PUBLICATION OF THE NORTH JERSEY SECTION OF THE INSITIUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS

NJ Section PACE:

# Improving US Math Education: What is Needed?

On Thursday, July 10, 1997, the North Jersey Professional Activities Committee for Engineers (PACE) will present a talk and discussion by Drs. Patricia C. Kenschaft and Frederick D. Chichester. The title of the talk will be "Improving US Math Education: What is Needed?"

#### **About The Talk**

United States colleges and universities offer mathematics education that is among the best in the world for students majoring in mathematics and closely related majors, but among the poorest for students majoring in elementary education. This dichotomy is a major factor in:

- low rankings of our pre-college students in international mathematics competitions;
- declining enrollments of American students in mathematics-related majors;
- 3) continuing under-representation of some groups in these fields;
- decisions made by too many of our leaders in various fields that are flawed by a lack of understanding of basic concepts of mathematics and science.

Such decisions establish the constraints within which many engineering, mathematics and science professionals work. The dichotomy is especially acute in New Jersey where one can become a fully certified elementary school teacher with no mathematics course beyond high school! The goal of this talk and discussion is to explore what is needed to improve mathematics education in the United States and how it might be attained. Come and join our discussion.

#### **About The Speakers**

Dr. Kenschaft received a BA degree from Swarthmore College with a major in mathematics and minors in education,

English and philosophy and a PhD in pure mathematics (functional analysis) from the University of Pennsylvania. She is a Professor of mathematics at Montclair State University and the author of Math Power: How to Help Your Child Love Mathematics Even if You Don't to be published Addison-Wesley by September. She has published extensively on African-American and female mathematicians. She also has established and directed the Porject for Resourceful Instruction in Mathematics in the Elementary School (PRIMES), and designed a college course in mathematics throughwriting for non-majors.

Dr. Chichester received BS and MS degrees in aeronautical engineering from Purdue University and a Dr.Engrg.Sci. degree in electrical engineering (control systems) from NJIT. He has taught mathematics to a wide variety of students, most recently as a full time tutor at Clifford Scott High School in East Orange.

**Time:** 6:15 PM, Thursday, July 10, 1997. Free refreshments will be provided. **Place:** Clifton Public Library, 292 Piaget Ave., Clifton, NJ, (201) 772-5500 for directions or see Newsletter web page. **Information:** Dr. Robert Sinusas (201) 228-3941.

NJ Section PACE:

# Talk on Asset Diversification

On June 12, 1997 the North Jersey Section's Professional Activities Committee for Engineers (PACE) and IEEE North Jersey Section will sponsor a talk on asset diversification. Speaker Edward Landau will guide meeting participants through the definition of investment risk, the steps in asset diversification and case studies to show how strategies work to minimize the risk of investing.

#### **About The Speaker**

Mr. Landau is a Personal Financial Advisor with American Express. As a financial advisor, he is licensed by the National Association of Securities Dealers. He specializes in personal financial planning, including retirement and investment planning. Before becoming a financial advisor, Mr. Landau spent over twenty years as an RF Design Engineer, Consultant and Engineering Manager.

**Time:** 6:15 PM, Thursday, June 12, 1997. Free refreshments will be provided. **Place:** Clifton Public Library, 292 Piaget Ave., Clifton, NJ, (201) 772-5500 for directions or see Newsletter web page. **Information:** Dr. Robert Sinusas (201)

228-3941.

### **JUNE 1997**

### Volume 44, Number 1

Publication No: USPS 580-500

"The IEEE Newsletter" (North Jersey Section), is published monthly except July by The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. Head-quarters: 345 East 47th Street, New York, NY 10017-2394. \$1.00 per member per year (included in annual dues) for each member of the North Jersey Section. Periodicals-class postage paid at New York, NY and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster send address changes to: "The IEEE Newsletter", 445 Hoes Lane, P.O. Box 1331, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331. USPS 580-500 (ISSN 1076-3732).

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Deadline for receipt of material is the 1st of the month preceding the month of publication. All communications concerning business matters, including advertising, should be addressed to: The IEEE Newsletter, c/o Girard Associates, Inc, 6 Robert Terrace, P.O. Box 455, Mt. Arlington, NJ 07856, (201) 398-5524. Editorial material should be sent to the Business Manager via e-mail at ksara@ix.netcom.com or to 96 Everett Rd, Parsippany, NJ 07054, (201) 515-8829.

# IEEE NJ SECTION HOME PAGE WWW at http://hertz.njit.edu/~ieeenj

#### **REPORT ADDRESS CHANGES TO:**

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The North Jersey Section Executive Committee usually meets the first Wednesday (except holidays and December) of each month at 7:00 PM. Meetings are open to all members. For information on meeting agenda call Secretary Alan Stolpen (201) 822-1300, ext. 2416.

#### **IEEE New York Communications Society**

Strategies, Network Infrastructure, Groupware, Platforms and Applications

**Time:** 9:00 AM to about 4:30 PM, Thursday, May 22, 1997. **Place:** United Engineering Center, 345 47th Street, New York, NY. **Information:** Jim Barbera at j.p.barbera@ieee.org or by fax at (212) 465-8877.

#### Reserved for Stevens advertisement

### Chairman's Column

On May 4th the North Jersey Section honored six newly elected Fellows. There are many other members who are worthy of this honor but they need to be nominated for this honor. If you know of a member with outstanding achievements in the field of electrical engineering, you can nominate them. Contact Ken Oexle at (201) 386-1156 for information on how to nominate members to Fellow.

On June 20th the Section, in conjunction with the PACE Chapter, will hold a talk on "Asset Diversification" which is an important financial topic for all members. The meeting will be held at 6:15 at the Clifton Public Library, 292 Piaget Ave. Contact Bob Sinusas for information.

# Advance to a Higher Grade

If you are an Associate Member, you may be eligible to advance to Member or Senior Member grade. Members could become Senior Members. You can get an application and information on upgrading by contacting Don Weinstein, Kulite Semiconductor, One Willow Tree Road, Leonia, NJ 07605-2239, (201) 461-0900 ext. 234 mornings or Amy Galarowicz, Glatt Air Techniques Inc., 20 Spear Road, Ramsey, NJ 07446-1288, (201) 818-3740, FAX (201) 825-0389, email: a.e.galarowicz@ieee.org.

## North Jersey Section Activities June 1997

**June 4**—"NJ Section Executive Committee Meeting" – 7:00 PM, Plant 11, GEC-Marconi, 164 Totowa, NJ. Alan Stolpen (201) 822-1300, ext. 2416.

**June 12**—"Talk on Asset Diversification" – NJ Section PACE, 6:15 PM, Clifton Public Library, 292 Piaget Ave., Clifton, NJ. Dr. Robert Sinusas (201) 228-3941.

**June 20**—"How to Get the Most Out of Your Electric Power System"-IAS and PES Chapters Technical Seminar, 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM, Auditorium, GPU Energy, 300 Madison Ave., Morristown, NJ. Dick McFadden (212) 239-8510.

#### **Upcoming Meetings**

**July 2**—"NJ Section Executive Committee Meeting" – 7:00 PM, Plant 11, GEC-Marconi, 164 Totowa, NJ. Alan Stolpen (201) 822-1300, ext. 2416.

**July 10**—"Improving US Math Education: What is Needed?" – NJ Section PACE, 6:15 PM, Clifton Public Library, 292 Piaget Ave., Clifton, NJ. Dr. Robert Sinusas (201) 228-3941.

**Nov. 20**—"92nd Semi-Annual Seminar - INTRANETS"—NY Communications Society, 9:00 AM to 4:30 PM, United Engineering Center, 345 47th Street, New York, NY. Jim Barbera at j.p.barbera@ieee.org or by fax at (212) 465-8877.

# Members and Non-Members Welcome PLEASE POST



#### **ENTREPRENEURS!**

Entrepreneurs are that small minority of electrical engineers that wish to start or have started their own business. They differ from the consultants in that their entrepreneur business does involve more than one (or maybe at most a few) persons. It really is how many different tasks one can competently handle simultaneously or delegate competent helper. You may have gone through the organization a few times, but that went on in your head. Still you can join the rank of entrepreneurs and find out if works for you or it does not work for you. Entrepreneur is the future owner of an electrical/electronics factory or present factory owner.

We had organized an IEEE North Jersey of Entrepreneurs a few years ago. When the Chair of the Entrepreneurs died recently, the organization seemed to die. We hope that the "death" of the entrepreneurs was an "apparent death" and we are willing to start the reorganization plan. The question is are there are enough of you to make is worthwhile? Please give me a phone call on this matter. Contact Dr. Robert Sinusas at (201) 228-3941 Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays after noon. Other days any time.

