. It can be programmed to respond to voice commands.

Continued on page 3

As to the finances, it is competitively priced. The standard 2008 car with a

# *Meetings, Past, Present, Future*

## *October 7, 2008*

Topic: "Ways to Succeed as an Engineering Consultant"  
Panel Discussion by some of our Experienced Members.

## *November 5, 2008*

Topic: "Is LICN meeting the needs of its members?"  
Open Discussion led by Peter Buitenkant

## *December 3, 2008*

Topic: "Ultrasound Imaging in Medical Application:  
Fundamentals and Current Technology"  
Speaker: Howard Fidel, Senior Engineer, Schick Technologies

## *January 7, 2009*

Topic: Some History of the Electronics Component Business  
On Long Island  
Speaker: Barry Yonenson, CEO, KRP Electronics

## *February 4, 2009*

Topic: "I'm a Consultant!... NOT a Salesperson!"  
Sales and Sales Management Process Improvement  
Speaker: Richard Isaac, President, Legend Development Services, Inc.

## *March 4, 2009*

Topics: "Microchip's Design Partner Program"  
"Zigbee and Miwi Protocols"  
Speakers: Grainne (Gawnya) Josaphat, Field Sales Engineer  
Jerry Fogarty, Field Applications Engineer, Microchip Corp.  
Times: 6:45 PM refreshments available.  
7:00 PM LICN business meeting begins.  
7:30 PM Presentation begins.  
Place: Briarcliffe College, Great Room  
1055 Stewart Avenue, Bethpage, NY.  
Guests are welcome. No charge. No preregistration, but email  
jlbrown@essexsys.com so we can order refreshments.  
Directions: See our website [www.consult-li.com](http://www.consult-li.com).

## *April 1, 2009 CEU Credits*

Topic: "Software Engineering for LabView Applications"  
Speaker: Newton de Faria, National Instruments

## *Other Meetings*

Consult the Events Calendars on the Section website:  
[www.ieee.li](http://www.ieee.li) and the LICN site: [www.consult-li.com](http://www.consult-li.com)  
Remember to inform the members about seminars and other items  
that might be of interest. E-mail them to [members@consult-li.com](mailto:members@consult-li.com).

**THE CONSULTANT** is published monthly by the IEEE Long Island Consultants Network and is available free of charge to its members.  
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The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the individual authors, and no endorsement by the IEEE, the IEEE Long Island Consultants' Network, their officials, or their members is implied.

### **Deadlines: Flexible**

Articles for publication in **THE CONSULTANT**: Send them in. We need them.

The IEEE Consultants' Network of Long Island maintains a referral service of engineering, computer, managerial, and technical professionals. Call or write for more information. There is no charge to the client for this service.

Referral Service and Voice Mail:

516-379-1678

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From Chevy to Prius.....continued from page 1.

The GPS Navigational System is very user friendly. It can be programmed for many destinations and has voice assist directions. The flat screen on the console serves multiple functions. They are:  
Performance, Consumption, Climate, Audio, Telephone, GPS and Rear View when backing up.

As to the finances, it is competitively priced. The standard 2008 car with a package #5 upgrade sold for \$26,614. My two year old 2006 car netted \$16,200 at trade in. This works out to \$434 per month, or \$15 per day of ownership.

Let's assume a usage of 15,000 miles per year at 44 Mi/Gal, this will add up to 340 Gal/year and at a gas price of \$3 per gallon, the annual gas cost will be \$1,020.

A conventional Gasoline car driven the same mileage and getting 22 Mi/Gal will cost twice as much to operate.

Conventional cars need a 3,000 mile service interval, while the Hybrid needs to be serviced every 5,000 miles.

For conventional cars, four services at a Service station, at \$75 each, works out to \$300 per year.  
For the Hybrid car, two services at the dealer, at \$150 each, works out to \$300 per year.

The Prius has a small foot print and is surprisingly roomy inside. It handles well and is a pleasure to drive.

Here is what I got when I bought my 2008 Prius:

<b>STANDARD EQUIPMENT:        \$ 22,475.00</b>	<b>Comfort &amp; Convenience</b>
<b>Mechanical &amp; Performance</b> Hybrid Synergy Drive System1.5L 4 Cyl DOHC 16 valve w/VVT-I Engine Electronic Continuously Variable Transmission (ECVT) Electronic Power Steering System Macpherson Stud Front Suspension Torsion Beam Rear Suspension 15" Alloy Wheels w/P185/65R Tires w/Trim Ring/Front Disc & Rear Drum Brakes	Auto Climate Control w/Air Filtration AM/FM CD with 6 Speakers Push Button Start Remote keyless entry. Engine Immobilizer Cruise Control Liquid Crystal Multi-Info Display panel: w/Energy Monitor, Fuel Consumption, Climate Control, O/S Temperature and Audio Status Tilt Steering wheel w/Climate and Audio Control 60/40 split Fold Flat rear Seats Variable Front and Intermittent Rear Wipers Heavy Duty Rear Window Defogger w/Timer Power Door Locks & Windows w/ Driver Auto Up/Down Control Console & Dual Compartment Glove Box 2 Auxiliary 12V Power Outlets Cargo Tonneau Cover & Under-Floor Storage/ Overhead Console w/Map Lights Fabric Cloth Seats Back Pockets Full Tank of Gas
<b>Safety</b> Dr & Fr Pass Advanced Front Airbags (SRS) Dr & Fr Pass Side & Curtain Airbags Traction Control (TRAC) ASB w/Electric Brake Force Dist and Brake Assist 3 point seat belts w/ALR/ELR Pass belts Side impact Door Beams Rr Seat child Restrain System (CRS) Lower Anchors and Top Tether Brackets (LATCH) Direct Tire Monitoring System	

**Exterior**

Multi Reflector Halogen Auto-Off Head Lamps  
Dual Clear-Keyed Power Heated Outside Mirror  
Chrome-Type Finish on Front Grille  
Rear Spoiler

Total Sticker Cost:

<b>STANDARD EQUIPMENT:</b>	<b>\$ 22,475.00</b>
<b>Optional Package #5</b>	<b>\$ 5,280.00</b>
<b>Carpet Floor Mats &amp; Cargo Mat</b>	<b>\$ 199</b>
<b>Delivery &amp; Handling</b>	<b>\$ 660</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	
<b>28,614.00</b>	
<b>MRSP Discount</b>	<b>\$2,000.00</b>
<b>TOTOL</b>	
<b>26,614.00</b>	

**Optional Package #5 Includes: \$ 5,280.00**

Voice activated DVD, GPS Navigational System, JB AM/FM 6 CD Disk CD Changer, with 9 Speakers, Aux Audio Input Mini plug, MP#/WMA Playback capability, Satellite Radio Capability, and Hand Free Phone Capability via Bluetooth, Vehicle Stability Control; Backup Camera; Smart Key System; Anti-Theft System; Auto-Dimming Rearview Mirror; with h\Home Link; High Intensity Discharge (HID) Head Lamps; Integrated Fog Lamps;

**Carpet Floor Mats & Cargo Mat \$ 199**