
LIFE LINES

Domenico Castiello, see *JALCA* **100**, 45, 2005

Monica Puccini graduated in Chemical Engineering with maximum votes at the University of Pisa (Italy) in 2005 and in 2006 she started a three year Ph.D. thesis in the Department of Chemical Engineering, Industrial Chemistry and Materials Science of the University of Pisa. This research and development pursued innovative tanning processes and the recovery of valuable products from the leather production wastes.

Dennis C. Shelly, see *JALCA* **99**, 269, 2004

Sandra Vitolo graduated in Chemical Engineering from the University of Pisa, Italy, in 1989. After experience in the process industry, in 1992 she entered the Department of Chemical Engineering, Industrial Chemistry and Materials Science of the University of Pisa as a Research Assistant in the Industrial Chemistry and Technology sector; Associate Professor from September 2000 and has been a Full Professor since December 2004. Her research is performed in the field of the industrial chemistry of liquid effluent treatments, gas treatment and the thermo-chemical conversion of bio-masses; and research and development of innovative processes in the leather industry.

Eke Bayramoglu, see *JALCA* **101**, 66, 2006

Swarna V. Kanth, see *JALCA* **102**, 435, 2006

M. Nirenjana, information not available.

T. N. Archana, information not available.

B. Madhan, see *JALCA* **100**, 265, 2005

J. Raghava Rao, see *JALCA* **93**, 156, 1998

Balachandran Unni Nair, see *JALCA* **93**, 156, 1998

Neel de Volder earned his BAS degree in 1983. He has more than 20 years experience as paint chemist for the R&D Compounding Department, Leather and Shoe Finishes, in the Laboratories of Stahl Europe bv, in Waalwijk, The Netherlands.

Monique Hallmanns-Geurts earned her MSc degree in Chemistry in 1992 at the Eindhoven University of Technology. She has 15 years of experience in the chemical industry and is currently Group Leader in the R&D Compounding Department, Leather and Shoe Finishes, in the Laboratories of Stahl Europe bv, in Waalwijk, The Netherlands.

Jerry Levy earned his PhD. from The University of Wisconsin in 1963 following which began a 40-plus year career in R&D which included technical managerial positions in USA and Europe covering a variety of both fundamental studies and practical end-use areas. He is a past President of the ALCA, an ALCA Alsop Award winner, and until recently chaired the ALCA Research Liaison Committee. Currently he leads the Stahl USA Leather Chemicals R&D effort.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

JUNE 20, 2006

Present: Officers: Dennis Shelly,
William Marmer,
Steve Yanek

Council Members: Eleanor Brown,
Rob Harvey,
Steve Miller,
Gary Rennerfeldt

Convention Chair: Douglas Tabor

Convention Sports Coordinator: Sarah Drayna

Guest: Dean Didato

1. Welcome - Dennis C. Shelly, President

President Dennis Shelly called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.

Councilor Lori Hyllengren was unable to attend due to a work-related conflict.

The staff of the Marriott introduced themselves and their positions at the hotel.

Results from the Board of Tellers, Kadir Donmez, Chair, James Cronin, and David Powell, were announced. Incoming officers will be David LeBlanc as Vice President Elect, Stephen S. Yanek as Vice President, and William N. Marmer as President. New councilors will be Steve Lange and Jeffrey Miller. Retiring councilors, Lori Hyllengren and Steve Miller, were thanked for their service the past three years.

2. Old Business - Dennis C. Shelly, President

Life Members

One candidate for life membership, Peter Alford, was previously approved by the council.

3. Editor's Report - Robert F. White

Mr. White will submit a written report for the second council meeting to be held on June 24.

Discussion followed regarding taking papers from all regions of the world. Council also discussed the possibility of getting software that looks for plagiarism. The value of translating abstracts was discussed. It was suggested that the IULTCS should be contacted for their opinion on this subject as well as asking Patricia Casey or Juan Salazar.

4. Technical Committee Reports - Stephen S. Yanek, Vice President Elect

Technical Committee reports will be published in the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting. Meetings of these committees will be held at noon, Friday, June 23. Mr. Yanek contacted all chairs to coordinate the meetings.

5. Financial Report

The council reviewed the Balance Sheet as of May 31, 2007 as well as the Profit and Loss Statement for the same time period.

The Membership and Subscription Report was also reviewed. The ALCA currently has 431 members consisting of 271 active, 40 active life, 3 active life mutual, 14 active life retired, 25 active mutual, 35 active retired, 41 SLTC, 1 SLTC student, and 1 ALCA student. A moment of silence was observed for four members and prior members in the leather industry, Kotani Hideaki, Anthony J. Pilar, Jr., Frank Scholnick, and Marcel Siegler, who had passed since the last annual meeting. For 2007, 305 paying members contributed \$35,911, with 1 one unpaid balance remaining of \$16. There is outstanding \$949 in dues from the SLTC after subtracting the dues of our mutual members. Subscriptions for 2007 have brought in \$15,463 in fees and \$3,927 in postage and handling charges. Discounts have been given in the amount of \$1,482 making a total of subscriptions and postage and handling charges minus discounts in the amount of \$17,908. Eight new members have joined ALCA since the last Annual Meeting. The bylaws state, "Any member whose dues are unpaid on April 1st shall be dropped from membership." Accordingly sixteen members were dropped from the membership roles for non-payment of their 2007 dues.

The Congress Organizing Committee was commended for reducing as many of the expenses of the convention as possible. The main factor that will determine the profit/loss for this year's convention will be room attrition.

Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the Financial Report as presented.

6. Ways and Means Committee - Dennis C. Shelly, Chair

Dr. Shelly gave an oral report, and his written report will be included in the minutes of the Annual Business Meeting.

There was discussion about varying the Association's portfolio. New members are needed for the committee which might help bring in new ideas for changing the portfolio.

Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the Ways & Means Committee Report.

7. Annual Meeting

2008 ALCA Annual Meeting

The site for the 104th ALCA Annual Meeting will be Grandover Resort and Conference Center, Greensboro, North Carolina, June 19-22, 2008. Doug Morrison, 2008 and 2009 Convention Chair, will give a full report at the next council meeting on Sunday, June 24.

A discussion will be held at the next council meeting on Sunday to consider changing the Annual Meetings to every other year.

2007 Annual Meeting

Doug Tabor, 2007 Convention Chair, reported that everything is ready for the present convention, and that the hotel staff is eager to work with the Association.

8. Committee Appointments - Dennis C. Shelly, President
President Shelly announced the following appointments:

2007 ALSOP Committee: Lori Hyllengren

2007 O'Flaherty Award Committee: Kadir Donmez (Chair)

2009 Wilson Lecture Committee: Anton Ela'mma (Chair),
Tony Khanna, Jerome F. Levy

After a brief discussion, motion was made, seconded, and passed that the above appointments be accepted. The rest of the appointments will be completed after the convention and sent to Council for approval.

9. Other Business - Dennis C. Shelly, President

New Convention Venues

Discussion was held regarding upcoming venues and the advantages to use resorts that are familiar with the American Meal Plan. Both the 2008 and 2009 conventions will be held at resorts that have been used by the Association in the past. Some of the criteria for choosing a resort should include hotel demands, accessibility of location, and the total expense both to the Association and attendees.

Rowles Scholarship

The Methods Committee will be asked to draft the requirements for the Randall Rowles Scholarship Fund at their next meeting on Friday, June 22, and submit them to Council.

Earl Bliss Collection Request

More information was needed as to the size of the collection,

but it was decided that the ALCA does not have enough space to store the collection. Alternate sites could be the Library of Congress, Smithsonian, or the BLC. Council will revisit this issue when more information is available.

ALCA Board of Past Presidents

Suggestion was made to form a Past President's Advisory Board consisting of the past three presidents. The Board would interpret the by-laws and help control large expenditures. The Board would not have voting rights but rather would work with the current president to make recommendations to Council. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to establish a Past Presidents Advisory Board consisting of the three past presidents to serve in an advisory role for informational exchange purposes. The current president would be responsible for notifying the Board on all major issues. Council will discuss this further at their fall meeting and see if revisions will be needed to the by-laws to give the Board specific responsibilities and duties. The last four presidents will be contacted to see if three of them will serve on the Board.

Office/Personnel Management

The cost of the Lubbock office is increasing, and the security of the current location is in question due to recent events. Council will review the current lease and alternate sites for the office in the upcoming months.

Discussion was held regarding the bank account of the Association. Further discussion will be held at the next meeting of Council on Sunday.

The main email of the Association will continue to be alca@leatherchemists.org, with the address used through Texas Tech University being eventually deleted.

JALCA Editor(s)

Discussion was had regarding help for the editor and the use of a publishing house to manage the journal. Mr. White will be asked to investigate the possibility of using a publishing house and the price of doing so for the fall council meeting.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Carol Adcock, Executive Secretary

AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING
103RD ANNUAL CONVENTION/XXIX IULTCS CONGRESS
JW MARRIOTT HOTEL, WASHINGTON, DC
JUNE 22, 2007

President Dennis C. Shelly welcomed Officers, Councilors and Members and called to order the annual business meeting of the 103rd annual convention of the American Leather Chemists Association.

1. New Members:

A warm welcome was extended to the 8 new active members who joined the association during the past year along with one new SLTC member. Congratulations was extended to one member, Peter Alford, who had met the requirements and was approved for life status and one member, David Knaus, who had met the requirements and was approved for retired status.

2. Officers and Council

a. Officer Changes:

At the end of the convention, William N. Marmer moves to President, Stephen S. Yanek moves to Vice President and congratulations were extended to David LeBlanc who will be the new Vice-President Elect.

b. Council Changes:

Retiring councilors Lori Hyllengren and Steven R. Miller were thanked for their service and contributions during the past three years. The results of the election were announced and the incoming councilors for 2007-2010 will be Steve Lange and Jeffrey Miller. The new councilors were congratulated, and appreciation was extended to Tellers Kadir Donmez, David Powell, and James Cronin and to the Nominating Committee, Dean T. Didato, Jerome F. Levy, and Adel Hanna, for their service to the Association.

3. Presentation of Certificates:

Certificates of appreciation were presented to Councilors Lori Hyllengren and Steven R. Miller for meritorious service to the Association. There was one Technical Committee Chair whose term was expired. Ed Godsalve was given a certificate of appreciation as Rawstock Committee Chair, and he has agreed to serve until replaced.

4. Committee Appointments:

Some of the following committee appointments were announced with the list being finalized after the convention. After the meeting, Council had approved these appointments:

2008 O'Flaherty Service Award Committee:

Kadir Donmez (Chair), David Rabinovich, Harold Diephouse

2008 Alsop Award Committee:

C. K. Liu (Chair), David Ouellette, Lori Hyllengren

2009 John Arthur Wilson Lecture Committee:

Anton Elamma (Chair), Tony Khanna, Jerome F. Levy

The By-Laws state: "The composition of the Nominating Committee shall be reported to the membership at the annual meeting, and shall be subject to ratification by the active members there present." This motion was made at the Business meeting and the following members of the Nominating Committee were approved:

Robert S. Anthony (Chair), Prasad Inaganti, and Doug Robinett

The following appointments were made prior to the convention:

Hotel Arrangements Chair (sites for 2008 and 2009):

Douglas Morrison

2008 and 2009 Convention Chair:

Douglas Morrison

2008 and 2009 Convention Vice Chair:

Sarah Drayna

The site for the 2008 Annual Meeting was announced. It will be Grandover Resort and Conference Center, Greensboro, North Carolina.

5. Dr. Robert M. Lollar Prize Paper Award

The purpose of the award is to honor the memory of Dr. Robert M. Lollar for the extensive fundamental and environmental research he conducted during his distinguished career as well as his lobbying efforts on behalf of the leather industry. William N. Marmer and Robert L. Dudley were the 2007 co-recipients of the Dr. Robert M. Lollar Prize Paper Award for their paper entitled "Oxidative Dehairing by Sodium Percarbonate." Mr. Dudley presented the paper at this convention. Appreciation was extended to the selection committee consisting of Dennis C. Shelly, Chair, Robert F. White, Nick Cory, George Stockman, and Prasad V. Inaganti.

6. Reports:

Editor's Report: Robert F. White

Mr. White gave the following oral report:

The *Journal* continues to receive a good number of manuscripts with growing submissions from the Asian countries. This has resulted in a *JALCA* that is now very global: reporting research work and technical notes from most major leather-making areas of the world.

The modified publication process implemented in July 2006 with our designer/printing resource, KSA&D, is working effectively with only a few minor errors.

I want to thank all our contributing authors for their patience through the seemingly sometimes slow peer review process. I especially want to recognize and thank our Editorial Board for their hard work and dedication to a high quality publication. We presently have approved manuscripts scheduled for issues through December 2007. Thank you.

Technical Committee Reports: Stephen S. Yanek

The reports from the ALCA Technical Committee chairpersons were as follows:

1. Committee on Methods and Specifications,

Lori Hyllengren, Co-Chair

The Committee on Methods and Specifications met Thursday, June 21, 2007 at the J.W. Marriot in Washington DC. Members present were Kadir Donmez, C.K Liu, Nick Latona, Stephen Wren, Rob Harvey, and Lori Hyllengren. We also welcomed guests Dr. Campbell Page and Dr. Haiko Schulz of the IULTCS to join our discussions.

Agenda items included the Randy Rowles Memorial Scholarship, the definition of "chrome free" leather, alternative sources of hide powder, and the need for ASTM and IULTCS to combine efforts on methods development.

Qualification criteria of applicants for the Randy Rowles Memorial Scholarship were approved to be as follows:

Child or grandchild of an ALCA member in good standing.
Currently enrolled student having completed at least two years of post-secondary education with a declared major in the sciences or leather-related field.

Submission of completed application and current college transcript to the ALCA office.

This \$300 scholarship will be awarded annually and the recipient will be announced at the annual meeting. The scholarship is not based on financial need and will be awarded to the applicant with the highest grade point average meeting all criteria. Applicants may apply more than one year, but may only be awarded the scholarship once. An application form will be made available to download from the ALCA website.

There have been several inquiries about the availability of good quality hide powder. There is no longer a domestic source and we are aware of only two international suppliers. One is the BLC in the UK, and the other is Freiberg Hide Powder in Germany. At this time, the committee has no recommendation or comparison data between the two.

Work continues on methods development within the ASTM Committee D31 for both wet blue and leather. The majority of ALCA methods have been converted into ASTM methods, with the exception of the methods specific to the Beamhouse. Round-robin studies are currently underway for

chrome and calcium determination by spectroscopy. Future studies on soil resistance and barnyard resistance are planned.

In concert with the joint ALCA Annual Meeting and the International Congress, the ASTM Committee hopes to collaborate with the technical committees of the IULTCS in an effort to promote global standardization of test methods.

The committee feels there is a need to define the commonly used term, "chrome free leather." Legally, chrome free can be interpreted to mean "0" chrome. Realistically, chrome may be found in small amounts in the leather as a natural occurrence by no fault of the tanner. The challenge is to set a globally accepted definition that allows for and specifies a ppm quantity of chrome in "chrome free" leather.

Finally, since the passing of Randy Rowles, the Committee on Methods and Specifications has been seeking a replacement for his co-chair position. Nick Latona has volunteered to assume this responsibility, and his appointment was approved at the annual business meeting.

2. Education Committee, Robert Dudley, Chair

The Committee on Education met at the 103rd Annual Meeting of the ALCA. In addition to the committee members Drs. Geoffrey Attenborough and Anthony Covington of the University of Northampton were in attendance.

The number of individuals that have enrolled in the Leather Technology Course and remained constant over the past several years and in the past year it is again approximately ten students. Currently five students are actively submitting quizzes and one student is completing the final exam. In the past year three individuals have successfully completed the Course.

The committees received a request from GST to develop a course designed for the Mexican tannery worker. GST can provide assistance in the development of the Course and Ricardo Lira has offered his expertise. The committee will take this opportunity to develop a course for those workers whose first language is Spanish.

Members Present: Robert Dudley (Chair), Harold Diephouse, Elt

Respectfully submitted
Robert L. Dudley, PhD
Chair, Education Committee

3. Environmental Affairs Committee

The activities of this committee remain suspended pending the election of a chairperson.

4. Rawstock Committee, Ed Godsalve, Chair

Joint meeting held with the Research Liaison Committee in May; see comments under the RLA report.

5. *Research Liaison Committee, Jerry Levy, Chair*

Research Liaison and Rawstock Committees of the ALCA met jointly on May 1 & 2, 2007, at the US Department of Agriculture Eastern Regional Research Center in Wyndmoor, Pennsylvania in suburban Philadelphia. As in past years when the two committees had agreed to meet jointly because of common interests, scheduling was done back-to-back with a third Committee, Methods and Specifications, so that the membership in more than one of these three Committees could minimize travel cost and time away from business.

Participation and Reports

A total of thirteen participants from industry or other associations and sixteen from ERRC/USDA/ARS (including research and managerial functions) were in attendance for most of the sessions.

Reports were presented by:

Professor Dennis Shelly on Leather Research at Texas Tech University

Andrew Bray, Manager, International Operations, US Hide, Skins, and Leather Association, a division of the American Meat Institute, who covered recent trends and provided an outlook on global hide availability, international hide movements and hide pricing

Gary Rennerfeldt, who was unfortunately unable to attend, but he submitted an update of what he saw as important unmet needs of the hide industry.

Dr. William Marmer, who presented an overview of the USDA funding and staffing of the ERRC activities, plus introduced the program of reports by USDA ERRC Lead Scientists and Research Chemists.

Chairmanship

Effective at the conclusion of the grand June, 2007, ALCA/IULTCS affair in June the present Chair will turn over the gavel to Dean Didato, whose name, placed in nomination by the writer, has subsequently been approved by council. Dean has been an active member of the Committee, and it is a pleasure to be able to pass on the work of the Committee to such an able successor. The writer's letter of nomination is provided as an attachment to these minutes.

Appendices and Attachments:

- Appendix I: Agenda for the meeting, listing all of the ERRC Research Presentations
 - Appendix II: A list of rawstock issues prepared by Gary Rennerfeldt, Tyson foods, Inc.
 - Appendix III: Dr. Levy's letter to Council nominating Dean Didato as RLC Chair.
- Attachment (to email copies): Andrew Bray's PowerPoint presentation

Next Meeting Schedule:

RLC/RAWSTOCK JOINT MEETING, ERRC,
Tues. and Wed., April 29-30, 2008
Back to back again with
ASTM D-31 MEETING, ERRC,
Wed. PM and Thurs., April 30-May 1, 2008

6. *Uses of Collagen and Its Coproducts Committee, Eleanor Brown, Chair*

The Collagen Committee met from noon to 1 PM on June 21, 2007 in the Terrace dining room of the J. W. Marriott Hotel in Washington, DC

Attendees were: Ellie Brown (Chair), Renee Latona, Maryann Taylor, Robert White and guest, Juraj Kasala.

The purpose of this committee is to provide information about potential uses for hide byproducts. Inviting speakers to make presentations at the Annual Meeting generally accomplishes this.

1. Several oral and visual presentations on topics of collagen structure, recovery and utilization were made as part of the combined ALCA/IULTCS meeting.
2. The 2007 ALCA/IULTCS meeting Heidemann Memorial Lecture given by Lorenz Siggel, BASF dealt with the molecular modeling of collagen fibers in media pertinent to tanning, and provided insight into longstanding questions concerning the appropriate choice of counter ions.

The committee solicits suggestions of knowledgeable speakers or exhibitors in areas of proteinaceous byproduct utilization from all ALCA members. At least one potential speaker for the 2008 meeting has been identified.

This concludes the report on the ALCA Technical Committees.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen S. Yanek

Ways and Means Report: Dennis Shelly *Investments*

The composition of our portfolio has not changed over the past quarter or since my last report to Council. As of June 11, 2007 our investments were valued at \$233,678. The year-to-date liquid earnings were \$5,662 (\$943/month) and the second quarter (Q2) was \$3,066 (\$1,022/month). Our investments, money market and recovered funds are well positioned to cover any and all remaining expenses from this meeting, as per Council directive.

Advertisers and Sponsors

For the 2006 Membership Directory ten advertisers were obtained. Thank you to Atlas Refinery, Inc; BASF Corporation; Buckman Laboratories, Inc.; Chemtan Company,

Inc.; Elementis LTP L.P.; S.B. Foot Tanning Company; Lanxess; Stahl USA/ Union Specialties, Inc.; and Wickett & Craig of America. For JALCA in 2007 eleven paying advertisers have stepped forward. Thank you to Atlas Refinery, Inc.; Buckman Laboratories, Inc.; Chemtan Company, Inc.; Elementis LTP L.P.; Lanxess Corporation; J. H. Lowenstein & Sons, Inc., Prime Leather Finishes; Rohm and Haas; Shangqiu DONYON; Stahl USA, and Union Specialties.

Membership Promotion

As a result of a dues-recovery telephone campaign conducted in April and May, approximately 20 members slated to lose their membership paid their dues and were retained as members.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis C. Shelly

6. State of the Association:

a. Membership Review:

A bar chart of membership since 1998 was shown. The chart reflected a total membership of 431 members of whom 305 are paying members.

b. Convention Account:

A bar chart was shown, indicating the income and expenses for the annual meetings since 2000. The chart reflected a profit for each year except 2006. Mainly due to room attrition, the 2006 Annual Meeting lost a little over \$2,700.

c. Convention Attendees:

A review of the attendance for 2007 revealed that 28 tanners representing 21 tanning companies, 2 hide processors representing 2 individual companies, 46 suppliers representing 27 individual chemical companies and 1 individual equipment company, and 71 research scientists representing 40 organizations were present. Other attendees included 26 educators or universities represented, 5 press, 4 consultants/retirees, and 36 guests for a grand total of 190.

d. Financial Review:

A bar chart was shown reflecting the portfolio performance since 2001. The chart compared first quarter earnings versus the average portfolio value.

Appreciation goes to Dr. Dennis Shelly, Chair of the Ways and Means Committee, for his dedication and hard work in monitoring these funds for the association.

e. Sponsorship:

This year's meeting had a four level sponsorship program. They were Congressional for a donation of \$1,500, Gold for a donation of \$1,000, Silver for a donation of \$750, and Bronze for a donation of \$500. They were 11 congressional, 4 gold, 4 silver, and 8 bronze. A list of the specific sponsors for each category was shown. The association is very indebted to the generosity of all the sponsors.

In addition there were 5 exhibitors and 5 program advertisers. Appreciation was also extended to these generous supporters.

7. New Business:

a. Website info:

Everyone was reminded to go to the Association's website at www.leatherchemists.org for information about the Association as well as updates on next year's convention.

b. 2008 Annual Meeting:

The Association will host its 104th ALCA Annual Meeting at the Grandover Resort and Conference Center in Greensboro, NC, June 19-22, 2008. The 2008 John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecturer will be Professor Bi Shi, Director of the National Professional Laboratory of Leather Chemistry and Engineering, Sichuan University, P.R. China. A special thanks was extended to the 2008 John Arthur Wilson Selection Committee consisting of Maryann Taylor, Chair, John Whiteman, and Jerry Levy.

c. Other new business:

Discussion was held on getting more practical papers such as those dealing with finishing.

8. In Memory:

There was a moment of silence observed for those members and leather industry colleagues who passed on during the past year:

Hideaki Kotani	June 22, 2006
Anthony J. Pilar, Jr.	October 31, 2006
Frank Scholnick	April 13, 2007
Marcel Siegler	May 1, 2007

9. Adjournment:

President Dennis C. Shelly called for a motion to adjourn the annual business meeting held at the 103rd convention of the American Leather Chemists Association. The motion was made and seconded. Motion carried.

SECOND COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

JUNE 24, 2006

Present: Officers: Dennis C. Shelly,
William N. Marmar,
Steve S. Yanek

New Officer: David LeBlanc

Old Council Members: Lori Hyllengren,
Steve Miller,
Dave Powell,
Gary Rennerfeldt

Convention Chair: Douglas Tabor

2007 Sport Coordinator: Sarah Drayna

2008 and 2009 Convention Chair: Doug Morrison

1. Welcome - Dennis C. Shelly, President

President Dennis Shelly called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for his/her contributions during his presidency.

David LeBlanc was welcomed as the new Vice President Elect with Steve Lange and Jeffrey Miller welcomed as new councilors. Thanks were extended to those leaving office for their contribution to the ongoing success of the Association.

A message from Steve Lange was conveyed that he is pleased to have been elected to Council and will work hard to further the interests of the Association.

2. Comments on Purpose, Function and Issues - Dennis C. Shelly *Vice President/Technical Session Chair*

The technical sessions held during the current convention were reviewed.

Vice President Elect/Technical Committees

The goal of each of the technical committees is to have a paper presented at the next convention.

The committees need revitalization. Dave LeBlanc will work with Steve Yanek to accomplish this goal.

The Education Committee still wants to translate the Education Course into Spanish. Mr. Dudley will be asked to obtain a quote for having it done. Electronic management of the course will also be explored.

Executive Secretary

In Mrs. Adcock's absence, Dr. Shelly described some of the functions of the business office in Lubbock, TX. There has been recent concern over the safety and location of the current office as well as the rising expenses of the Association.

The Executive Secretary will explore alternate office space and report back to Council in the fall.

Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed that the bank account of the Association be changed to a bank in Lubbock, Texas. The Executive Secretary will be asked to decide on a bank and obtain information about securing either a debit card or credit card from such bank. She is to report back to Council at the fall meeting on the options of a debit card versus a credit card for Council vote.

Discussion was held regarding the work load of the Executive Secretary. One suggestion was to hire a management office to handle some of the office functions. This is an issue that the Past Presidents Advisory Board could investigate.

Editor

In Mr. White's absence, he submitted the following written report:

1. Manuscript Status

I have approved manuscripts through the December 2007 issue. About 20 submissions are "in process," including some from the XXIX Congress. Further yield from the XXIX Congress and Annual Meeting is estimated to be 5-8 TN category papers. About 28 recent authors attended XXIX, and I met most of them. I plan to put the Wilson, Heidemann and maybe the Covington papers in the August 2007 issue.

2. Editorial Board Meeting, 6/23/07

Present were E. Brown, R. Dudley, K. Boni, C.K. Liu and R. White, with written input from G. Lampard, J. Whiteman and D. Rabinovich.

Discussion summary:

- Some expressed desire for more practical papers (TN); be careful not to offer too many waste/wastewater papers;
- English language (Asia, etc.) generally not considered a real problem now and/or some feel it can be expected to improve;
- There was concern about how to gain new outside U.S. advertising;
- Promotion of JALCA was discussed; suggestion was to hand out free Journal copies (from inventory) with cover note at the September Paris IULTCS (+/- 100 people);
- Prospects for an all electronic Journal with example of "page-turning" magazine with interactive advertisers was described.

3. *Publisher Alternatives*

It was suggested that we investigate "contract" publishing services such as SAGE Journals (example Textile Research Journal).

There was discussion on the value of having abstracts translated into Spanish. Many people are not aware that it is currently being done in the Journal. Dave Powell agreed to take a flyer to the next AMPAC meeting in February to advertise this.

The topic of the professional publisher was again discussed. It was felt that the Presidents Advisory Board should get involved in this issue.

Ways & Means

Dennis Shelly gave his full report at the Annual Business Meeting.

Hotel Arrangements

Doug Morrison, 2008 and 2009 Convention Chair, reported that a contract for the 2008 Annual Meeting had been signed with Grandover Resort and Conference Center. The number of rooms can be reduced by 20% up to 30 days prior to the convention. The golf tournament has been scheduled for Thursday, June 19, at noon so additional rooms may be needed for Wednesday night.

There was discussion on the timing of the annual meetings. Suggestion was made to do another survey among the membership to see what the group prefers for the timing and length of the annual meeting.

2009 Convention

Doug Morrison reported on three options he had explored for the 2009 convention, namely, Skytop Lodge, PA; Grand Traverse Resort, MI; and Oglebay, WV. Discussion followed regarding

each site with Mr. Morrison giving his recommendation. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept Mr. Morrison's recommendation of Oglebay for the site of the 2009 convention. It will be the three day format.

Convention Chair/Vice Chair

Convention Chair and Vice Chair are huge roles. Doug Tabor and Steve Yanek were thanked for the jobs they did to make this convention a success.

Mr. Tabor reported that there will most likely be some attrition costs, and that we will be charged tax on all room attrition. He also reported that the open bar costs were more than anticipated. Some complaints were received about the food and bar service. Doug will use these complaints to negotiate with the hotel.

President Shelly then turned the new rawhide gavel over to incoming President William N. Marmer. Dr. Marmer thanked Dr. Shelly for his contributions to the group over the past year.

3. Issues facing ALCA - William N. Marmer

The Past Presidents Advisory Board was discussed, and it was reported that Doug Morrison and Dennis Shelly would be happy to serve on the Board. Another past president will be asked to serve. The Board will work in an email and conference call format.

4. Wrap up/Next Council Meeting

Council had been given the tentative date of October 8 and 9, 2007 in Philadelphia, PA for the next council meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Carol Adcock, Executive Secretary

ABSTRACTS

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Preparation of acrylic resin/nano-SiO₂ for leather finishing agent. Ma, Jianzhong; Hu, Jing; Yang, Zongsui. College of Resource and Environment, Shaanxi University of Science and Technology, Xi'an City, Shaanxi Province, Peop. Rep. China. *Materials and Manufacturing Processes* **2007**, 22(6), 782-786. Publisher: Taylor & Francis, Inc., ISSN:1042-6914. AN 2007:974064. Acrylic resin/nano-SiO₂ (AR/nano-SiO₂) composite was prepared by phys. blends of acrylic resin (AR) and nano-SiO₂, which was synthesized via the sol-gel way of tetraethoxysilane (TEOS) catalyzed with ammonia. The synthetic conditions of nano-SiO₂ sol in the homogeneous expt. on nanocomposites' property were studied in detail. Transmission Electron Microscopy (TEM) indicated the diameter of nano-SiO₂ kept 10nm. Differential Scanning Calorimetry (DSC) confirmed the additional of nano-SiO₂ influenced the glass temp. of AR. Moreover, in contrast to acrylic resin, the applied properties of the leather finished by the AR/nano-SiO₂ were measured: air permeability increased by 7.33%, water vapor permeability improved by 9.15% as well as water resistance of light leather by 14.02%, and adhesive of finish by 10.35%.

Aliphatic anionic polyurethane microemulsion leather filling-retanning agent. Lihong, Bao; Yunjun, Lan; Shufen, Zhang. State Key Lab. of Fine Chemical, Dalian University of Technology, Dalian, Liaoning, Peop. Rep. China. *Journal of the Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists* **2007**, 91(2), 73-80. Publisher: Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists, ISSN: 0144-0322. AN 2007:944669. The retanning process plays an important role in optimizing the leather's color, levelness, softness, fullness, and hydrophobicity. Polymer retanning agents are important materials for this process. The present study used maleic anhydride modified castor oil (MCO), PEG1000 (polyethylene glycol) and IPDI (isophorone diisocyanate) as main materials to synthesize polyurethane microemulsions (MC-PURs) and employed them to retan chrometanned leathers. The hydroxyl functionality of MCO was investigated by chem. and ¹HNMR anal., and confirmed to be about 2.0. The chem. structures of MCO, prepolymer and MC-PUR were characterized by IR. The optimized synthesis formulation and polyurethane microemulsion MC-PUR3 for MC-PURs as retanning agent was selected by comparing the properties of retanned leathers, such as softness, fullness, grain tightness, tensile strength, extension at break, depth of shade, waterproof properties et al.

Then, MC-PUR3 was characterized by means of DSC, TG/DTG and TEM techniques. SEM microgram of MC-PUR3 retanned leather shows that the fibers are well dispersed.

Analytical control of leather fat by near infrared reflectance spectroscopy. Iturriaga, H.; Maspocho, S.; Canals, T.; Rey, D. Facultat de Ciències, Química Analítica, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. *Journal of the Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists* **2007**, 91(2), 47-51. Publisher: Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists, ISSN: 0144-0322. AN 2007:944664. A highly expeditious method for the direct analytical control of leather fat as an alternative to the officially endorsed methods was developed based on solvent extraction. The proposed method uses multivariate calibration with partial least-squares regression (PLSR) of diffuse reflectance spectra (NIRRS) for leather specimens. The ref. values of the calibration matrix are used to derive those for powdered leather extracted with methylene chloride using the official method. Two different approaches based on matrixes containing spectral information for powdered leather and spectra directly recorded on un-powdered leather samples were developed. The optimum calibration model for powdered samples is based on the second spectral derived and 3 PLS components, and provides overall relative calibration and prediction errors in the region of 5%. On the other hand, the optimum prediction model uses the first spectral derived and 5 PLS components; the results are similarly as good as those of the calibration model, but the prediction of some external samples results in larger errors arising from the inability to construct calibration sets encompassing the whole variability of the prediction set. Fiber optic-based NIR spectroscopy in combination with multivariate calibration appears to be an effective alternative to existing methods for the analysis and control of fat in the leather tanning industry as it is a rapid method and uses no reagents.

A process of manufacturing for upgrading of indian cow wet blue split leather to value added leather product and a system execute the said process. (Amalgam Leather Pvt., India). Indian Pat. Appl. (2007), **IN 2002MA00276 A 20070803** Patent written in English. Application: IN 2002-MA276 20020412. Priority:AN 2007:899687. A process of manufacturing by upgradation of Indian cow wet blue split leather to value added leather product comprising the following steps: a.) Drumming by treating the W/B with water and chemicals depending on the process b.) Mechanical operations by setting so as to remove water and flattening the pieces. c.) Nailing types of drying the leather, and flat the pieces d.) Hooking dry the leather. e.) Mollissa for softening the leather. f.) Milling, softness is leather control point is time. g.) Buffing the leather surface smooth. The checkpoint is buffing paper and pressure adjustment. h.) Spray / Padding put the binder in leather surface, the checkpoints are pressure and temperature wherein. Binder should be uniformly sprayed. i.) Platting the surface smooth & nice. The checkpoints are

pressure and temperature. j.) Buffing the surface fine, the checkpoints are Buffing paper and pressure. k.) "Finishing" the crust leather by the Indirect transfer finishing process check points; 1- number of coating & lotions 2- type of aliphatic / aromatic single and two component polyurethane used for finishing. 3- the thickness of the finishing film. 4- Time and Temperature used for curing the film. 5- Method of rolling the composite of split crust, PU film and the release paper to ensure uniform tightness. 6- Curing the composite in the roll form, both time and temperature are important. m.) Releasing of the leather from the composite. in. Post finishing the PU finished split leather with suitable finishing to provide the required feel, touch and appearance. n.) Finally assorting measuring and packing.

A fatliquor composition for leather processing. Janardanan, Rama Subramanian; Ramohan, Rajadurai; Choudhary, Kanchan Kumar; Subramanian, Sudaraman Ramakrishana; Ravikumar, Subrahmanyam; Roy, Gautam. (Balmer Lawrie & Co. Ltd., India). Indian Pat. Appl.(2007), **IN 2002MA00722 A 20070803** Patent written in English. IN 2002-MA722 20020426.AN 2007:899097. This invention relates to a fatliquor composition for treatment of skins and hides. This composition consists of an oil-in-water emulsion of photosulphochlorinated tallow, mineral oil and/or chlorinated paraffin, a known emulsifying agent and water. This invention also includes a process for preparing photosulphochlorinated tallow which comprises reacting tallow with sulphurdioxide and chlorine followed by saponification with aqueous ammonia.

Hysteresis and stress relaxation studies for a fibrous collagen material: Chrome-free leather. Liu, Cheng-Kung. Fats, Oils and Animal Co-Products Research Unit, USDA-Agricultural Research Service, Wyndmoor, PA, USA. Abstracts of Papers, 234th ACS National Meeting, Boston, MA, United States, August 19-23, 2007 (2007), PMSE-513. Publisher: American Chemical Society, Washington, D. C. Conference; Meeting Abstract; Computer Optical Disk written in English. AN 2007:886326;

and

Viscoelasticity studies for a fibrous collagen material: chrome-free leather. Liu, Cheng-Kung; Latona, Nicholas P.; DiMaio, Gary L.; Cooke, Peter H. Agricultural Research Service, Eastern Regional Research Center, United States Department of Agriculture, Wyndmoor, PA, USA. *Journal of Materials Science* **2007**, 42(20), 8509-8516. Publisher: Springer, ISSN: 0022-2461. Journal written in English. AN 2007:864217. Chrome-free leather such as glutaraldehyde-tanned leather behaves very Chrome-free leather such as glutaraldehyde-tanned leather behaves very differently from chrome-tanned leather. Information regarding its viscoelasticity has not been previously reported. Hysteresis and stress relaxation are two essential properties associated with viscoelasticity. A cyclic tensile test was designed to measure these properties to gain insight into the structural difference between chrome-free and chrome-tanned leather. Observations revealed that chrome-free leather tanned with

glutaraldehyde has a higher hysteresis than chrome-tanned leather. Stress relaxation experiments, on the other hand, showed chrome-free leather have very similar relaxation curves as chrome-tanned leather. Both leathers demonstrate a rapid decrease in stress for the first few seconds followed by a much slower decay thereafter. The chrome-free leather, however, has a greater initial stress than chrome-tanned leather, indicating a higher stiffness than chrome-tanned leather. A linear stress rate model was also designed to predict the time-dependence of stress relaxation; this simple model fits the data very well. Moreover, observations showed the viscoelasticity of leather was affected significantly by its fatliquor content. A decrease of loading energy in a cyclic stress-strain experiments resulted from higher fatliquor content in leather.

Exploring the oxidation of chromium(III) to chromium (VI) by unsaturated lipids in leather. Yu, Congzheng; Ma, Xingyuan; Liu, Pengjie; Sun, Genxing; Qian, Yiping. College of Resource and Environment, Shaanxi University of Science and Technology, Xianyang City, Peop. Rep. China. *Journal of the Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists* **2007**, 91(3), 116-122. Publisher: Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists, ISSN: 0144-0322. Journal written in English. AN 2007:823207. This work has broken free from the framework of the traditional leather-making process and taking a new method; has explored the influence of the double bonds of unsaturated lipids on the level of chromium(VI) in chrome tanned leather. The following parameters were controlled during the experiment: temp., humidity, time and the pH. Checking the iodine value and peroxide value of the lipids regularly and determining the structural changes by IR, the experiment demonstrates the oxidation mechanism of chromium(III) to chromium(VI) by unsaturated lipids in chrome-tanned leather.

Environment friendly products from black wattle. Gujrathi, Ashish M.; Babu, B. V. Chemical Engineering Group, Birla Institute of Technology and Science, Pilani, India. *Energy, Education, Science and Technology* **2007**, 19(1&2), 37-44. Publisher: Sila Science, ISSN: 1301-8361. Journal written in English. AN 2007:896534. Black Wattle (*Acacia Mearnsii*) is a valuable tree, which grows in the altitude range of 2000-4500 ft and having a min. annual rainfall of 35 in. The black wattle tree has a wide range of uses as specialty timber, pulpwood, firewood, tannin extract, flocculent, Base Exchange material etc. Vegetable tannin prepared from black wattle bark is used world wide for tanning the light sole leather. In this paper the climatic requirements for the growth of Black Wattle are listed. The distribution of tannin in various parts of Black Wattle tree is reported. The stripping of bark and various types of bark are discussed. The removal (extraction) of the material from natural resources has been pursued from pre-historic times to the present age. Favorable extraction conditions in the modern tanning industry are also reported. Com. exploitation of black wattle is solely justified by its use. Comparison of Black Wattle tannin extract with other vegetable extracts is made based on significant chemical and physical properties of the extracts.

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