



AICHE Orange County

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SECTION, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS

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July 2004

Orange County Meeting JULY DINNER MEETING

THE DIRTY LITTLE SECRETS ABOUT CLEAN FUELS -

The Truth Will Make You Think Twice
About Your "Green" Energy Program!

PETE NICK

Tuesday, JULY 27, 2004
5:30 PM

Our very own Pete Nick of Process Systems Engineering will be the speaker at our July 27 meeting. He will challenge your understanding of our "green" fuels and the government programs created to promote them. Here is what Pete has to say about his presentation:

Think you are suitably "green" and environmentally correct, with your perception of the proposed "Clean Fuels" and "Green Energy" programs, which are being prepared for us by various governmental agencies in charge of "making our life better?" One can usually discover the future from the past. So, we will look at clean fuels and environmentally-friendly energy from both a historical perspective and a thermodynamic one. Then, using our training as chemical engineers, we will cut through the hype and propaganda and pick the winners and losers in this global challenge. Some of the answers we come up with might be a bit surprising and not always politically correct.

Pete Nick is a University of Arizona (and Cal Poly) Chemical Engineering graduate, with 30+

years of practice in the energy and chemical industries. Mr. Nick has been an employee of Fluor, Unocal, Simsci, IBM, and INDX. As a consultant, he has worked with such clients as Tosco, Conoco-Phillips, Chevron, Aramco, the U.S. Department of Energy and the U.S. Department of Justice. All of these work stints involved several aspects of the worldwide energy business (conventional and otherwise). This experience has provided him with a uniquely broad and detailed understanding of the development of energy programs around the world since the 1970's, including residual fuel technologies from even earlier eras. Pete is a founding member of the Orange County AICHE section, and has been a member since 1982.

Meeting Schedule:

| | |
|-----------|----------------------|
| 5:30 p.m. | Social Hour |
| 6:30 p.m. | Dinner |
| 7:20 p.m. | Break |
| 7:30 p.m. | After-Dinner Program |

Place: Wyndham Garden Hotel, Costa Mesa

Directions: From Interstate 405, go north on Bristol Ave., right on Anton, left on Avenue of the Arts. The Wyndham is on the right at 3350 Avenue of the Arts, Costa Mesa.

Reservations: Please make a reservation at (949) 261-2622 by voice by Friday, **JULY 23, 2004. Or, you may email your reservation to west@research.ge.com.**

Cost: Members, \$20 with a reservation, \$25 at the door; Non-Members, \$25 with reservation, \$30 at the door; Students **Free** with reservation, \$5 at the door, Unemployed/Retired, \$5 with reservation, and \$10 at the door.

**Starting with the month of January 2004,
every third meeting a member attends is
FREE with reservation**



Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Orange County Section - Upcoming Events

1. Planning Retreat

Time: July 24, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (although we may end earlier)

Location: ISEC, Inc., 10601 Calle Lee, Los Alamitos

Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Please plan to attend and share your input about the events and goals for the section. Send questions and RSVP's to Vicki at VJGaston@earthlink.net

2. Girl Scout Badge Day

Time: July 31, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm

Location: Boeing, Seal Beach

This is a fun and rewarding day where we help the girl scouts earn their aerospace badge. No aerospace experience is necessary. Contact Shannon Wiley at swiley1@socal.rr.com if you can attend or have questions.

KeepUS Committee Status (Newsletter FY04-04)

The following are excerpts from a report by Bob Katin, PE who is chairing AIChE's KeepUS lobby group:

In my last e-Newsletter, I told you that the intent of Senate Bill (SB1547) is to extend the life of BPELS for one year until the Engineers' Act is corrected. I also told you that SB 1547 was the mechanism by which the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee (JLSRC) will hold only one Sunrise hearing to be conducted late JUL-SEP 04. The hearing will determine which engineering disciplines **should be converted** to Practice Act and become "first class" engineers. All engineering disciplines will go through the Sunrise hearing as one group and the Sunrise paperwork will be completed by JLSRC using the ISR and AB 969 reports. Then next year, in 2005 hearings will be conducted to **change the law** to convert those engineering

disciplines that passed "Sunrise" to Practice Act first class engineers.

Well, some corrections and updates are in order. The JLSRC is now known as the Joint Committee on Boards, Commissions, and Consumer Protection (JCBCCP) and the JSBSSP will conduct the Sunrise Hearing

1. Without a state Senate or Assembly bill.
2. Not in JUL-SEP 2004 but instead later in the year, possibly NOV-DEC 2004.
3. SB 1547 passed, extending the Engineering Board's life only one year until the State Engineers' Act can be fixed (the Board could have been extended 5 years).

Professional Engineers in California Government (PECG) and Consulting Engineers and Land Surveyors of California (CELSOC) have come out in writing opposing making ChEs into 1st Class engineers. It appears to be a turf issue; they believe upgrading ChEs will take work away from CEs. If our efforts are successful, industry could hire ChEs to do work at their facilities instead of hiring a CE to do the work (learning how on industry's expense, or hiring a ChE and marking up the invoice).

Can you help change the current State Engineers' Act to eliminate the arbitrary restrictions, which preclude use of ChEs?

Current needs are:

1. Provide me **names & e-mail addresses** of CA ChEs so we may claim larger constituency when I testify at hearings.
2. **Commit now to write a letter** of support from your company, organization, agency, or school when they are needed just prior to the hearings in NOV-DEC 04 (a sample will be provided).

Bob Katin, PE
Chair, California AIChE's Government Relations Committee (aka KeepUs)
(925) 755-1150
rakatin@pacbell.net



Newsletter Contributors Wanted

The newsletter editor would like to hear from you if you have one or more brief articles to contribute, especially a review or brief discussion of a good website, technical book, etc.

Professional Engineering Employment Update

Job Seeking Members can receive a list of web sites of area companies that sometimes hire ChEs. Contact the Senior Member Everett Knell at EWKnell@aol.com to receive this list by e-mail. Put "OCAICHE Company List" in the subject line of your email request.

- ① If you have an employment opportunity in Southern California for a chemical engineer, the newsletter will advertise it for free.

2004 Orange County AIChE Officers

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