

LIFE LINES

Joaquim Font, Ph. D. in Chemistry from the University of Barcelona in 2002, and Professor at the Leather Technology School of Igualada (Universidad Polytechnic de Catalonia) since 1984, has been the head of the laboratory for chemical and instrumental analysis of the Leather Technology School since 1988. He has participated in various national and international research projects, and is the author of a book in Spanish about Testing in the Leather Industry, which is about to be translated into English.

Susanna Viera obtained a Diploma in Technical Engineering in Chemistry in 2006 from the "Universidad Polytechnic de Catalonia" (Barcelona). She has been working in various companies of the leather chemistry sector. She currently has a management job in a company that offers services of industrial waste disposal.

Antoni Rius, Ph. D. in Chemistry from the Universidad Rovira and Virgil (Tarragona, Spain) and Professor at the Leather Technology School of Igualada (Universidad Polytechnic de Catalonia) since 1990. He was the director of this School from 2001 to 2004. He currently works on chemical analysis, mainly in the area of tannery and environmental samples, and also in the environmental problems of the tannery processes. He is the author of more than ten papers in international journals.

Maria Reyes Reyes obtained a Diploma in Technical Engineering in Chemistry in 1993 from the "Universidad Polytechnic de Catalonia" (Barcelona). In 1998 she got a Technical Management Master in Tanning from the "Universidad Polytechnic de Catalonia". She has been analyst of the laboratory of Leather Technology School of Igualada (Barcelona) since 1997. She has collaborated in various research projects and published several papers about the presence of chromium (VI) in leather.

Montse Jorba is graduated in Chemistry at the Autonomous University of Barcelona (Spain) in 1999 and presently is a Ph.D. student in Environmental Engineering from the University of Barcelona (Spain). Since 2000, she works as a research assistant at the Research Association of Leather Industries and Annexes (AIICA), and coordinates research projects on cleaner leather processing methods. She is mainly involved in the environmental-friendly leather processing techniques and solid waste utilization

Emilio Verdú, see *JALCA* 97, 294, 2002

Miguel Angel Juárez obtained a diploma of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry. He has a long experience in instrumental analytical techniques such as Infrared and Ultraviolet Spectroscopy, Gas Chromatography-Mass Selective Detection, Liquid Chromatography, Atomic Absorption Spectroscopy, Differential Scanning Calorimetry and Ionic Chromatography. He has been working in the fields of industrial

products, drugs, environmental analyses, polymers, biocides, and leather together with its raw materials and manufactures. He is currently Director of the Technological Services Center of CIATEC (Leon, Mexico).

Sara Cuadros obtained a Diploma in Technical Engineering in Chemistry in 2000 from the "Universidad Polytechnic de Catalonia - UPC" (Barcelona). Four years later, in 2004, she became Chemical Engineer. Since 2003, she has been engaged in different research projects on leather technology in the Spanish Council for Scientific Research, CSIC, at the Research and Development Centre in Barcelona.

Agustí Marsal is the Senior Researcher of the Spanish Council for Scientific Research, CSIC, at the Research & Development Centre in Barcelona. He received his PhD in Chemistry from the University of Barcelona in 1989. In 1970, he became Associate Researcher for the Research Association of the Leather Industries and Annexes (AIICA). He specialized in leather technology at the British Leather Manufacturers' Research Association (BLMRA) in Egham (Surrey, England). He is an ex-president of the Spanish Association of Leather Technologists and Chemists (AQEIC). He has been working in research on leather technology since 1971 and he currently has the scientific responsibility for several research projects on Clean Technologies for the leather sector. He is author of more than one hundred publications on leather technology.

Mina Zhang received her bachelor degree (2002) and master degree (2005) at Biomass and Leather Engineering Department of Sichuan University. Now she, as a PhD student of the Key Laboratory of Leather Chemistry and Engineering of Ministry of Education in Sichuan University, is undertaking researches on preparation of adsorption and separation materials from skin collagen.

Sujie Jiang received his bachelor degree at Biomass and Leather Engineering Department of Sichuan University in 2005. Now he, as a master student of the Key Laboratory of Leather Chemistry and Engineering of Ministry of Education in Sichuan University, is undertaking researches on preparation of adsorbents from leather shavings.

Xuepin Liao, see *JALCA* 100, 447, 2005

Bi Shi, see *JALCA* 99, 220, 2004

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

A. Prakash is a B. Tech Leather graduate in Leather Technology from Anna University, Chennai, India

E. Thangaraj is a B. Tech Leather graduate in Leather Technology from Anna University, Chennai, India

K. Sreeram, see *JALCA* 95, 233, 2000

S. Saravanabhavan, see *JALCA* **101**, 192, 2006

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

George Stockman, see *JALCA* **101**, 467, 2006

Dean T. Didato, see *JALCA* **101**, 467, 2006

Susan Steele has worked for Buckman laboratories for the past nine years as an account manager for their leather Chemicals Division. Prior to her employment with Buckman she worked as a lab manager for Wickett& Craig America for four years. She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh with a degree in Chemistry and has been an ALCA member since 1995.

Christopher B. Black received his primary education in South Africa and attended Leather Sellers College in North Hampton, England. He worked for the Bata Organization in South Africa for 11 years, and then moved to upstate New York, USA, where he worked for the Feuer Organization. For the past 12 years he has been employed by Prime Tanning Corporation as Technical Manager of the wet blue plant in St. Joseph, Missouri. He has been a member of the ALCA since 1998 and the Journal Editorial Board since 2000.

Ronald S. Allison, a native of St. Joseph, Missouri, attended Leather Industries of America and BLC leather technology training programs. He has worked for the Prime Tanning Corporation for 25 years and is presently Process Supervisor for their wet blue plant. He has been a member of the ALCA since 1997.

CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE 104TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION JUNE 19-22, 2008

If you have recently completed or will shortly be completing research studies relevant to hide preservation, hide and leather defects, leather manufacturing technology, new product development, tannery equipment development, leather properties and specifications, tannery environmental management, or other related subjects, you are encouraged to present the results of this research at the next annual meeting of the Association to be held at the Grandover Resort and Convention Center, Greensboro, NC June 19-22, 2008.

Abstracts must be submitted to the Chair of the Technical program:

Mr. Stephen S. Yanek

c/o Seton Company

30445 NORTHWESTERN HIGHWAY., SUITE 255

FARMINGTON HILLS, MI 48334

E-mail: Stephen.yanek@setonco.com

Each abstract should begin with the title in capital letters, followed by the authors' names. The name of the speaker should be denoted by an asterisk, and contact information should be provided that includes an e-mail address. The abstract should be no longer than 300 English words and preferably furnished as a Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF document.

Manuscripts based on the presentation, in publication-ready form, are expected by May 15, 2008. They should be sent in electronic format (either as an email attachment or on a CD-R) by that date to:

Robert F. White

Journal Editor

THE AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

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Presentation at the convention will be limited to 25 minutes. In accordance with the Association Bylaws, papers covering such presentations are to be submitted to the *Journal of the American Leather Chemists Association* for publication consideration. Those papers are not to be published elsewhere, other than in abstract form, without permission of the *Journal* Editor, Robert F. White.

AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION 2008 MEETINGS OF THE RESEARCH LIAISON COMMITTEE AND THE RAWSTOCK COMMITTEE

USDA, ARS, EASTERN REGIONAL RESEARCH CENTER, WYNDMOOR, PA

Dates: Tuesday April 29th (beginning at 8:30 AM) - Wednesday April 30th, 2008 (finishing at 12 Noon)

The ALCA RLC, which liaises with the Fats, Oils and Animal Coproducts Research Unit of the USDA's Agricultural Research Service, serves a vital role to assist the USDA in aligning projects and research to meet industry needs.

The Research Liaison Committee meets twice a year, once in April at the USDA Eastern Regional Research Center and then during the ALCA annual convention in June to review industry trends and requirements. The RLC works in tandem with the ALCA Rawstock Committee to identify immediate and long term needs of the industry. Membership to both committees is open to those affiliated with leather manufacture.

Topics typically covered include:

- o A global update on issues pertaining to the hide & leather industry (USHSLA)
- o Reports from the Rawstock Committee - defects, processing issues, brand identification, contamination intervention on carcasses
- o Reports on research being conducted at Texas Tech University
- o Reports from ERRC from hides and leather program covering such areas as pretanning, physical properties of leather, alternative tannages, byproduct utilization and finishing, leather quality (UV resistance) and non-destructive testing.



For further information contact Dean Didato at (901)272-8408 or dtdidato@buckman.com