

## Lifelines

**F. Combalia** graduated in Industrial Management Engineering at the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (Spain) in 2006. He got his Ph. D. degree in Chemical Engineering at the same University in 2013. He received a Master's in Tanning Technical Management from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya in 2007. Since 2001 he has been working as a lecturer at the Igualada School of Engineering at the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya. He is mainly involved in the development of cleaner and innovative leather processing methods.

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**Peikun Zhang**, received his bachelor's degree from Sichuan University in 2013 and is currently conducting his PhD studies under the supervision of Prof. Haojun Fan at Sichuan University. His current research focuses on flame retardant polymeric matrices.

**Pingfan Xu**, obtained his master's degree from Fuzhou University in 2010, after receiving his bachelor's degree from Nanchang Hangkong University in 2007. He is currently a PhD candidate with Prof. Haojun Fan at Sichuan University, and he is engaged upon the tannery waste water treatment.

**Haojun Fan**, see *JALCA* 100, 29, 2005

**Zhenyu Zhang**, received his bachelor's degree from Sichuan University in 2017. He is currently studying for a master's degree with Prof. Haojun Fan at Sichuan University, and his research mainly focuses on functional polyurethane.

**Yi Chen**, see *JALCA* 104, 227, 2009.

**Mengmeng Chen**, received her bachelor's degree in 2015, from the Leather Chemistry and Engineering College of Qilu University of Technology. Now as a master student in the National Engineering Laboratory for Clean Technology of Leather Manufacture in Sichuan University, she is engaged upon the development of clean tannery technology.

**Yahui Wang**, received his bachelor's degree in 2016, from the Light Industry Science and Engineering College of Shanxi University of Science and Technology. Now as a master student in the National Engineering Laboratory for Clean Technology of Leather Manufacture in Sichuan University, he is engaged upon the preparation of leather chemicals.

**Jun Yan** is a senior engineer in the National Engineering Laboratory for Clean Technology of Leather Manufacture in Sichuan University, his research focuses on the technology of superfine fiber synthetic leather.

**Liu Yu**, As the head of the testing department of Guangdong Huizhou Quality and Measuring Supervision Testing Institute, he is mainly engaged in the testing of the structure and performance of polymer materials.

**Ewa Marcinkowska**, see *JALCA* 111, 238, 2016

**Gabriela Zielińska**, PhD, an assistant professor at Department of Industrial Commodity Science, Faculty of Commodity Science and Product Management, Cracow University of Economics, Poland. She defended her MSc thesis at Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology at Cracow University of Technology, and PhD thesis at Cracow University of Economics. Her scientific interests are: correlation between sensory evaluation and instrumental measurement of physical properties of leather, and issues concerning leather usage safety.

# ALCA 114th Annual Convention

June 19-22, 2018

Eaglewood Resort & Spa, Itasca, IL

**Welcome to an exciting venue of events that will be unfolding for us from June 19 to June 22, 2018.**

We will host the 114th Annual Convention at Eaglewood Resort & Spa in Itasca Illinois. You can learn more about by logging on to their website at [eaglewoodresort.com](http://eaglewoodresort.com).

All details about the convention can be found on this website as they progress. The convention brochure will be online soon. There is a link to it on the home page at the bottom. Also voting for our Slate of Candidates will be done via email. The online convention registration form has been updated and is ready for use or you can print out a form and send it to us. Continue checking the website for new information and announcements about the 114th Annual Convention.

The schedule for 2018 is similar to that of 2016 at Oglebay. Prior to the official opening of the convention, the annual golf tournament will be held at Eaglewood beginning at 12 pm with lunch at the course on Tuesday, June 19. Pre-registration for golfers is a must to facilitate the start of the tournament. Further information on the golf outing can be found under this section as well as our online brochure available in mid-March 2018.

The official opening of the convention will begin with Registration on Tuesday, June 19, from 5 to 7 pm with a cocktail Reception from 6 to 7 pm at the Prairie River. Again this year, Buckman is sponsoring their golf swing analyzer, Larry Shaver, from 6 to 9 pm. Dinner will be from 7 to 9 pm with conversations with old and new associates of the leather industry completing the evening.

ALCA President David Peters will open the Technical Program at 8 am on Wednesday, June 20. This year's technical program is again being organized by Vice President Mike Bley and will offer a wide array of leather technologies covering tanning to finishing to environmental issues and can be viewed in the coming months on our website. The 59th John Arthur Wilson Lecture will feature Jonathan (Jon) Clark, CEO of PrimeAsia. The technical sessions will end at 4:45 pm followed by the Fun Run at 5:30 pm. A reception will be held from 6:30 to 7 pm at the Pavilion followed by dinner from 7 to 8 pm and then bowling, darts, pool and open bar at Kegler's from 8 to 11 pm. This will be an exciting evening that you won't want to miss.

Technical papers will resume Thursday morning at 9 am with the Annual Business Meeting ending the morning sessions at 11:15 am. At noon everyone is invited to attend the Activities Awards Luncheon at Prairie River where prizes will be awarded for the Fun Run and golf outing. Technical papers will resume in the afternoon at 1:30 to 4:15 pm with the Awards Banquet social Hour beginning at 6 pm in Linden Ballroom. Dinner will follow at 7 pm with the awards presentations afterwards. The convention will close out on Friday morning after breakfast from 7 to 10 am.

Please make plans now to join us for a wonderful time at Eaglewood!

Sarah Drayna  
2018 Convention Chair

**Please make plans  
now to join us for  
a wonderful time  
at Eaglewood!**

# The 59th John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecture

by  
Jonathan (Jon) Clark

## **Title: Leather: An Honest Material in a Confusing and Changing Environment.**

- The industry must push back against inferior substitutes without the appearance of rejecting innovation and at the same time must continue to embrace and evolve to the ever changing demands of the marketplace.
- The industry must speak truths: transparency is critical to maintain as there are no secrets in the industry that we are concerned about.
- The industry continues to have areas to improve, and sectors which are not compliant, but we know that properly made leather is a sustainable, good material of value.
- Today's processing is safe and environmentally friendly
- Most of the non-finished leather materials (why do we call non leather making proteins waste?) can be used for other things and we can recycle most of our natural resource.
- Most of the alternates are hidden in bad chemistry, poor origins, high levels of real waste, short usable lives, poor after life options and they are only being sold as "leather" because everything else about them is weak and/or overrated.

The 59th John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecture will be presented at the 114th Annual Convention by Jon Clark, CEO of PrimeAsia, at 9:00 am on Wednesday, June 19, 2018.

Mr. Clark currently is in his 27th year in the leather industry, starting at Prime Tanning in 1990. He spent his first ten years in the industry learning and working at Prime Tanning in various sales positions. He was appointed as vice president in 1997 and took over the responsibility of expanding and growing Prime Tanning's presence in the global athletic leather market as well as overseeing all sales and service operations in Asia as Prime Tanning expanded manufacturing operations in the region. In 2002 Jon Clark left Prime Tanning and was named president of global marketing for PrimeAsia Leather Company. In November of 2007 he was named CEO of PrimeAsia and is supported by a multi-national senior management team spread throughout the globe.



**2018 John Arthur Wilson  
Memorial Lecturer**  
Jonathan (Jon) Clark,  
CEO PrimeAsia

Few people realize that Leather Making is the world's oldest manufacturing process, thus the world's oldest industry. Tanning—the process of converting hides and skins into leather—is also the world's first science.

Also, because of the pure craftsmanship involved, tanning may well be the world's first art form.

Anyone who doubts that a  
sheepskin has up to 30,000  
fibers per square inch has  
only to count them.

NOTHING TAKES THE  
PLACE OF LEATHER

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