

LIFELINES

J. C. Castell, see *JALCA* **105**, 383, 2010

C. Fabregat, see *JALCA* **103**, 158, 2008

S. Sorolla graduated in Technical Industrial Engineering from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain, in 1997. She has received a Master's in Leather Engineering from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya in 2010. Since 1997 she has been working at AIICA Technological Centre in Igualada, Spain. During the first 8 years, she was working in the Chemical and Instrumental Laboratory. In the last 6 years, she is acting as a Project Specialist in the RandD department, making technical and management activities at National and European level. She has some publications in the most representative journals of leather technologies at European level (also see *JALCA* **105**, 383, 2010).

Lluís Ollie, see *JALCA* **101**, 284, 2006

Anna Bacardit, see *JALCA* **101**, 284, 2006

David Solano has a M.Sc. in Tropical and Rural Forestry, Forestry Engineer. Through his work as Director for International Cooperation at the CTFC, he has collected very extensive working experience in many Latin America, Africa and Middle East countries. He has 11 years of professional experience in the fields of sustainable forest and protected areas management, designing and coordinating knowledge exchanges and technical assistance with these many partner countries, while maintained institutional relationships with a large number of funding resources. He also works in the marketing of non-wood forest products, and international commercialization of local products in El Salvador, Bolivia, Cameroon, Côte d'Ivoire, and Morocco. He has designed and coordinated projects to improve sustainable production, manufacture and commercialization of forest products, wood and its derivatives. He also participates actively within the Ibero-American Network on Payments for Environmental Services (REDIPASA), the Network on Research in Agriculture for Development (Spanish Universities) and is vice president in Spain of "Echanges Méditerranéens pour l'eau, la forêt et le développement," a Mediterranean grouping of rural development professionals.

Shenghua Lu has a Masters degree in polymer chemistry, and presently at the College of Resource and Environment, Shaanxi University of Science & Technology, China

Jianping Duan has a PhD in polymer chemistry and materials, and presently is a Professor of Leather Chemistry and Engineering at the College of Resource and Environment, Shaanxi University of Science & Technology, China

Rui Gong has a Masters degree, majoring in Leather Chemistry, presently at the College of Resource and Environment, Shaanxi University of Science & Technology, China.

Xiaoliang Yan has a Masters degree, majoring in Leather Chemistry, presently at the College of Resource and Environment, Shaanxi University of Science & Technology, China.

Aurélien Rey obtained a postgraduate degree in analytical chemistry in 2008 at the University of Lyon, France. Since 2009, he has been a PhD student while maintaining his job duty at the CTC (Research center for the leather sector in France). He is evaluating the capabilities of various analytical techniques, especially chromatography techniques. His works deals with the determination of harmful compounds in leather and textile products such as flame retardants (polybromodiphenylether, phosphorous flame retardants), polychlorinated alkanes and alkylphenols.

Nicolas Blanc obtained a PhD degree in analytical chemistry in 2008. He studied at universities of Strasbourg then Lyon, France. He began to work for CTC (Research center for the leather sector in France) in 2004, and, since 2009, he has been in charge of research and development for the analytical laboratory. He is also evaluating the capabilities of various analytical techniques, especially chromatography techniques and work on international research projects founded by European Commission.

Jean-Claude Cannot holds a PhD degree in physical chemistry. He studied at the University of Bourgogne in Dijon, France, in 1986. Following nine years in industry, he started to work for CTC (Research center for the leather sector in France). Jean-Claude Cannot has led several international research projects founded by the European Commission (for determination of heavy metal content in footwear, personal protective equipment footwear resisting to chemical). He is in charge of several standardization committees (leather, footwear, safety footwear). At the present time, Jean-Claude Cannot is the Sustainable Development Manager of CTC.

Alain Berthod is professeur agrégé at the Université de Lyon, France. He is also appointed as Research Director at the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, UMR5180 P. Lanteri, Villeurbanne, France. He graduated in Chemistry in 1973 (University of Lyon, France) and he obtained his Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry in 1979. His research interests include separation science, liquid chromatography, chiral separations and countercurrent chromatography. He authored or co-authored two books, 21 book chapters and more than 170

research articles. He gave more than 160 invited talks, presentations, communications and/or poster presentations at a variety of International Symposia and Universities. He is or was appointed as a member of the editorial board of *Analytical Chemistry*, *Talanta*, *Journal of Chromatography A*, *Separation Science and Technologies*, *Current Analytical Chemistry*, *Current Pharmaceutical Analysis* and *Journal of Liquid Chromatography & Related Technologies*. He is editor of *Separation & Purification Reviews* and consulted for

article evaluations by most journals in the field of analytical chemistry and liquid chromatography. He is a member of the French Chemical Society and the American Chemical Society.

Baoqin Zhang, see *JALCA* **106**, 141, 2011

Loujin Xu, see *JALCA* **106**, 141, 2011

Keyi Ding, see *JALCA* **101**, 362, 2006

OBITUARY

THOMAS E. DIGIACOMO

Mr. Thomas E. DiGiacomo, age 62, died unexpectedly on Monday, July 11, 2011 while visiting family in Gloversville, NY. He was born September 10, 1948 in Gloversville, NY, the son of the late Thomas and Annamay Kline DiGiacomo. A 1967 graduate of Gloversville High School, he also was a graduate of Fulton Montgomery Community College in Johnstown. He was employed by the Twilight Color and Chemical Company of Johnstown, NY and moved to Derry, NH in 1982. For the past 20 years he has been employed as a Technical Service Specialist for Lanxess Corporation of Pittsburgh, PA, and most recently resided in North Charleston, SC. Tom was a member of the American Leather Chemists Association since 1988. He attended many of the ALCA annual conventions and was the sports activities coordinator in 2002 and 2003.

Tom was a loving husband and father and a devoted "papa" to his granddaughter "CC". His friends described him as extraordinary. He enjoyed life to the fullest. He had many

hobbies and interests including sketching, woodworking, restoring his classic mustang, the New England Patriots, wine and he loved candy. But mostly he enjoyed just spending time with his family. For all who knew him they will remember his constant smile & outgoing personality.

His wife, Lynn Simonds DiGiacomo of N. Charleston, SC, whom he married on August 2, 1969, survives him. Additional survivors include: two children, Tracy DiGiacomo (Don Simpkins) of Washington, DC and Jason Thomas DiGiacomo of Ladson, SC; a brother, Louis DiGiacomo of Gloversville, NY; a granddaughter, Kacena DiGiacomo; several nieces, nephews and cousins. A funeral service was held Saturday, July 16, in Gloversville, NY. Memorial contributions may be made to the Johnstown Firefighter's Benevolent Assoc; 244 N. Perry St; Johnstown, NY 12095.

CALL FOR PAPERS
FOR THE 108TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

Grandover Resort and Conference, Greensboro, NC

June 7 -10, 2012

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 Grandover Resort and Conference Center June, 7 - 10, 2012.

Abstracts are preferred via e-mail and must be submitted by **January 31, 2012** to the Chair of the Technical Program:

Steven Gilberg
Vice-President
Tanmach Limited
780 Hardwick Road, PO Box 546
Bolton, Ontario L7E 5T4, Canada
E-mail: info@tanmch.com

Each abstract should begin with the title in capital letters, followed by the authors' names. An asterisk should denote the name of the speaker, and contact information should be

provided that includes an e-mail address. The abstract should be no longer than 300 English words, and in the Microsoft Word format. Manuscripts based on the presentation, **in publication-ready form**, are to be sent to the editor in electronic format as an e-mail attachment by **May 15, 2012** (for details refer to our Publication Policy on our website: leatherchemists.org):

Robert F. White
Journal Editor
c/o The American Leather Chemists Association
1314 50th Street, Suite 103
Lubbock, TX 79412-2940, USA
E-mail: jalcaeditor@prodigy.net
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Presentations 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.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

TREASURE ISLAND RESORT, RED WING, MN

June 9 and 12, 2011

Officers: Craig Keyser, Andreas Rhein, Steven Gilbert

Councilors: Mike Bley, Alex Campbell, Goetz Hagen, C.K. Liu, Andy Porter, and George Stockman

Executive Secretary: Carol Adcock

Convention Chair: Sarah Drayna

Prior to the scheduled council meeting, it was determined that a quorum would not be present. Therefore business was conducted via email. The following recaps the decisions of Council including the meeting held Sunday, June 12, at the end of the convention.

March 8, 2011 conference call minutes were previously approved by email.

Results from the Board of Tellers, Andy Rhein, Lori Hyllengren, and John Smith, were announced. Incoming officers will be Steve Lange as Vice President Elect, Steven Gilbert as Vice President, and Andreas Rhein as President. New councilors will be Sarah Drayna and John Rodden. Retiring councilors, Goetz Hagen and George Stockman, will be given certificates at the Annual Business Meeting for their service the past three years.

2. Old Business – Craig Keyser, President

Life Members

Four candidates for life membership, Peter Dignitti, Mahmoud Hafez, Alexander Terranova, Jr., and Richard G. Waite, were recommended to Council for life membership, as they had been paying members of the Association for forty (40) years. Council unanimously approved their life memberships.

2011 Nominating Committee

Council approved the following slate of candidates for the 2011 election earlier in the year:

Vice President Elect: Steve Lange, GST AutoLeather, Inc.
New Council Candidates (4): Sarah Drayna of LANXESS Corporation, Robert L. Dudley, Retired, Renee Latona of the USDA-ERRC, and John Rodden of Union Specialties, Inc.. A big thank you was given to the Nominating Committee consisting of Steve Yanek, Chair, Steve Lange, and Jeff Miller for their work to obtain this slate of candidates.

The ballot was sent out in the convention packet, and votes were due back no later than June 1, 2011.

2010 Financials and Audit

Council was emailed the Audit for 2010. It was reviewed as well as the financial statements for 2010 and the Performance vs. 2010 Budget report. The reports showed a profit for the year 2010 of \$20,672 as reflected in the audit. The 2010 budget approved by Council had predicted a loss of \$21,874. Therefore it was felt that the improvement in the investment account as well as a successful convention led to the Association's sound financial position.

Motion was made and carried to accept the 2010 audit and financial reports. (See attached Independent Auditors' Report)

3. Convention Items and Meeting with Hotel Staff – Sarah Drayna

The staff of Treasure Island came in and introduced themselves and their positions. The schedule for the convention was reviewed. There is no attrition clause in the contract with Treasure Island.

Thanks to the efforts the Convention Vice Chair, Lee Lehman, the budget for advertising and sponsorships both exceeded their goals.

4. Editor's Report – Robert F. White

Mr. White submitted the following written report:

Dear ALCA Officers and Councilors: June 2, 2011
Comparative manuscripts activity for the 12-month periods June through May:

	1010 - 2011	2009 – 2010	2008 - 2009
Received	86	86	58
Rejected	41	27	22
Approved	32	37	28
In Process	13	22	8

I am now scheduling manuscripts for our November 2011 issue, which is "comfortable" for our productions timelines, while within our target of getting peer reviewed manuscript into print within nine months of initial receipt.

Our Editorial Board has recently been especially helpful to me in identifying submissions that had flawed experimental work

and decisions related to global reader interest. David Price retired from the Editorial Board last month. We thank David for his many years of diligent service. Jorge Lisnevsky and David Rabinovich continued to provide timely Spanish translations of the manuscript abstracts.

We now have uploaded 12 months of *JALCA* in ezine format on the dedicated alcajournal.com site. We are meeting our goal of uploading the *e-Journal* on the first day of the month. The color for ads, manuscript figures and tables has been a low cost enhancement bonus for the *e-Journal*. This should be helpful for our plan to gain more conversion from print to ezine only. Page count for the first 6 months of this year was 211, about the same as the 214 for the same period last year.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert F. White
Journal Editor

Motion was made, seconded, and carried to accept the Editor's Report as written.

5. Technical Committee Reports – Steven Gilberg, Vice President Elect

Mr. Gilberg indicated that the technical committees would be giving their reports during the Annual Business Meeting. He also reported that Lori Hyllengren and Nicholas Latona will continue for another three years to co-chair the Methods and Specifications Committee and that Renee Latona will continue for another three years to chair the Uses of Collagen Subcommittee of the Environmental Affairs Committee. All chairs will be present for the Annual Business Meeting with the exception of the Education Chair, Steve Yanek. Mr. Gilberg will give that report.

An ongoing project for the technical committees is to outline an action plan for each technical committee and how the ALCA interfaces with each committee. The benefits of each committee to our membership need to be defined, and members need to be encouraged to utilize the service provided by each of these committees. This project still has not been accomplished, and Mr. Gilberg would encourage the new Vice President Elect to work on this project.

Motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to accept the Technical Committee Reports.

6. Financial Report – Carol Adcock

The council reviewed the Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2011 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 363 members consisting of 208

active, 41 active life, 2 active life mutual, 17 active life retired, 21 active mutual, 34 active retired, 37 SLTC, and 3 students. There was one membership application pending. A moment of silence was observed for seven members and friends, Jan Stienstra, Marcia Rabinovich, Anders Segerdahl, William J. Hopkins, Don Holloway, and David C. Ackerbauer, who had passed since the last annual meeting. The Association also learned of the passing of Stephen A. Shivas in 2009. He was also included in the moment of silence.

For 2011, 235 paying members will contribute \$33,574. There is outstanding approximately \$1,293 in dues from the SLTC after subtracting the dues of our mutual members. Subscriptions for 2011 have brought in \$14,390 in fees and \$4,195 in postage and handling charges. Discounts have been given in the amount of \$1,072.50, making a total of subscriptions and postage and handling charges minus discounts in the amount of \$17,512.50. Sixteen new members have joined ALCA since the last Annual Meeting: eleven active members and five SLTC. The bylaws state, "Any member whose dues are unpaid on April 1st shall be dropped from membership." Accordingly fourteen members were dropped from the membership roles for non-payment of their 2011 dues.

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

7. Ways and Means Committee

Andreas Rhein, Chair for the Ways and Means Committee, has agreed to serve another two years as Chair of the Committee. Council approved this appointment.

Mr. Rhein submitted the following written report:

Portfolio Performance

As of June 1, 2011 our Portfolio was valued at \$267,685. For the first half of 2011, the Portfolio value increased \$15,140 or 5.99%.

Year-to-Date the Portfolio gained \$33,199.00. Since 1996, the average annual gain of our Portfolio was 7.2%, and for the last 12 months our Portfolio gained 14.19%

The following represents the present Asset Allocation:

Stocks	\$ 188,341	(70.36%)
Preferred Stocks	\$ 34,152	(12.76%)
Closed end Funds	\$ 20,269	(7.57%)
Unit Trust	\$ 24,353	(9.10%)
Money Funds	\$ 570	(0.21%)
Total	\$ 267,685	(100.0%)

The following outlines the diversification of the Portfolio in %:

Industrials	23.0
Materials	17.3
Consumer Goods	11.7
Energy	21.8
Telecommunications	13.6
Financials	1.1
Others	11.5
<u>Total</u>	100.0%
<u>Equities</u>	79.5%
<u>Fixed Income</u>	20.3%
<u>Cash & Equivalents</u>	0.20%
<u>Total</u>	100.00%

Respectfully Submitted
Andy Rhein

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

8. Future Annual Meetings – Lee Lehman

The 2012 Annual Meeting will be held at Grandover Resort and Conference Center in Greensboro, NC, June 7-10, 2012. Lee Lehman, 2012 and 2013 Convention Chair, reported that he will be signing a contract with Grandover as soon as possible.

9. Committee Appointments – Craig Keyser, President

President Keyser announced the following appointments:

2012 Nominating Committee: Craig Keyser (Chair), George Stockman, Goetz Hagen

2012 ALSOP Committee: Doug Morrison (Chair), Joe Lee, Lori Hyllengren

2012 O’Flaherty Award Committee: Bill Marmer (Chair), Mainul Haque, Jeff Miller

2013 Wilson Selection Committee: Susan Steele (Chair), Renee Latona, Alex Campbell

Motion was made, seconded, and passed that the above appointments be accepted.

10. Adjournment

The next Council meeting will be conference calls in October. The exact date will be determined later.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:
Carol Adcock, Executive Secretary