

Chairman's Message

By Babak Beheshti

b.beheshti@ieee.org



In this issue of the Pulse you will find the ballots for the slate of candidates of the Executive Committee of the IEEE Long Section. We have been fortunate enough to count on volunteer services of these colleagues to the IEEE community in the past years in various capacities. I consider them professionals and dedicated individuals who take away the time from their personal lives keeping our section active and healthy. The many business, technical, educational and professional activities of the Section would have not been possible without the dedicated services of the EXCOM members. I therefore ask your support in election of these candidates for the upcoming calendar year of Jan. to Dec. 2001. Please take a few short minutes to fill the ballot on page 6 and cast your votes and mail them to our tellers committee Chair. Make sure to write your membership number on the envelope. Don't look far for this number. It is printed as part of your address label on the Pulse's last page!

Also we need your help. If you are willing to spend anything from a couple of hours a month to any additional hours (if you are willing), please consider joining our EXCOM. We have many technical and business positions open. Your involvement could be marginal and still helpful to us. If you want to take part in shaping our local professional society's activities, please contact me.

Finally, lets talk about November. In this month before the Holiday Season, we have a lot of activities lined up. Please try to benefit from them. By the time you are reading this, the Data Communications Seminar is under way. I will be conducting a seminar on Wireless and Cellular Systems mid November. This seminar has been a popular one and is being offered for the third time. There is still time to register! We also have two Distinguished Lecturer talks scheduled, which are free of charge and open to the public.

Have a prosperous November!

Babak Beheshti

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**The Long Island Chapter of the IEEE Communications Society in
coordination with the Distinguished Lecturer Program of the IEEE Long
Island Section presents:**

Broadband Wireless Access Systems

David Falconer, Broadband Communications and Wireless Systems Laboratory, Carleton
University
November 16, 2000

The Long Island Chapter of the IEEE Communications Society is pleased to present a lecture by David Falconer of the Broadband Communications and Wireless Systems Laboratory of Carleton University entitled Broadband Wireless Access Systems. The lecture is being presented as part of the ongoing Distinguished Lecture Program offered by the IEEE Long Island Section. It will be held in Melville on Thursday, November 16, 2000, at **5:30PM**. Admission is free to the public, however advanced registration is required.

Fixed broadband wireless radio systems constitute a very promising medium for providing high speed access to information services for business and residential subscribers. They will compete with alternative broadband access technologies such as high speed twisted pair (ADSL), coaxial cable, satellite, and fiber. Intensive development and standardization efforts are underway in North America and Europe to provide broadband wireless access systems. Examples include millimeter wave systems like LMDS; 2-5 GHz systems like MMDS; and license-exempt broadband wireless at 5 GHz (U-NII). In this talk we review problems, system approaches and recent standards efforts in these systems. CITR (Canadian Institute for Telecommunications Research) has had a major project focused on fixed cellular broadband wireless access since 1995, in partnership with several Canadian wireless vendors and service providers. Some results of this research will also be reviewed.

David D. Falconer was born in Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, Canada on August 15, 1940. He received the B.A. Sc. degree in Engineering Physics from the University of Toronto in 1962 and the S.M. and Ph.D. degrees in Electrical Engineering from M.I.T. in 1963 and 1967 respectively. After a year as a postdoctoral fellow at the Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden he was with Bell Laboratories, Holmdel, New Jersey from 1967 to 1980, as a member of the technical staff and later as group supervisor. During 1976-77 he was a visiting professor at Linköping University, Linköping, Sweden. Since 1980 he has been at Carleton University, Ottawa, Canada where he is a Professor in the Department of Systems and Computer Engineering. His interests are in digital communications and communication theory, with particular application to broadband wireless communications systems. He is active in a broadband wireless research project, involving a number of Canadian universities and companies, and he led the project from 1990 to 1998. Dr. Falconer was Editor for Digital Communications for the IEEE Transactions on Communications from 1981 to 1987. He is a member of the Association of Professional Engineers of Ontario. He was awarded the Communications Society Prize Paper Award in Communications Circuits and Techniques in 1983 and again in 1986. He was a co-recipient of the IEEE Vehicular Technology Transactions best paper of the year award in 1992. Dr. Falconer is a member of IEEE since 1968, a senior member since 1983, and an IEEE Fellow since 1986.

To assure seating, please register no later than Monday, November 6, 2000. To register and to obtain directions, send your name, e-mail address, and phone number to: Dave Mesecher, Chairman, IEEE Communications Society Long Island Chapter: d.mesecher@ieee.org or call (631) 592 7300.

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The PULSE of Long Island is published monthly except July by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. Headquarters: 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331. \$1.00 per member per year (included in annual dues) for each member of the Long Island Section. Periodical postage paid at New York, NY, and at additional mailing offices. Postmaster send address changes to IEEE PULSE, 445 Hoes Lane, P.O. Box 1331, Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331. (USPS 450-540).

The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those of the authors, and no endorsement by the Institute, its officials, or its members is implied.

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For Dec. 2000: **11-5-00**
For Jan. 2001: **12-5-00**

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IEEE Long Island Section Calendar

(No membership requirements, no registration, no fees at meeting unless otherwise noted.)

Please visit our web site at http://www.ewh.ieee.org/long_island/ for up to date listings, changes and corrections.

October 30, November 1, 7, & 9 - Data and Computer Communications Seminar, For further info and registration call Dave Mesecher at 631 592 7300 or email to d.mesecher@ieee.org

November 1, 2000 - LI Consultant's Network at 7:00 PM at Polytechnic Auditorium on Route 110 in Farmingdale. No pre-registration is required. For further info call John Dunn at (631) 549-6555

November 9, 2000 – Distinguished Lecturer Series, *Photonic Crystals and Photonic Microstructures*, Symbol Technologies, Contact: block@symbol.com

November 16, 2000 *– Distinguished Lecturer Series, *Broadband Wireless Access Systems Using Millimeter Waves - Problems, Opportunities, and Technologies*, contact Dave Mesecher at 631 592 7300 or at d.mesecher@ieee.org

November 16-17, 2000* - Introduction to Wireless and Cellular Systems Seminar. For further info and registration call Babak Beheshti at (516) 686-7437 or email to b.beheshti@ieee.org

** These two events are offered in the same location, back to back. There is no conflict in attending both*

November 27, 2000 – "Deregulation in the Electrical Industry and Its Impact on the NY Consumer", Con Ed 19th Floor, FURTHER INFO: Contact Alan Osborne 212/460-6690 or Michael Miller 212/460-4911

November 27, 2000 - EXCOM meeting at 6:00 PM, Huntington Hilton

November 27, 2000 – FREE TUTORIAL:"GOING FROM C TO C++", Con Edison, Executive Dining Room, For more info: Joel Levitt jlevitt@pratt.edu (212) 479-7805 (24 hr voice-mail)

December 8, 2000 - LI Consultant's Network at 7:00 PM at Polytechnic Auditorium on Route 110 in Farmingdale. No pre-registration is required. For further info call John Dunn at (631) 549-6555

December 19, 2000 - EXCOM meeting at 6:00 PM, Huntington Hilton

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Professional Activities Report

By: Irwin Weitman

(This month, this column is written by Robert Bruce - r.n.bruce@ieee.org)

WHAT UCITA MEANS TO YOU

Long Island IEEE members may have noticed IEEE-USA President Buckley's article, "Who Needs UCITA?" on page 2 of the Oct. 2000 edition of the PULSE. Mr. Buckley described some of the possible problems, if UCITA is passed.

UCITA means "Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act." UCITA is proposed state legislation that makes legally enforceable and litigable the lengthy provisions in the licensing agreement in all software sold in 'shrink-wrap' packages or obtained by downloading. By treating software as something to be leased, instead of purchased, UCITA excludes software from most Federal or State consumer protection or intellectual property laws, such as "fair use."

Under UCITA, when the software customer opens the shrink-wrap or clicks on the download button, he agrees to whatever terms are contained in the 'license' printed in or on the software package or on a linked web-page. If the license terms are hidden in the package, the customer has a right to return the software before acceptance. But if he needs the software, he is obliged to buy (lease) an alternate, which could have even worse licensing terms. Thus UCITA puts the major burden on the customer, who is typically ignorant of the license terms until after the software is purchased and opened, and lacks any real ability to negotiate the terms with the software lessor. This violates the principles of 'Information before purchase' and 'Clear and conspicuous disclosure.' It also displeases the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

Based on its "freedom to contract" rationale, UCITA puts very few constraints on the types of terms that a mass-market publisher can put in a software license. For example, a software publisher could:

1. Prohibit public criticism of software, including product reviews and/or bug alerts. The editor of such a review could be sued for violation of contract. The editor might win this suit – if he can afford to fight a software company.
2. Restrict the practice of 'reverse engineering,' which discloses the software's internal elements even when done for interoperability, security testing, or other purposes clearly permitted by federal intellectual property law;
3. Disclaim any and all warranties or liability for damages, including liability for harm caused by a known but undisclosed defect in the software, where harm was reasonably foreseeable;
4. Restrict transfers of ownership, which could be used to force users to repurchase software for their systems after corporate acquisitions, mergers or restructuring. This also limits the ability to donate licensed software to family, friends, schools or charitable organizations;
5. Monitor the use of the software to ensure conformity with the license, including the right to use 'self-help' to disable the software by remote access.

The right of self-help allows software publisher to embed "back doors" in their software for purposes of remote disablement, which creates security vulnerabilities. At the same time, publishers are allowed under UCITA to disclaim any liability for the damage done by an accidental triggering, or by a malicious hacker who takes advantage of the back door.

Mr. Buckley's PULSE article is at: <http://www.ieeeusa.org/intro/buckleyjune00.html>

The IEEE-USA Board of Directors express opposition at:

<http://www.ieeeusa.org/forum/positions/ucita.html>

"To see if your state has taken up UCITA, and what you can do in response:"

<http://www.ieeeusa.org/grassroots/ucita>

FTC comment: <http://www.ftc.gov/be/v990010.htm>

Attorney's General comment: <http://www.tao.ca/wind/rre/0821.html>

UCITA web site (in progress): <http://www.ucita.org>

Complete text of UCITA: <http://www.law.upenn.edu/llc/ulc/ucita/citam99.htm>

Don't try downloading this unless you can print over 300 pages in WORD.

Who's in favor of UCITA? That's easy - software companies, including the largest software company in the world (and the richest man in the world). Who's against UCITA? IEEE-USA, 26 states Attorneys General, Bureau of Consumer Protection, Federal Trade Commission, American Law Institute, Association for Computing Machinery, American Intellectual Property Association, consumer groups, national library associations, magazine and newspaper publishers, trade associations for the entertainment industry etc. etc.

So far, two states – Maryland and Virginia – have adopted UCITA with modest amendments. UCITA legislation will be considered in a dozen or more states during the 2001 legislative session. Beware that even if New York and other states do not adopt it, software companies can utilize "choice of law" provisions in their licenses to invoke the Maryland or Virginia UCITA law to govern any disputes that may arise.

The text of UCITA contains provisions that allow public policy or existing state laws to take precedence over UCITA. These UCITA provisions also void any 'unconscionable' demands by the software company. However to enforce these protections may necessitate going to court. A private user is rarely in a position to face a software company in court. A corporation with 'deeper pockets' may have a better chance in court, except that his pockets may be shallower than those of Microsoft, et al. In some arenas, money buys justice.

If you think UCITA is onerous, then keep up with developments and write your state legislators, telling them to oppose it. IEEE-USA has an advocacy kit (350KB PDF file) as an information resource, for persons willing to take personal action to contact their state legislatures to oppose UCITA. For further information, speak to IEEE-USA staff member Chris Brantley <c.brantley@ieee.org>

Robert Bruce <r.n.bruce@ieee.org>

Note: The writer is not an attorney, and welcomes comments from more-legally-qualified individuals. The writer acknowledges the help of Arnold Scher and Irwin Weitman, members of L.I. IEEE Consultants Network and Chris Brantley of the IEEE-USA Washington staff, in writing this article.

**The Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (NY/North J/LI Chapter) in conjunction with the IEEE
Computer Society will present a
FREE TUTORIAL:
"GOING FROM C TO C++"**

About the Talk:

In this free tutorial session Prof. Levitt will provide an introduction to the programming language C++ for those who have some familiarity with C. Wide availability of cross compilers makes C++ an attractive option for stand-alone medical devices using almost any microprocessor, as well as general application. This will be a "LOW- TECH" , INTRODUCTORY session for those who want to START getting into C++. The three main differences between C and C++ which we will discuss are 1) Improved input comand cin replaces scanf. Yes, scanf can still be used but you won't want to!

2) Improved output command cout replaces printf. Yes, you can still use printf but you won't want to!

3) C++ allows, but does not demand "object oriented programming" usually abbreviated as "OOP". We will discuss what this is using simple language and a simple example. We will also discuss why this is sometimes very helpful, and sometimes best avoided.

About the Speaker: Prof. JOEL H. LEVITT

Prof. Levitt holds four degrees from Columbia University and has been a member of the faculty of Pratt Institute for over 25 years. He is the Chairman of our local EMBS chapter. He has taught computer programming at Pratt Institute to Electrical Engineering undergraduates (FORTRAN) and to computer graphics undergraduate and graduate students (C and C++ languages). He currently teaches C++ and JAVA at Pratt. . He is the author of "Small Signal Analysis- By Computer, By Inspection" Haywood Press 1983, which may have been the first electronics text to fully integrate a presentation of electronics fundamentals with an introduction to computer programming in both BASIC and FORTRAN.

His last four lectures for EMBS (at Rockefeller University) were: "Introduction to Programming in C" (Feb. 15 1996), "Domestic Violence and Sugar Metabolism- What's The Connection?" (May 25 1995), "Fighting Anxiety, Depression, and Fatigue, Without Drugs" (Jan. 20 1994), and "Panic Attacks and Sugar Metabolism- What's the Connection?" (Oct. 17 1990).

Meeting Details:

Date: THURSDAY Nov. 30, 2000

Time: 7:15 PM Registration (No charge; you need not be a member.)

7:30 PM Lecture

Place: Con Edison

Executive Dining Room

4 Irving Place

Travel Hints: One block east of Union Square (14th Street). By subway:

L-N-R-4-5-6.

For more information about EMBS or this lecture:

Joel Levitt jlevitt@pratt.edu (212) 479-7805 (24 hr voice-mail)

NOTE: The former chairman of the Computer Society, the late Jim Barbera, was instrumental in setting up this joint meeting.

Meeting Announcement

TOPIC: "Deregulation in the Electrical Industry and Its
Impact on the NY Consumer"

SPONSORS: IEEE Life Members, PES, IAS,
Edison Engineering Society

SPEAKERS: Kevin McClean and Giuseppe Mirasola

DATE: Tues. Nov. 21st

TIME: Refreshments 5PM, Meeting start 5:30PM

PLACE: Con Ed 19th Floor, 4 Irving Place, NYC

FURTHER INFO: Contact Alan Osborne 212/460-6690
or Michael Miller 212/460-4911

AWARDS – AN IMPORTANT PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Jesse Taub, Long Island Section Awards Chairman

Many of our members are making important technical contributions and others have been using their engineering management talents in creative ways. Still others are involved with education and/or professional activities. The IEEE has always sought to recognize individual contributions through its Awards Programs. A recent issue of the *Institute* featured an article by President Elect Joel Snyder on the significance of awards. Our Section echoes Joel's thoughts and has always placed importance on identifying worthy candidates. Our Awards Committee would therefore like your help in identifying the many qualified Long Island IEEE Section members.

A perusal of the programs for any of our annual Awards Banquets will show the names of past awardees. Our committee does a good job of identifying candidates from our larger companies and engineering schools but we need your inputs for people employed by smaller companies, as well as independent consultants.

Some examples of awards and their criteria are listed here to give you some idea as to a possible candidate's qualifications.

Fellow Award - Must be a Senior Member and have made outstanding technical or technical management contributions. Proof in the form of publications, patents and at least 5 IEEE Fellow references must be supplied.

Region 1 Awards - Various technical, professional and educational contributions. The nomination form must be supported by three references.

Section Awards – Our Section gives four awards each year. They are:

Charles Hirsch Award – For an outstanding technical contribution.

Alex Gruenwald Award – For activities that have benefited our profession

Harold Wheeler Award – For outstanding technical management

Outstanding Young Engineer - For an engineer that has made important contributions prior to age 35.

There are many other IEEE-USA and Headquarter Awards but these examples give you a good idea. On behalf of our Section, I ask you, to identify worthy people for our committee to consider. As Joel Snyder stated, "the nominator gets as much satisfaction as the nominee." Please contact me to suggest candidates and for further information. I can be reached at 631-420-1564 or 115 Northgate Circle, Melville NY 11747.

Professor Richard M. De La Rue

Optoelectronics Research Group, Department of
Electronics and Electrical Engineering
University of Glasgow, Glasgow, Scotland, United
Kingdom,
r.delarue@elec.gla.ac.uk

Photonic Crystals and Photonic Microstructures: Technologies and Device Potential

Abstract:

The lecture will be concerned with various forms of photonic crystal, mainly those created by microstructuring techniques and nanotechnology in thin, 'single-mode', optical waveguides. Because of their pre-eminent role in lasers and LEDs, the optical waveguides used for much of the work to be described are epitaxial III-V semiconductor heterostructures. Photonic crystals are interpreted as being regular structures exhibiting a large modulation of the refractive index and with periodicity in one-, two- or three-dimensions.

The emphasis in the presentation will be on gaining a physical understanding of how photonic bandgap behaviour can appear in photonic crystals, leading on to various new device concepts. Leading-edge fabrication technology, in particular direct-write electron-beam lithography (EBL) and reactive ion etching (RIE), play an essential role in realizing the microstructures which become photonic crystals for light in the near infra-red and visible parts of the spectrum. Other technologies which are likely to be useful in developing photonic crystals yet further - and some of the important technological challenges which remain as we head for the holy grails of 'threshold-less' lasers and much more efficient LEDs will also be discussed. Measurement techniques for the transmission, reflection and diffraction properties of waveguide photonic crystals and waveguide microcavities will be described, as well as techniques for observing the modified luminescence of photonic microstructure cavities. Measurement techniques have recently been developed for direct observation of much of the band structure of waveguide photonic crystals - and the new results that have emerged will be examined.

Biography:

Richard M. De La Rue was appointed as lecturer at Glasgow University in 1971, became a Senior Lecturer in 1982, a Reader in 1985 and Professor of Optoelectronics in 1986. He is a Fellow of both the Royal Society of Edinburgh and the Institution of Electrical Engineers. He is a Senior Member of the IEEE and a member of the Functional Materials college of EPSRC. His research is now particularly concerned with photonic bandgap structures and waveguide microcavities. His work with Dr.T.F. Krauss in this area has been published in Nature. Other research interests include integrated optics, lasers, quantum well intermixing, phase masks for silica waveguide photorefractive grating devices and Terahertz electrooptics. He has published more than 250 articles and papers in journals, as book chapters and as conference presentations. He is currently co-leader of Working Group 2 of the COST 268 European Action on 'Wavelength Scale Photonics'.

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TIME:	7:00 a.m. Registration, 8:00 a.m. Welcome & Keynote Speaker 9:00 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. Conference Workshops, 3:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Drawings, Prizes, Networking Opportunities

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Long Island Forum for Technology

BALLOT: Year 2001 LONG ISLAND SECTION OFFICERS

This month I am reprinting a notice I received from the AICN relating to a conference that will take place relatively close to Long Island. I have attended about 6 of them and I have received value for every one. Whether you are or will ever be a consultant there is a great deal you can learn. Car pool with some friends to keep the cost down and enjoy the company. This announcement is very late but I didn't get it early enough to print in last month's Pulse. Try to negotiate the lower entry fee, it can't hurt.

*From The Connecticut Consultants' Network
Tom Freehill, Chairman*

The IEEE Connecticut Consultants' Network would like to invite everyone to the 1999 Fall AICN Consultants' Workshop. It has been a number years since the CCN has hosted this prestigious event and for me personally, it is a first. The Workshop is a national conference, held twice a year by the the Alliance of IEEE Consultants' Networks (AICN). I'm not sure how they decide on the host network, but this year, we're it.

The Workshop is to be held Saturday, November 6th, at the Crowne Plaza- Hartford Downtown, in obviously, beautiful downtown Hartford, CT. The Crowne Plaza is located at 50 Morgan St. and can be reached at (860)549-2400. The festivities are scheduled to begin at 8:00 AM and continue until 5:00 PM, with a luncheon included. For the early risers, a continental breakfast will be served from 7:30 AM on.

We have put together an impressive list of speakers, with topics of interest to any area of consulting (you don't need to be an EE). Gary Blank, Chairman of the AICN will give a talk on "How to Find Clients", while Bob Gauger, also of the AICN, will present "The results of the AICN salary survey for consultants". Are you charging enough for your expertise?

Jim Ussaillis of the CCN will give a talk on "How I made a \$1M in Consulting", while CCN affiliate member Manny Ratafia will cover the other end of the spectrum with "How to Start a Business on a Shoestring".

Zuhair Suidan, Principal of Suidan Associates has a successful, independent management consulting practice. He has spoken at CCN meetings in the past and his latest topic will be "Making the Break from Employee to Consultant - and from W2's to 1099's".

In addition to the Workshop, the AICN will hold its general meeting at the Crowne Plaza on Sunday, November 7th, beginning at 9:00 AM.

The cost for the Workshop for IEEE members is \$79/ person (registration by October 29) or \$89/ person at the door. For non-members, the cost is \$89/ person or \$99/ person, respectively.

Lunch, continental breakfast and refreshments at breaks are included. Send registration and payments to:

Schaffer Associates
PO Box 161
Westport, CT. 06881-0161

For further information, call or fax (860) 886-4026 or e-mail ecm@snet.net. We hope to see you there.

Check the box next to name or enter the nominated candidate below:

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William Rooney Other _____

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Dave Mesecher Other _____

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In order to validate the nomination, the envelope must have the member's name and his/her membership number.

Please send completed ballots to

John Peterson
50 Dennis Street
Garden City Park, NY 11040-5043

30 Years Ago
Rod Lowman, Historian

As was the custom in the 60's and 70's the section planned a dinner meeting with a speaker on a topic of general interest to engineers, spouses and friends. The 1970 dinner meeting held at the Poly Graduate Center in Melville, featured a presentation on the recently completed Nassau-Suffolk Comprehensive Plan for development on the Island for the next 15 years.

The speaker was Dr. Lee Copleman, the Executive Director of the Nassau-Suffolk Regional Planning Board. Dr. Copleman is a widely known and highly regarded planner with extensive credentials in the field. In addition he is an excellent lecturer and an outspoken proponent of the need for planning our physical environment. Prior to his present position he was the Director of Planning, Suffolk County Planning Commission. His academic credentials include: B. S. from the School of Engineering, CCNY; M.S. from the Graduate School of Architecture, Pratt Institute; Ph.D. (Public Administration) from NYU.

In his presentation, Dr. Copleman stated that Nassau and Suffolk with 2.5 M residents has such a dispersal of shopping centers, office and industrial parks, and residences that auto transportation is needed for every errand. His report recommended a concentration of corridors, clusters and centers with public transportation between. (Sounds like the anti sprawl advocates "Smart Planning" 30 years ahead of its time) Their analysis indicated that in Nassau, only 7 % of the land was undeveloped - about the amount of land they recommended for parks. In Suffolk 41% of the land was undeveloped but recommended that open space be set aside now for park land before it is all developed. Their report recommended a concentration of industry and high employment centers along the middle of the island with lower density activities along the shores. It recommended high speed east-west rail transit down the middle of the island with north-south industrial corridors in Mineola, Hicksville, Farmingdale, Ronkonkoma, Yaphank and Calverton.

Now 30 years later Dr. Copleman is still revising and updating the Comprehensive Plan for Nassau and Suffolk. At last year's dinner for Engineers Week planned by the Engineers Joint Committee Dr. Copleman summarized the latest revisions of the plan for us.

I think a dinner meeting on a general topic of interest to spouses and friends is a very good idea. Our spouses always like a dinner out and enjoy a chance to meet other engineers on a social basis and learn what attracts engineers to meetings that leave them at home alone.



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VOL. 50, NO. 3

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