

LIFE LINES

Josef Hrcirik, see *JALCA* **100**, 29, 2005

Jirí Pseja is a postgraduate student at the Department of Environmental Protection Engineering of the Faculty of Technology, Tomas Bata University in Zlin, Czech Republic. His scientific interests include issues associated with problems of utilizing tannery wastes.

Jan Kupec, see *JALCA* **97**, 369, 2002

Radka Noskova studied in the branch of Technology of the Environmental Protection at the Department of Environmental Protection Engineering of the Faculty of Technology, Tomas Bata University in Zlin, Czech Republic. She graduated in 2006 with a thesis related to cross-linking of protein hydrolysates from the tanning industry.

Jirí Olsak studied in the branch of Technology of the Environmental Protection at the Department of Environmental Protection Engineering of the Faculty of Technology, Tomas Bata University in Zlin, Czech Republic. He graduated in 2006 with a thesis related to anaerobic degradation of cross-linked hydrolysates from tanning industry.

Vera Kasparikova graduated from the Technical University Brno, Czech Republic in 1984. In 1991 she defended her PhD thesis with the topic: "Conformation and interaction parameters of segment polyurethanes". Between 1991 and 1993 she worked in a laboratory specialized in polymer characterization (company Borealis), and from 1993 to 2002 she was a research worker in the pharmaceutical company "Nycomed Amersham" (currently GE Healthcare) in Norway. She is an author and co-author of scientific publications, conference papers and two international patents. Since 2004 she has been an assistant professor in the Thomas Bata University, where she lectures in physical chemistry.

Karel Kolomaznik, see *JALCA* **95**, 55, 2000

Lenka Burketova obtained her PhD degree at the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences in 1992, studying the physiological aspects of defence response of potato against viruses. Thereafter she was a member of the Laboratory of Pathological Plant Physiology at Institute of Experimental Botany of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, where she became a head of laboratory in 2007. Her laboratory studies signalling in plant defence response against pathogens and induced resistance.

Vladimir Sasek graduated at the Agricultural University in Prague in 2006. Currently he is a PhD student working in the Laboratory of Pathological Plant Physiology at Institute of

Experimental Botany of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic, where he focuses on signalling in defence response and induced resistance in *Brassica napus* - *Leptosphaeria maculans* pathosystem. His thesis is dealing with the induced resistance of oilseed rape against *Leptosphaeria maculans*

Lubomir Simek, finished his PhD thesis at the institute of Macromolecular Chemistry of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic in 1975. His thesis was dealing with the properties of diluted polymer solutions. Between 1965 and 2000 he worked in the Technical University Brno, Faculty of technology lecturing physical chemistry, at first as assistant professor and later on as associate professor. Since 2001 he has been at the same position at the Tomas Bata University. He is author and co-author of scientific papers, text-books and conference papers. Currently, he is the head of the Physical chemistry laboratory with the professional interests focused on the characterisation of polymers and biopolymers.

Soufiane Tahiri was born in 1972 in Casablanca (Morocco). Currently, he is Professor of Chemistry at the Faculty of Sciences at El Jadida, Chouaib Doukkali University, Morocco. He received his Ph.D. degree (2002) in Analytical, Industrial and Environmental Chemistry and his D.E.A (1997) in Sciences and Techniques for Environmental Protection. He obtained his M.Sc. degree (1996) in Analytical Chemistry. His research is focused on i) processing of tannery solid and liquid wastes, ii) treatment of industrial effluents and marine pollution, iii) membrane process, and iv) characterization and valorization of vegetable tannins. He has published several papers and has participated at several international and national symposia and congress. In July 1999, at the 5th World Exhibition of Invention and Innovation, Casablanca, the International Jury decided after examination to award the Gold Medal to S. Tahiri in recognition of the creativity and utility of his project entitled "Treatment of tanned and untanned solid wastes". He is responsible of two cooperation projects in Morocco and Spain [AECI]. He is requested by several journals in environmental sciences and analytical chemistry fields to act as reviewer. He is an invited researcher in the scientific group "Solutions and Innovation in Analytical Chemistry SOLINQUIANA" of Valencia University, Spain.

Miguel de la Guardia is Professor of Analytical Chemistry at Valencia University, Spain. He received his MsSc from Valencia in 1976 and his PhD degree from the same university in 1979 with a thesis: "The use of emulsions in Atomic Spectroscopy". He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1985 and from 1991 he is full professor in his

university. During this time has integrated a powerful research team SOLINQUIANA with a staff involving Prof. Agustin Pastor (Environmental and Chromatographic studies), Prof. M. Luisa Cervera (Atomic Spectrometry), Prof. Angel Morales (Automation and micro-wave assisted methodologies) and Prof. Salvador Garrigues (Vibrational Spectrometry) and many post-doctoral colleagues, friends and students who have cooperated for the publication of more than 400 research papers in international journals. His current research is focused on the automation of analytical methods through multi-commutation, sample preparation procedures for both elemental analysis and speciation, and for chromatographic and spectrometric determinations and quantitative vibrational spectrometry in the FTIR, NIR and

Raman fields. He has supervised 29 PhD thesis' and participate in many analytical symposia through the world; being an invited speaker in France, Germany, Italy, Brazil, Venezuela, Morocco, Turkey, China, Norway, UK, USA, Colombia, Egypt, Uruguay, Argentina, Switzerland, Belgium. He is assistant editor and member of the editorial board of Spectroscopy Letters (USA), *Ciencia* (Venezuela), *J. Braz. Chem. Soc.* (Brazil) and he was member of the Advisory board of *Analytica Chimica Acta* from 1995 to 2000. He is currently consultant of the government of Portugal, Italy, Argentina and China for the evaluation of research proposed and grants and he is requested by several journals to act as reviewer.

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM C. PRENTISS

WILLIAM C. PRENTISS received his AB from Amherst College in 1947 and his PhD from Brown University in 1951. He joined the Research Department, Polymers and Coatings Section, at Rohm and Haas Company in 1951, and made significant contributions in these fields via several patents and many publications. In 1963, he transferred to the Leather Research Department, and conducted research in the tanning and finishing of leather for 25 years before retiring in 1988 as head of the Leather Chemical Research and Development Department.

From 1965 he was an active participant in the ALCA and was a member of the Research Liaison Committee from 1970, having been the secretary from 1973 to 1977 and the chair from 1977 to 1983. He served the ALCA on Council from 1971 to 1973 and as President from 1984 to 1986. He served on three occasions on the John Arthur Wilson Memorial lecture nomination committee and three times on the Alsop Nomination committee. Additionally, he served on the bylaws review committee in 1993, the prize paper selection committee as chair in 1995 and a member in 1997, and the President's Advisory Committee in 1988, chair in 1990, and member from 1991 to 1992. He was also Chair of the ASTM Committee D-31 on Leather. In 1976, he received the ALCA Alsop award for outstanding contribution to leather science as demonstrated by publications. In 1986 he became a life member of the Association. In 2002 he was the recipient of the Fred O'Flaherty Service Award for his significant service to the ALCA.

He established Prentiss International Services in 1988 and consulted for several chemical companies on major projects. He served as a consultant to the Leather Industries of America on a continuing basis by organizing and conducting "hands-on" seminars with updated information on the conversion of hides to wet blue, and the conversion of wet blue to various leathers through retanning, coloring and fatliquoring. In 1997 he and the late Marcel Siegler formed Prentiss & Siegler Research & Development Services, LLC, to address new technology research in the leather industry. This company negotiated a CRADA with the US Department of Agriculture, Eastern Regional Research Center.

He was born in Baltimore, MD, on September 5, 1924 and was married to his wife Constance Marie on February 25, 1945. They had two children, son Dusty Prentiss, and daughter, Lynn Yates. He has one granddaughter, Michelle Yates

WILLIAM JOHN BOYKO

William John Boyko, 51, passed away on Thursday, December 11, 2008, at the Wesley Long Hospital in Greensboro, North Carolina. A memorial service was held on December 14th at Phillips Chapel at the Canterbury School in Greensboro.



Bill was born on July 30, 1957, in Darmstadt, Germany, to the late William John Boyko, who was stationed in Germany with the United States Army, and Emma Marik.

Bill received his engineering degree in biochemistry from the University of Vienna, Austria. He came to the United States in 1984; continuing a career in the leather chemical industry that spanned nearly thirty years. During this time he received an executive MBA from Harvard.

He served the industry in the USA and abroad, having worked for Trumpler, Rohm GmbH and Rohm Tech. He held executive positions at TFL USA/Canada, Inc. as vice president-beamhouse and then as president and in 2004 he went to work for Stahl. His expertise ranged from tannery beamhouse to leather finishing technology, with an emphasis on marketing and competitive strategy.

He was a very active supporter of the American Leather Chemists Association. He was a member since 1984, serving on the 2002 Nominating Committee, Vice President Elect in 2003, and as Chair of the Alsop Selection Committee in 2005.

Bill loved traveling, skiing, hiking, and spending time with his family. He is survived by his loving wife, Elena Boyko; his sons, Nicholas Hans Boyko and Alexander William Boyko; and his mother, Emma Marik, and step-father, Johann Marik, of Vienna, Austria.

Memorials may be sent to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, 10 Brookline Place West, 6th Floor, Brookline, MA 02445-7226, Attn: Contribution Services, or to www.dana-farber.org.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION
CHOPHOUSE RESTAURANT, GRAND GENEVA
LAKE GENEVA, WI
SEPTEMBER 29, 2008

Present: Officers: Stephen S. Yanek,
David LeBlanc, and
Craig Glover Keyser

Council Members: Harold Diephouse,
Robert J. Harvey,
Steve Lange,
Jeff Miller, and
George Stockman

Executive Secretary: Carol Adcock

2009 Convention Vice Chair: Sarah Drayna

1. Welcome. President Steve Yanek called the meeting to order. A special welcome was given to new VP Elect, Craig Keyser, and new councilors, Harold Diephouse and George Stockman. Sarah Drayna was thanked for making the arrangements with the Grand Geneva for this meeting.

2. Ways & Means Committee Report – Dennis C. Shelly
Dr. Shelly submitted the following written report dated September 22, 2008:

1. Investments

As of September 11, 2008 our portfolio value was \$228,226. Income since January 1, 2008 was \$9,562, which puts our monthly income at about \$1100. As regards activity, no stocks or bonds were sold or bought since my last report (June 2008). Our portfolio value is about \$10,000 less than in June 2008 due to the incredible market corrections and fluctuations over the past three months. Given these major changes in the market I thought I would give some details. We have sixteen issues, in total. All three of our consumer staples have been up by about 14%. Our single financial stock is down by 14%. Our single industrial and materials holdings are each up by 76 and 35%, respectively. Seven of our nine fixed income holdings are down by about 11%. Our single cash equivalent (money market) is even. These percentages reflect current values relative to costs at the time of purchase.

2. Advertising and Sponsorships

Preparations for program year 2008 have commenced, as regards advertising and sponsorships. Convention sponsorships for 2008 were \$15,750. Advertising in the

technical program for the convention brought in \$3,544 which was a little down from 2007. All of these commitments have been paid.

The journal advertising did receive one new advertiser, the China Leather Industry Association. They are advertising their XXX IULTCS Congress which will be held in Beijing on October 11-14, 2009 from August of this year until September of next year.

Advertisers for the 2008 Membership Directory have been contacted. Ten have committed to advertise with one still pending. The directory should go to the printer in early October.

3. Membership Campaign

The 2009 dues invoices will be going out in mid October. Council is asked if they would like to include a letter from the President or a flyer about the benefits of renewing memberships.

Respectfully submitted.

Dennis C. Shelly

Chair

Council discussed the Annual Financial Campaign. It was felt that it should be done only for the journal and directory advertising. Mr. Keyser will be working on that campaign. Ms. Drayna will conduct the campaign for the support of the Annual Meeting early next year.

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

3. Editor's Report – Bob White submitted the following written report:

Dear ALCA Officers and Councilors:

New manuscripts submissions continue at a satisfactory rate, consistent with our recent normal experience of quantity, geographic origin and acceptance rate. Approved manuscripts are scheduled through the March 2009 issue of the Journal, which is a good lead time. At this time a year ago, we were also scheduled through March.

We started this year with a carryover of 26 manuscripts (11 now approved, 6 rejected and 9 still in process). This carryover was less than last year when we had the surge of Technical Notes from the XXIX Congress. Here are the numbers for 2008 YTD:

Manuscripts received	47 (41 Technical Papers and 6 Technical Notes)
Rejected	12 (3 went back to authors for "second chance")
Approved for publication	14
In process	21

Mr. Jorge Lisnevsky and Mr. David Rabinovich continued to provide timely Spanish translations of the manuscript abstracts. Our Editorial Board of 13 members continues to bring diverse expertise our peer review process.

KSA&D, our design and printing resource, has indicated a price increase for next year. They advised they have actually reduced their hourly rate for us, but the recent dramatic increase in the number of figures (images) and tables per issue are the reason they are projecting a pricing increase of about 10% for 2008 [present pricing based on 8 figures and tables per issue (then have not been surcharging for extra), new pricing based on 14.] We can partially offset this expected *Journal* price increase with a concerted effort by the editor and Editorial Board to control the "explosion" of figures and tables and other reductions in average pages per issue [partly achieved by the already implemented elimination of (Chemical) Abstracts and the completion of the XXIX Congress Technical Note surge (we had 5 manuscripts in some '07/08 issues).]

At the June council meeting it was agreed to proceed with the EBSCO Publishing, Inc. (EPI) three year licensing agreement. This agreement, which may increase our library distribution, find new subscribers and bring in very modest additional revenues, is ready for signature. I am pursuing also the details of why we have recently seen a significant revenue increase from our 2003 agreement with the Copyright Clearance Center; to be sure there is no overlap with the EPI proposal.

We continue to work on the Publisher Link Project (PLP) as time permits. This project seems to have morphed into finding an affordable path to an appropriate *e-Journal*. This pursuit has been very time consuming for this editor (at no cost to the ALCA) but I believe we are close to resolving sufficient details on two surviving options. We have identified an outside e-hosting resource that will give us a world class e-link with cost/pricing that is as good as we are going to find. We are close to defining the capabilities and cost of the "in-house" option using our present web page host. Both of

these options will require substantial up front additional work for the ALCA office and editor. The detailed current status of these two PLP options will be separately provided to Council.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert F. White
Journal Editor

Prior to the meeting, Mr. White had updated Council on the status of still active elements of the Publisher Link Project with the following email:

Dear Officers and Council,
I want to update you on the status of still active elements of the PLP; was

1. The three year agreement with EBSCO publishing is ready for signature. This should increase our library exposure and bring in modest (four digit) revenues,
2. Our existing ALCA web host resource should be providing capability and cost for them to pilot a beta e-journal on our members site (suggested at the June meeting),
3. EBSCO MetaPress recent hosted an interactive demo (White, Stockman and Keyser) which verified they are a resource that would create a world class e-journal site for members/subscribers and anyone who want to pay for an e-manuscript. I provided you with a copy of their three year proposal as an attachment to my August 20 e-mail. I believe these people offer the best value for a full service e-hosting service (about \$7000+ initial set-up then \$3000+/year service fee).

I understand that budget issues may suggest we proceed carefully, starting with item#1 (no cost to ALCA).

E-mail or call with questions,
Bob White

A hand-out was given Council with an estimate from localLINUX for developing an archive/presentation system for the journal on the Association's website. The quote was for \$760 which would include the ability to protect uploaded documents to only those users who have properly accessed the membership area and the capability to upload and post new journals into the archive. It was also suggested that additional disk storage may be required to accommodate additional journal on the web server. A quote of \$10 per month was given for an additional 1 Gb of disk storage.

Council is taking the project under advisement and wants to hear from the members, contributors and advertisers about the addition of an e-journal. Council also had several questions for Metapress that will be sent to Mr. White. The annual dues renewal invoices will contain a letter from Mr. Yanek about an e-journal, and an email will be sent to members with a survey to answer questions about this project.

Motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the Editor's Report.

4. Financial Reports – Carol Adcock

Council reviewed the Profit and Loss Statement and Balance Sheet through August 31, 2008 as well as a Budget vs. Actual report through the same time period.

The Membership Breakdown as of this date as well as a dues and subscriptions breakdown for 2009 was handed out and reflected the following:

246 Active, 42 Active Life, 4 Active Life Mutual, 13 Active Life Retired, 22 Active Mutual, 39 Active Retired, 2 Students, and 40 SLTC, for a total of 408 members. There was 1 outstanding membership application. Out of the above membership, dues are collected from 275 paying members, excluding the dues that will be collected from the SLTC members. There are 104 subscriptions that will be invoiced for renewal in 2009.

A rough draft of the 2009 Budget was reviewed. Council discussed several expenses that were not included on the proposed budget. A large deficit in the 2009 budget was noted. After the meeting Council discussed the budget deficit via email. It was decided that measures were necessary to try to balance the budget and that any new expenses would have to be tabled for 2009. Council voted to increase the yearly membership dues from \$112 to \$130, student dues from \$56 to \$65, and mutual dues from \$89 to \$100. Council also voted via email to increase the convention registration fee to \$325 for members staying at the designated hotel and \$650 for non-members staying at the designated hotel. Other registration categories will be similarly increased. Council also decided to raise the cost of subscriptions to the journal from \$150 per year to \$175. The attached 2009 Budget was approved in October via email.

Motion was made, seconded and passed to accept the Financial Reports as submitted.

There being no further business, Council adjourned until the next morning when it will meet at 7:30 am to tour the Grand Geneva.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Adcock, Executive Secretary

THE AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

2009 BUDGET

APPROVED 10/29/08

Income:

Advertising	\$33,000.00	
Copyright Income	3,500.00	
Correspondence Course	1,500.00	
Dues	39,000.00	
Postage & Handling	5,500.00	
Reprints/Articles	600.00	
Subscriptions	16,250.00	
Golf	2,375.00	
Registration	29,250.00	
Sponsor	15,750.00	
Interest	7,200.00	
Dividend	<u>5,500.00</u>	
Total Income		\$159,425.00

Expenses:

Bank Wire fee	500.00	
Bank Service Charges	100.00	
Copyright	540.00	
Communication Expenses		
Website	600.00	
Fax	625.00	
Telephone	650.00	
Credit Card Processing Fees	2,000.00	
Discounts Given	3,200.00	
Dues & Subscriptions	920.00	
Golf fees	2,720.00	
Insurance Expense		
Businessowners Coverage	500.00	
Employee Dishonesty	306.00	
Worker's Compensation	289.00	
License, Fees, and Permits	25.00	
Lollar Prize Paper Award	1,000.00	
Office Expenses: Supplies	1,589.45	
Office Expenses: Postage	10,400.00	
Office Expenses: Printing & Reproduction	35,000.00	
Office Expenses: Rent	8,100.00	
Payroll Expenses		
Gross Wages	38,700.00	
FICA	2,399.40	
Medicare	561.15	
Professional Fees		
Accounting	4,000.00	
Editor	13,200.00	
Meetings	2,000.00	
Membership Development	29,000.00	
Rowles Scholarship Fund	<u>500.00</u>	
Total Expenses		\$159,425.00

NET INCOME/LOSS **\$.00**

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION
CHOPHOUSE RESTAURANT, GRAND GENEVA
LAKE GENEVA, WI
SEPTEMBER 30, 2008

Present: Officers: Stephen S. Yanek,
David LeBlanc, and
Craig Glover

Council Members: Harold Diephouse,
Robert J. Harvey,
Steve Lange,
Jeff Miller, and
George Stockman

Executive Secretary: Carol Adcock

2009 Convention Vice Chair: Sarah Drayna

1. Welcome. President Steve Yanek called the meeting to order.

2. Minutes. The minutes of the June 19 and 22, 2008 meetings were previously approved electronically.

3. 2010 Annual Meeting Plans – The meeting began with a tour of the Grand Geneva which included viewing conference rooms. After the tour, Ms. Drayna handed out proposals for the Grand Geneva as well as Skytop which described the property, activities, area attractions, and room rates. Both were reviewed by Council. Mrs. Drayna's final recommendation was the Grand Geneva. Motion was made, seconded and passed that the site of the 2010 Annual Meeting of the Association would be the Grand Geneva.

4. Last Annual Meeting Recap.

The Council reviewed the Income and Expenses from the 104th ALCA Annual Meeting. A net profit of \$8,389.16 was realized. The Convention Committee chaired by Doug Morrison was commended for its excellent job. The attendance as well as a recap of the John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecture expenses was reviewed.

Council was given a spreadsheet that compared all Annual Meetings since 2000 as relates to attendance, number of golfers, income, expenses, and three or four day format. All had realized a profit except one.

5. 2009 Annual Meeting Plans – Council had received an email from Convention Chair, Doug Morrison, indicating

that he would be unable to attend this meeting as he and his wife Diana had been in a bad motorcycle accident. Mr. Morrison send a DVD about Oglebay Resort which Council viewed.

Handouts were given to Council which included a tentative schedule for the convention and a proposed budget. Although the proposed budget was approved by Council, a revised budget was approved after the meeting due to the anticipated deficit in the overall budget of the Association. The main changes to the proposed convention budget were an increase in registration fees and a decrease in monies for the Saturday night banquet. Mr. Morrison had asked for Council direction on the entertainment for the banquet. Council felt that a comedian for a short period of time would be advisable if it could be done within the new budget.

The registration fee was discussed. After the meeting, Council voted to increase the registration fee for members to \$325 and to \$650 for non-members (if staying at the designated hotel). The registration fee for those not staying at the designated hotel will include the allocation for meals.

Vice President Dave LeBlanc is in charge of the technical program for the 2009 Annual Meeting. He submitted a list of topics he would like to see presented at the meeting. He solicited help from Council in finding presenters on various topics.

Mr. Morrison recommended that the same sports and social activities coordinators be elected as for the 2008 convention. Motion was made, seconded and passed to appoint Susan Steele as Social Activities Coordinator and Leroy Lehman as Sports Activities Coordinator for 2009.

Ms. Drayna had a written suggestion for the financial campaign for the Annual Meeting. She suggested having four levels of sponsorship with the new one being Platinum Event Sponsor. Firms would be given the opportunity to sponsor one of the main events of the convention such as a reception, entertainment, or a group outing. Sponsorship levels for the other categories will \$1,000 for gold, \$750 for silver, and \$500 for bronze. Mrs. Drayna will conduct this campaign in the early part of next year.

The Wilson Lecture is on target with a picture and bio of Eleanor Brown already on the Association's website.

The website has the current information on the convention and will be updated as more details are confirmed.

6. Old Business

Alsop Award

The Alsop Selection Committee, chaired by Dave Powell, did not have a recommendation at the time of the meeting; however, after the meeting a recipient was recommended and Council approved same.

O'Flaherty Award

The O'Flaherty Selection Committee, chaired by Rob Harvey, submitted a name for their recommendation for this award. Council approved same.

Nominating Committee Report

The Nominating Committee did not have a report at this time.

7. Technical Committee Reports – Craig Keyser

Mr. Keyser has contacted all technical committee chairs since he became VP Elect for the Association. He presented a power point presentation about his findings and ideas for each technical committee. Then he submitted the following written report:

Re: Technical Committee Review

A review of the historic committee activity has been completed and submitted to the Committee Chairs for discussion.

A 'progress update' has been sent to all of the committee chairs for submission and review by this council.

Technical Committee Updates:

Environmental Committee: Dave Leblanc - Chair

Ongoing Activities:

- *No activity since 2004.*
- *The committee is being reconstituted.*

Additional Issues:

The committee has been ask to consider way to improve communication from our members; including soliciting request from member on environmental issues and utilizing our Web Site to inform our members

The committee has been ask to consider getting information on the new REACH initiative for Europe (Might consider having a presentation on this topic next year during the ALCA convention)

Education Committee: Robert Dudley – Chair

Ongoing Activities:

- *Course update*
- *Develop a Web based course*

- *Development of a Spanish course is still under discussion*

Additional Issues:

The committee has been asked to develop an 'enrollment initiative'. The committee has been asked to consider added a graduate list to the Web Site to highlight those who have completed the course.

Collagen Meeting: Renee Latona – Chair

Ongoing Activities:

- *The past chair of this committee will give the 2009 John Authur Wilson Memorial Lecture.*
- *The committee is seeking additional speakers.*

Additional Issues:

The committee has been asked to improve communication and update all members on Collagen uses.

The committee was asked to consider a report to our members on the implementation of some of the ideas given on the uses of Collagen.

Methods Committee: Lori Hyllengren, Nicholas Latona - Co-Chairs

Ongoing Activities:

- *ASTM D-31*
- *Continued migration of ALCA methods to ASTM methods*
- *CR+ reduction 10ppm to 3ppm*
- *Definition of Bonded Leather*
- *Pleather issues*
- *Restricted Substances*
- *Definition of Chrome Free Leather*

Additional Issues:

What is the future of the Methods Committee?

When will the ALCA to ASTM migration be complete?

Research Liaison & Raw Stock Committee: Dean Didato – Chair

Ongoing Activities:

- *Update Ongoing Projects*
- *Continued support of USDA ERRC – Hides, skin and wool program funding*
- *Renewed effort to determine key industry needs*
- *Prioritization of industry needs assessment and determine those that should be recommended to ERRC scientists for future project work.*
- *Effort to further build and clarify key contact list*
- *Effort to build April meeting attendance*

Additional Issues:

Impact of USDA ERRC: National Research Program 306 funding and any reorganization of the USDA activities. This would include changes in the management structure at USDA ERRC (i.e. the new Facility Director in Wyndmoor, PA) as well as determining who the "permanent" department

and regional managers will be. As of this spring, most of the positions were deemed temporary pending a reorganization of the USDA.

Staffing: The scientists at USDA ERRC are aging and quickly approaching retirement. It would be in the best interest of the ALCA Council to reinforce the need for new scientists to the group and some level of transition (technology) time or overlap in training for those positions that might be vacated through retirements in the next few years. This is a strategic requirement that the ALCA and the industry as a whole should reinforce in writing to the Facility Director and to the National Program 306 Director – several times and also needs to be covered in future Council and RLC/RSC meetings. This must be a priority or we will lose the only designated industry R&D effort in the USA.

Working down from an “interested” contact list and a group that wishes to attend and participate in RLC meetings to a core team of folks that can active as consultation group for the USDA ERRC scientists to guide their work – and other industry & university based researchers as to those needs that deserve both immediate and long-term answers.

Other:
Industry Needs List:

HIDE QUALITY AND BEAMHOUSE

Raw hide issues:

Manure - prevent from sticking to hide or more efficient and less damaging removal

Defects - fewer defects in hides delivered to packer.
Defect recognition with hair on Seasonal variations and causes of changes in hide properties (Spring Break). histology; animal age issues (fall vs. spring slaughter). veins

Hide curing:

Preservation - minimum standard rapid method for validation Unique methods of hide curing (incl. chloride-free alternatives)

Unhairing:

stubble
Hair utilization (from unhairing).
Seasonal variations (incl. fine hair, short hair) in effectiveness of unhairing.

Other Beamhouse:

Fleshings and other sources of fats & oils - biofuel applications Veins: causes of veininess (function of rate of weight gain?).

TANNING/UNTANNING

Better understanding of the tanning processes. Efficacy of non-chrome tanning (including metrics).Expediting the vegetable tanning process. Environmentally friendly beamhouse/tanner formulas.

TEST METHODOLOGIES AND PROCESS CONTROL (PROPERTIES OF FINISHED PRODUCT)

Stronger leather (to end-use stress). Better systems for lubricating leather. (lower offer) Improved mechanical property testing, including:
a. Non-destructive (in-line) testing of mechanical properties (incl. softness).
b. Tests predictive of end-use failures (e.g., break energy).
c. Understanding leather dimensional stability.

FINISHING

Understanding dye penetration and fixation as function of position on hide. Improved leather care properties (e.g., water repellency, soil resistance). Natural fillers to overcome hide deficiencies. Veins: correction of veininess

Respectfully submitted,
Craig Keyser, Vice President Elect

Discussion followed regarding revitalizing the technical committees and creating a place for each of them on the Association's website. A quote will be obtained to give each technical committee a place to have a discussion forum as well as a listing of their purpose, research, and accomplishments. Mr. Keyser will also pursue the possibility of getting the Association's correspondence course accredited by a university.

Motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed to accept the Technical Committee Report.

8. New Business

It was suggested that the Association communicate more with its members possibly through a bi-monthly newsletter. This suggestion will be explored.

It was suggested that the next meeting of Council be held March 2 and 3, 2009 at the Association's offices in Lubbock, TX. Plans will be formalized in the upcoming months.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Adcock, Executive Secretary

2009
CALL FOR PAPERS
FOR THE 105TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

JUNE 18 – 21, 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 convention of the Association to be held at the Oglebay Resort & Conference Center, Wheeling, WV on June 18 - 21, 2009.

Abstracts are preferred via email and must be submitted by January 30, 2009 to the Chair of the Technical Program:

Mr. David LeBlanc
c/o TFL USA/Canada, Inc.
8301 New Trails Dr., Suite 100
The Woodlands, TX 77381
USA
Cell Phone: 336 491 2009
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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 email 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, 2009. They should be sent in electronic format (either as an email attachment or on a CD-R) by that date to:

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