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## LIFELINES

**Jiri Pecha** is a chemical engineer with a master degree on polymer processing from Tomas Bata University in Zlin, Czech Republic. His research interests cover processing of waste fats and oils to biodiesel and utilization of protein hydrolysates obtained from leather industry. Presently he works as a researcher at Tomas Bata University in Zlin, Faculty of Applied Informatics.

**Karel Kolomaznik**, see *JALCA* **91**, 18, 1996

**Michaela Barinova**, see *JALCA* **104**, 177, 2009

**Lubomir Sanek** graduated from the Thomas Bata University in Zlín with a master degree in Food Chemistry and Technology in 2008. Presently he is a post-graduate student and his specialization is applied chemical engineering and chemical analysis with gas chromatography.

**Jan Matyasovsky**, see *JALCA* **104**, 397, 2009

**Jan Sedliacik**, see *JALCA* **106**, 8, 2011

**Danica Červinková**, see *JALCA* **106**, 349, 2011.

**Peter Jurkovic**, see *JALCA* **104**, 397, 2009

**Peter Duchovic**, see *JALCA* **106**, 33, 2011

**M. Gajtanska** is a PhD and the head of Department of Physics, Electrotechnics and Applied Mechanics at Technical University in Zvolen, Slovakia. Her scientific and applied research work is aimed on application of laser measurement equipment and thermometry.

**Canan Veyselova** graduated from the Department of Biology, Gazi Faculty of Education, Gazi University, Turkey, in 2007. She received her M.Sc. degree in Biology in 2011 from Marmara University. Presently she is a graduate student (PhD) at University of Anadolu, Department of Biology. Her research experience is controlling microorganisms on hides.

**Meral Birber**, see *JALCA* **106**, 342, 2011

**Didem Berber**, see *JALCA* **105**, 383, 2010

**B. Basaran**, see *JALCA* **105**, 34, 2010

**Sevgi Nalbat** graduated from Ege University Engineering Faculty, Leather Engineering Department in 2011. She is interested in leather finishing and coating technology and surface modifications. Now she is presently a master student in Ege University Engineering Faculty Department of Leather Engineering, Turkey.

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# SYMPOSIUM TO BE HELD IN MEMORY OF DR. DENNIS SHELLY

November 5, 2012

A symposium in honor of the late Dr. Dennis Shelly, formerly of Texas Tech University, is planned for the 2012 Southwest Regional American Chemical Society Meeting in Baton Rouge, Louisiana on Monday afternoon, November 5, 2012. This symposium is being organized by Dr. Tom Edkins of Edkins Pharma Services, LLC, who was Professor Shelly's first graduate student, and Professor Isiah M. Warner of Louisiana State University, who was Professor Shelly's graduate advisor. Ironically, Professor Shelly was Professor Warner's first graduate student. Dr. Edkins and Professor Warner will also be speakers in this symposium. Other speakers include Dr. Sandy Das Gupta of the University of Texas at Arlington (a former colleague at Texas Tech), Dr.

Ellie Brown, a former collaborator of Professor Shelly at the USDA, and Dr. Barry Lavine of Oklahoma State who was mentored by Professor Shelly during his early years as a PhD scientist. This symposium is designed to honor, celebrate, and reflect on the scientific accomplishments and memory of Professor Shelly. Research areas to be discussed by participating academic and industrial speakers will include leather chemistry, analytical chemistry, pharmaceutical science, and analytical instrumentation. Speakers will relate their presentations to Professor Shelly's 20+ years' body of work. This broad spectrum of speakers is reflective of the broad impact of Professor Shelly within the scientific community.

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**CALL FOR PAPERS**  
**FOR THE 109<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL MEETING OF THE**  
**AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION**

**Pinehurst Resort Village at Pinehurst, NC**

**June 20-23, 2013**

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 Pinehurst Resort Village at Pinehurst, NC, June 20-23, 2013.

Abstracts are preferred via e-mail and must be submitted by **January 31, 2013** to the Chair of the Technical Program:

Steve Lange, Vice-President

GST AutoLeather, Inc

31601 Industrial Road

Livonia, MI 48150

E-mail: [steve.lange@gstautoleather.com](mailto:steve.lange@gstautoleather.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, 2013** (for details refer to our Publication Policy on our website: [leatherchemists.org](http://leatherchemists.org)):

Robert F. White, *Journal* Editor

c/o The American Leather Chemists Association

1314 50<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 103

Lubbock, TX 79412-2940, USA

E-mail: [jalcaeditor@prodigy.net](mailto:jalcaeditor@prodigy.net)

Mobile Phone (616) 540-2469

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.

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# COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

## AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

### Grandover Resorts & Conference Center, Greensboro, NC

### June 7, 2012

Officers: Andreas Rhein, Steven Gilberg,  
Steve Lange

Councilors: Mike Bley, Sarah Drayna,  
Andy Porter, John Rodden

Executive Secretary: Carol Adcock

Editor: Robert F. White

Convention Chair: Lee Lehman

#### 1. Welcome – Andy Rhein, President

President Andy Rhein called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Councilors Alex Campbell and C.K. Liu were unable to attend.

March 23, 2012 conference call minutes were previously approved by email.

Results from electionbuddy.com were announced. Incoming officers will be Sarah Drayna as Vice President Elect, Steve Lange as Vice President, and Steve Gilberg as President. New councilors will be Goetz Hagen and Susan Steele. Retiring councilors, Mike Bley and Alex Campbell, were thanked for their service the past three years. With Mrs. Drayna becoming Vice President Elect, there will be a vacancy with one councilor position. Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed that Andy Rhein will fill Sarah Drayna's councilor position until the end of her term in June, 2014.

The results of the bylaws revisions were announced. It was reported that 107 votes were cast for the amendment changing the annual audit to an annual financial analysis, with 92 in favor, 7 opposed, and 8 abstained. Thus the bylaws revision passed.

#### 2. Old Business – Andy Rhein, President

##### *Life Members*

Three candidates for life membership, Carl Bagg, Janice Barnes, and Heinz Keller, were recommended to Council for life membership as they had been a paying member of the Association for forty (40) years. Council unanimously approved their life memberships.

#### 3. Convention Items and Meeting with Hotel Staff – Lee Lehman

The staff of the Grandover came in and introduced themselves and their positions. Directions were given on how to contact members of their staff in case help was needed.

#### 4. Editor's Report – Robert F. White

Mr. White submitted the following written report:

Dear ALCA Officers and Councilors: May 28, 2012

##### **Editor's Report**

Comparative manuscripts activity for the 12-month periods June through May:

	<u>2011 - 2012</u>	<u>2010 - 2011</u>	<u>2009 - 2010</u>
Received	75	86	86
Rejected/withdrawn	33	41	27
Approved	30	32	37
In Process	15	13	22

This activity should enable us to continue our plan of 45 manuscripts per year and our target of getting peer reviewed manuscript into print within nine months of initial receipt. I am now scheduling manuscripts for our October 2012 issue.

Our Editorial Board has been especially helpful to me in identifying submissions that had flawed experimental work and decisions related to global reader interest. Jorge Lisnevsky and David Rabinovich continued to provide timely Spanish translations of the manuscript abstracts.

We are now well into our second year of *JALCA* in ezine format on the dedicated *alcjournal.com* site, which now can be linked from our website. We have consistently met our goal of uploading the *e-Journal* on the first day of the month. *KSA&D*, our design/publish resource, have been a very reliable web uploading resource. Estimated page count for the first 6 months of this year is 182, less than the 211 for the same period last year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert F. White  
Journal Editor

Discussion followed regarding the publication schedule. It was noted that the members of the Editorial Board were a great help to the Editor and that their membership had not changed for the past year.

Ms. Adcock mentioned that the contract of the Editor was for three year periods. She noted that his contract was up at the end of June, 2012. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to renew the contract of Editor White for another three years. Mr. White accepted. A new contract will be executed between the Editor and the incoming president, Steve Gilberg.

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

#### **5. Technical Committee Reports– Steve Lange, Vice President Elect**

Mr. Lange indicated that the technical committees would be giving their reports during the Annual Business Meeting. He also reported that the term of Sarah Drayna as Chair of the Environmental Affairs Committee was expiring. Mrs. Drayna has asked to be replaced since she is becoming the Vice President. Mr. Lange recommended Kim Dirks as Mrs. Drayna's replacement as chair. Motion was made, seconded and unanimously passed that Kim Dirks is the new chair of the Environmental Affairs Committee. Mr. Lange noted that Mr. Kirks has agreed to take such position for one year only.

#### **6. Financial Report – Carol Adcock**

The council reviewed the Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2012 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 357 members consisting of 197 active, 43 active life, 2 active life mutual, 19 active life retired, 19 active mutual, 37 active retired, 36 SLTC, 2 SLTC students, and 2 ALCA students. It was noted that one member, Thomas DiGiacomo, had passed since the last annual meeting.

For 2012, 218 paying members contributed \$31,583, with one member still owing in the amount of \$175. There is outstanding approximately \$2752 in dues from the SLTC after subtracting the dues of our mutual members. Subscriptions for 2012 have brought in \$13,495 in fees and \$5,300 in postage and handling charges. Discounts have been given in the amount of \$975, making a total of subscriptions and postage and handling charges minus discounts in the amount of \$17,820. Eleven new members have joined ALCA since the last Annual Meeting: eight active members and three SLTC. The bylaws state, "Any

member whose dues are unpaid on April 1<sup>st</sup> shall be dropped from membership." Accordingly twelve members were dropped from the membership roles for non-payment of their 2012 dues. Council reviewed the list of unpaid dues, and it was noted that at least two of them might still pay their 2012 dues. Council members will contact them about keeping their membership.

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

With the passing of the bylaw revision whereby a financial analysis would now be done instead of an annual audit, Mrs. Adcock asked Council's recommendation for what to publish in the Journal. It was agreed that the letter from the CPA doing the financial analysis along with the Profit and Loss Statement for the year would be published in the Journal, both of which are attached to these minutes.

#### **7. Ways and Means Committee**

Andreas Rhein, Chair for the Ways and Means Committee, submitted the following written report:

As of May 30, 2012, our investments were valued at \$252,206, incurring a loss of \$12,531 for the almost completed second quarter of 2012.

The following represents the present asset allocation:

Stocks	\$159,726
Unit Trust	\$ 34,433
Preferred Stocks	\$ 37,804
Closed End Funds	\$ 19,568
Money Funds	\$ 454
Income Account	\$ 221
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$252,206</b>

The following outlines the diversification of the Portfolio in %:

Equities	71.2%
Fixed Income	28.5%
Cash	0.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

Respectfully Submitted  
Andy Rhein

Discussion followed regarding the Association's portfolio. It was felt that the Smith Barney advisor, Greg Cannon, continues to do an excellent job.

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

### **8. 2013 Annual Convention – Lee Lehman**

Three proposals were submitted to Council prior to the convention for the 2013 convention site. All were discussed. Motion was made, seconded and passed that the 2013 convention site would be the Gideon Putnam Resort in Saratoga Springs, NY. The dates will be June 20-23, 2013, the week after Father's Day.

### **9. Committee Appointments– Andy Rhein, President**

President Rhein announced the following appointments:

2013 Nominating Committee: Andy Rhein (Chair), Lori Hyllengren, Gary Rennerfeldt

2013 ALSOP Committee: Andy Rhein (Chair), Lori Hyllengren, David Ouellette

2013 O'Flaherty Award Committee: Goetz Hagen (Chair), Cheng-Kung Liu, Andy Porter

2014 Wilson Selection Committee: Alex Campbell (Chair), Jim Ignatowski, Diedrich Tegtmeyer

After a brief discussion, motion was made, seconded, and passed that the above appointments be accepted.

### **10. Other Business– Andy Rhein, President**

#### ***2013 Robert M. Lollar Prize Paper Award Committee***

Council was reminded that the 2013 Robert M. Lollar Prize Paper Award Committee will need to begin work on their selection promptly after the convention so a recipient can be chosen in time to submit an abstract to the IULTCS host by their deadline. Three positions on the committee are already set, namely, ALCA President, ALCA Editor, and LIA representative. After the convention, the names of Prasad Inaganti and George Stockman were submitted to Council for approval. They were unanimously approved by Council.

### **11. Adjournment**

The next Council meeting will be Sunday, June 10, at 9 am. There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Carol Adcock, Executive Secretary

**Scott Northam, CPA**  
1302 58th Place  
Lubbock, TX 79412  
Phone (806) 535-7409

## **INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS REPORT ON APPLYING AGREED-UPON PROCEDURES**

American Leather Chemists Association  
1314 50th Street, Suite 103  
Lubbock, TX 79412

I have performed the procedures enumerated below, which were agreed to by American Leather Chemists Association (ALCA), solely to assist you in evaluating the revenue and expense transactions of the Organization for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011. ALCA's management is responsible for the presentation of the revenue and expense transactions. This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of those parties specified in this report. Consequently, I make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described below either for the purpose for which this report has been requested or for any other purpose.

I examined the detailed general ledger and a representative sample of the revenue and expense transactions and the related underlying supporting documentation for the organization for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 for the purpose of determining whether the documentation presented properly supported the revenue and expense transactions and were properly categorized within the financial records. I found no significant exceptions within the revenue and expense transactions tested.

I was not engaged to conduct, and did not conduct, an examination, the objective of which would be the expression of an opinion on the financial statements of the Organization. Accordingly, I do not express such an opinion. Had I performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to my attention that would have been reported to you.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of by the directors and management of American Leather Chemists Association and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than those specified parties.

SCOTT NORTHAN, CPA  
Lubbock, Texas  
May 16, 2012

1:04 PM

**American Leather Chemists Association**  
**Profit & Loss by Class**  
**January through December 2011**

07/12/12

Accrual Basis

	Conference	Corres Course	G&A	Journal	TOTAL
<b>Income</b>					
In Kind Donations	0.00	0.00	0.00	10,668.75	10,668.75
Contributions	0.00	0.00	140.00	0.00	140.00
<b>Sales</b>					
Advertising	4,650.00	0.00	0.00	26,212.50	30,862.50
Copyright Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,010.45	2,010.45
Correspondence Course	0.00	1,625.00	0.00	0.00	1,625.00
Dues	0.00	0.00	33,594.00	0.00	33,594.00
Postage & Handling	0.00	0.00	0.00	6,063.50	6,063.50
RePrints/Articles	0.00	0.00	0.00	118.06	118.06
SLTC Difference	0.00	0.00	1,818.00	0.00	1,818.00
Subscriptions	0.00	0.00	0.00	14,915.00	14,915.00
<b>Total Sales</b>	4,650.00	1,625.00	35,412.00	49,319.51	91,006.51
<b>Fees</b>					
Wire	0.00	0.00	-74.00	-50.00	-124.00
Regis. Fee	24,200.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	24,200.00
Sponsor Fee	15,700.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	15,700.00
<b>Total Fees</b>	39,900.00	0.00	-74.00	-50.00	39,776.00
Interest	0.00	0.00	1,381.09	0.00	1,381.09
Dividend	0.00	0.00	12,230.43	0.00	12,230.43
<b>Investment Gain/(Loss)</b>					
Realized gain (loss)	0.00	0.00	-12,045.49	0.00	-12,045.49
<b>Total Investment Gain/(Loss)</b>	0.00	0.00	-12,045.49	0.00	-12,045.49
<b>Total Income</b>	44,550.00	1,625.00	37,044.03	59,938.26	143,157.29
<b>Gross Profit</b>	44,550.00	1,625.00	37,044.03	59,938.26	143,157.29
<b>Expense</b>					
<b>Bank Service Charges</b>					
Wire fee	10.00	0.00	106.00	71.00	187.00
Service Charges	0.00	0.00	2.50	0.00	2.50
<b>Total Bank Service Charges</b>	10.00	0.00	108.50	71.00	189.50
<b>Copyright</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00	420.00	420.00
<b>Communication Expenses</b>					
Website, internet service	47.50	0.00	611.98	143.55	803.03
Fax	0.00	0.00	660.93	0.00	660.93
Telephone	0.00	0.00	695.34	0.00	695.34
<b>Total Communication Expenses</b>	47.50	0.00	1,968.25	143.55	2,159.30
<b>Credit Card Processing</b>					
Fees	0.00	0.00	4,374.43	0.00	4,374.43
<b>Total Credit Card Processing</b>	0.00	0.00	4,374.43	0.00	4,374.43
Discounts Given	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,194.65	2,194.65
Dues & Subscriptions	0.00	0.00	720.00	0.00	720.00
Ezine	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,140.00	7,140.00
<b>Insurance Expense</b>					
Businessowners's Insurance	0.00	0.00	554.64	0.00	554.64
Employee Dishonesty	0.00	0.00	235.44	0.00	235.44
Worker's Comp	0.00	0.00	193.18	0.00	193.18
<b>Total Insurance Expense</b>	0.00	0.00	983.26	0.00	983.26
Licenses, Fees, & Permits	0.00	0.00	119.92	85.00	204.92
Lollar Prize Paper Award Exp.	0.00	0.00	1,000.00	0.00	1,000.00
<b>Office Expenses</b>					
Supplies	259.89	0.00	426.64	217.37	903.90
Postage	461.89	29.26	315.35	8,845.49	9,651.99
Printing & Reproduction	156.81	0.00	0.00	31,398.00	31,554.81
<b>Total Office Expenses</b>	878.59	29.26	741.99	40,460.86	42,110.70
<b>Payroll Expenses</b>					
Gross Wages	0.00	0.00	41,200.00	0.00	41,200.00
FICA	0.00	0.00	2,554.32	0.00	2,554.32
Medicare	0.00	0.00	597.36	0.00	597.36
<b>Total Payroll Expenses</b>	0.00	0.00	44,351.68	0.00	44,351.68
<b>Professional Fees</b>					
Accounting	0.00	0.00	4,400.00	0.00	4,400.00
Editor	0.00	0.00	0.00	23,868.75	23,868.75
<b>Total Professional Fees</b>	0.00	0.00	4,400.00	23,868.75	28,268.75
Rent	0.00	0.00	8,100.00	0.00	8,100.00
Rowles Scholarship Fund Exp.	0.00	0.00	500.00	0.00	500.00
<b>Membership Development/Meetings</b>					
Membership Development	8,387.87	0.00	64.50	0.00	8,452.37
<b>Total Membership Development/Meetings</b>	8,387.87	0.00	64.50	0.00	8,452.37
Wilson Fd Exp	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	9,323.96	29.26	67,432.53	74,383.81	151,169.56
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>35,226.04</b>	<b>1,595.74</b>	<b>-30,388.50</b>	<b>-14,445.55</b>	<b>-8,012.27</b>

**AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION**  
**ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING**  
**108th Annual Convention**  
**Grandover Resort & Conference Center, Greensboro, NC**  
**June 9, 2012**

President Andy Rhein welcomed Officers, Councilors and Members and called to order the annual business meeting of the 108th 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 three new SLTC members. Congratulations were extended to three members, Carl Bagg, Janice Barnes and Heinz Keller, who had met the requirements and were approved for life status. Four members, Jaume Cot, Anthony Covington, Allen Glubka and Steve Wren, had been given retired status with the Association since the last annual meeting.

**2. Officers and Council**

**a. Officer Changes:**

At the end of the convention, Steve Gilberg moves to President, Steve Lange moves to Vice President and congratulations were extended to Sarah Drayna, who will be the new Vice-President Elect.

**b. Council Changes and Presentation of Certificates:**

Retiring councilors Mike Bley and Alex Campbell were thanked for their service and contributions during the past three years and presented with Certificates of Appreciation. The results of the election were announced and the incoming councilors for 2012-2015 will be Goetz Hagen and Susan Steele. The new councilors were congratulated, and appreciation was extended to the Nominating Committee, Craig Keyser, Chair, Goetz Hagen and George Stockman, for their service to the Association.

**3. By-laws Revision:**

Ballots were sent out electronically to revise the Association's by-laws to change to a financial analysis annually instead of an annual audit. This measure would save the Association money while maintain the integrity of the bookkeeping system. It was announced that 107 votes were cast, with 92 adopting the amendment, 7 rejecting it, and 8 abstaining. Therefore the amendment passed.

**4. Technical Committee Reports:**

Vice President Elect, Steve Lange, introduced the following chairs of the technical committees to give their reports:

**a. Education Committee, Mainul Haque, Chair**

Mr. President and Honorable Council Members:

ALCA Education Committee consists of nine active and retired members of the Association. This year my colleagues were not able to attend the annual conference.

We all heard the situation and trend associated with the Leather Sciences and technology educations from the paper presented by Dr. Tony Covington. Leather technology education in the west is rapidly shifting to the east.

In this circumstance, I kindly remind and reiterate the purpose for the ALCA Education Committee, "To enhance the vitality and assure continual viability of the leather manufacturing industry by providing opportunities for the education in leather technology."

The ALCA Leather Technology Correspondence Course is divided into 20 individual units. The Course registration fee is USD 325, which includes several books, course materials (listed below) and shipping charges.

1. Leather Technicians Hand Book- By J.H. Sharpouse
2. Practical Leather Technology-T.C. Thorstensen
3. Leather Facts Book- Published by Leather industries of America
4. Course Module/Supplement- developed by various industry experts.

During the 2011-2012 sessions we have had a total 5 students.

One student graduated this year. 4 new students enrolled, 1 student dropped off after 1<sup>st</sup> unit, 2 students dropped off after the 2<sup>nd</sup> units. 1 student has not participated in any correspondences. 1 student has been very efficient and continuing with the course, he has completed 4 units and willing to continue with the course.

Other activities, Education committee has sponsored with approval from the council one speaker to this year convention.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Mainul Haque, Committee Chair

**b. Environmental Affairs Committee, Sarah Drayna, Chair**

Mrs. Drayna summarized the minutes from the committee's last meeting in February, 2012 at the USDA. Eleven attended with the group identifying the mission for the committee going forward. First effort was to have an environmental panel at the convention in June, which was accomplished. Resources will be put on the Association's website soon. Second effort will be utilization of the Association's website, specifically the area for the Environmental Affairs Committee under committees/technical committees. Along with information on the committee, there is a discussion forum. The committee wants to provide resources, share information, send out blast emails and do surveys through the discussion forum. Projects the committee would like to pursue include Chrome Testing Methods and Leather Scraps.

The presentations from the Environmental Panel will be posted on our website for the use of our members.

A push was made to attract new members to the committee. Anyone interested in getting more involved in environmental issues should speak with a member of the committee about joining. In order to move forward the agenda of the committee we need more resources in the form of people in the industry (tanners, chemical suppliers, researchers).

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sarah Drayna  
Environmental Committee Chair

Mrs. Drayna served her three year term as chair of the committee and is stepping down due to her new position of Vice President Elect of the Association. She was given a Certificate of Appreciate for her service in this capacity. It was announced that Kim Dirks will be the new chair of the committee.

**c. Research Liaison Committee, Eleanor Brown, Co-Chair**  
Summary of ALCA - RLC meeting April 24-25, 2012

**Participants:**

Outside participants included representatives of the US Hides Skins and Leather Association, chrome and vegetable tanning industries, suppliers to the tanning industry, and users of the collagenous byproducts of the leather industry. ARS participants in addition to BOAC scientists were Center and Area administrators and the National Program Leader.

**Presentations:**

Sevim Erhan, ERRC Center Director provided an overview of ERRC research programs. Presentations by Dariusz Swietlik, North Atlantic Area Director, and Robert Fireovid, ARS National Program Leader outlined the budgeting process that has led to the potential elimination of this leather research program.

Stephen Sothmann, Director of International Affairs for the US Hides Skins and Leather Association (USHSLA) gave an

update on global trade issues with respect to US hides and leather. The major markets for US hides are China, South Korea, and Taiwan. US exports of hides and wet blue are at record highs, with the fastest growing markets being Italy and the Dominican Republic. The main challenges are environmental concerns, competition from synthetic materials and transportation. The American Meat Institute (AMI), parent organization for USHSLA, continues to lobby for this research program both with Congress, and the ARS administration.

ERRC presentations: Cheng Kung Liu, Research Leader and Lead Scientist for the leather research CRIS (-019) introduced the project, providing background and overall goals. Each SY and Cat 3 scientist made a presentation of current research and finished their presentation with a brief statement of how their work addresses industry priorities and their anticipated direction for the coming year. Titles are listed on the agenda sheet.

Jerry Maffia presented an overview of recent collagen utilization projects, including as proppants for fracking operations, by students at Manhattan College.

Jim Poulos, Technology Transfer Coordinator for Beltsville and NAA, gave an overview of ARS technology transfer functions and mechanisms and answered questions by phone.

A recurring comment was on the need to get the technology transfer message to a wider audience. Several participants expressed interest in having this presentation made at the ALCA annual meeting.

Comments on individual presentations were generally favorable. Specific suggestions and industry needs are:

**Airborne Ultrasonic detection** - The improved sensitivity of 100 KHz over 200 KHz sensors that allows for the detection of smaller defects was noted. Optimization of the system, perhaps with still lower frequency sensors, to detect bacterial damage on the hide surface would be a major benefit for the grading of hides. The researchers plan to consider this as the project progresses.

**Polyphenol-modified protein products** - Interest in light-colored and lightfast, tara-gelatin products for filling of wet white leathers was noted. Less costly quebracho-gelatin products would be suitable for use in darker leathers. The researcher replied that tara is sustainable and optimization of the process indicates that the amount of the tannin utilized in making the filler product is minimal; this along with the potential for more cutting area in the hide will help to improve the economics.

**Tanning mechanisms** - The collagen microfibril model can be useful for chemical companies supplying materials to the leather industry.

**Experimental** - Analysis of changes to collagen substrate as a result of beamhouse processes could suggest other modifications in processing to tailor toward the intended product line.

**Removal of manure** - E coli contaminated meat is the producer's major concern; they will do anything to reduce possible contamination, regardless of damage to the hide. ERRC work – The environmental impact and cleanup costs associated with addition of glycerol to the tannery effluent stream need careful evaluation. Ideally, manure removal should precede cutting the hide.

**New products** - Tanners recognize the need for new outlets for partially processed trimmings, etc., and suggest that although so far, the best fibers have come from pickled material, emphasis should be directed toward materials from liming or wet blue operations where trimming is usually done. There was considerable interest in the utilization of collagen in fracking operations.

General issues for survival of hides and leather research at ERRC. USHSLA is currently defending this program in Congress. Hides researchers need to take the lead in developing methods to simultaneously protect both the meat and the hide. Stakeholders as individuals and groups can annually approach Congress members, ARS Administrators and USDA Under-Secretary for Research with a list of issues that they want to have researched, but not where the research should be done, that would be asking for an earmark.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellie Brown & Lori Hyllengren  
RLC Committee Co-Chairs

Mrs. Brown announced that leather research for the USDA had been written out of the 2013 Budget submitted to Congress. The Senate Appropriations Committee approved the overall budget, but did not concur with the redirection of research and reallocation of research funds. The ERRC leather research team is exploring ways to better align their research with ARS food safety goals.

***d. Committee on Methods and Specifications, Nick Latona, Co-Chair***

The methods and specifications committee met at the sub-committee luncheon, those in attendance were Lori Hyllengren, Steve Lange, C-K. Liu, and Nick Latona.

The purpose of this committee is to act as a liaison between the ALCA and the ASTM D31 Committee on Leather. As a brief overview of D31, the committee consists of 11 sub-committees. The executive sub-committee is comprised of Mike O'Keefe- Secretary, Okey Abara- Vice Chair, Nick Latona.-Chair. The remaining sub-committees and their chairs are: Vegetable Leather- Kadir Donmez, Wet Blue- Okey

Abara, Footwear- Ed Fortuna, Apparel- Mike O'Keefe, Upholstery- Kadir Donmez, Chemical- Janice Barnes, Physical- Steve Lange, Fats & Oils- Rodica Daringa, Administrative- Suzanne Piispanen, ISO Relations- Nick Cory.

There are 49 members on the ASTM committee, with approximately 12 that actively participate in methods and specifications development. A summary of the last ASTM meeting is as follows:

The Wet Blue subcommittee D31.02 met on April 25 at the USDA. The methods for the enumeration of halophilic and proteolytic bacteria in raceway brine, the enumeration of yeast and mold in raceway brine, the enumeration of yeast and mold on fresh (uncured) hides and skins, and the enumeration of proteolytic bacteria in fresh (uncured) hides and skins passed the subcommittee level and will be balloted by the main committee. These methods will be balloted and if approved will become new published ASTM standards. A method for the shrinkage temperature of Wet Blue is presently being modified to include Wet White. We are looking to develop a single HPLC method to test for the following fungicides: TCMTB, AMICAL, PCMC, ITZ, OIT.

The main D31 Committee met the following day, April 26, 2012 with 8 members present. Reports of the other subcommittees were given. Topics of discussion were:

Method for AAS Total Chrome is established and we are waiting for ASTM to provide a statement for precision and bias.

A vertical flame resistance method is being developed based on the ALCA E-50 method entitled, "Standard Test Method for Flame Resistance of Leather (12/60 second Vertical Burn Test)," however we are waiting to see what the textile community does because they are also currently working on a method. Future methods under consideration for leather testing are Residual Load Strength, Soil Resistance, Oil Resistance, Aqueous Resistance, and Barnyard (manure) resistance, Martindale Abrasion, Light fastness, Accelerated Aging, Humidity Resistance, Temperature Resistance, and footwear breathability. There are still ALCA methods under consideration for adoption into ASTM format. Most of them concern beamhouse liquors.

Does the ALCA have any specific requests for any ALCA methods to be converted into ASTM methods?

Discussion is currently going on with the Fats and Oils methods based on the ALCA methods, to see if they are current with American Oil Chemists Society (AOCS) methods. Another question for the ALCA is, does it behoove ASTM D31 to keep current ASTM methods for Fats and Oils because they have not been updated with the latest methods and technology, where as the AOCS has kept current with the latest methods and technology?

The LIA continues to pay the fee for ASTM D31 to act as the ISO Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for the US. This gives D31 voting rights on 4 ISO committees: Rawhide, Skins, and Pickled Pelts, Tanned Leather, Leather Products, and the TC-120 Leather committee. Nick Cory has been doing an excellent job keeping current with ballots and informing us on voting issues.

The next ASTM meeting will be held at ASTM Headquarters in Conshohocken, PA .

Oct. 1- D31 Main Committee Meeting

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lori Hyllengren and Nick Latona, Co-chairs

Lori Hyllengren reviewed the guidelines for the Randall Rowles Memorial Scholarship and announced that Naimul Alam, son of member Khorshed Alam, was the 2012 Rowles Scholarship recipient.

### 5. Committee Appointments:

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 2013 Nominating Committee were approved:

Andy Rhein (Chair), Lori Hyllengren, and Gary Rennerfeldt

The following committee appointments approved by Council were announced:

2013 O'Flaherty Service Award Committee: Goetz Hagen (Chair), Cheng-Kung Liu and Andy Porter

2013 Alsop Award Committee: Andy Rhein (Chair), Lori Hyllengren and David Ouellette

2014 Wilson Memorial Lecture Committee: Alex Campbell (Chair), Jim Ignatowski and Dietrich Tegtmeier

### 6. 2013 Convention Site:

The convention attendees were polled as to their desire for the 2013 Annual Convention. Two sites were proposed with Convention Chair Lee Lehman telling about both of them. A majority of those present raised their hand for Pinehurst Resort.

### 7. Editor's Report: Robert F. White

Mr. White gave the following report:

The electronic version of *JALCA* in ezine format is reliably available the first day of the month and now can now be linked through our ALCA website. We now have the latest 24 issues on this site. It is user friendly and presents the color provided by advertisers and authors.

Author submissions of new manuscripts continued at a rate that enabled us to sustain our publication of 45 manuscripts

per year. I want to thank the presenters at this Annual Meeting for promptly submitting their manuscripts. We will begin publishing these important contributions in September.

I want to recognize our *Journal* Editorial Board for their reliable manuscript peer review work this past year. These are the volunteers that devote a lot of their precious time to assure the quality of our publication: Chris Black, Kenneth Boni, Eleanor Brown, Nick Cory, Robert Dudley, Prasad Inaganti, Graham Lampard, Cheng-Kung Liu, Edwin Nungesser, Mila Aldema-Ramos, George Stockman, Brandon Yeomans and Maryann Taylor. I also want to again thank our Spanish translators David Rabinovich and Jorge Lisnevsky for their remarkable punctuality.

I strongly encourage more comments and suggestions from our readers, either as letters to the editor or blog in our leatherchemists.org open access Networking:Forum.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robert F. White  
*Journal* Editor

### 8. State of the Association:

#### a. Membership Review:

A total membership of 357 members, of whom 219 are paying members, was announced.

#### b. Convention Account:

A bar chart was shown indicating the income and expenses for the annual meetings since 2004. The chart reflected revenue of \$45,850, expenses of \$10,624 for a profit for 2011 of \$35,226.

#### c. Convention Attendees:

A review of the attendance for 2012 revealed that 17 tanners representing 10 tanning companies, 37 suppliers representing 18 individual chemical companies and 6 individual equipment companies, 8 research scientists representing 2 organizations, and 7 educators representing 5 universities or technical schools were present. Other attendees included 2 ALCA staff, 1 press, 2 consultants/retirees, and 6 guests for a grand total of 80.

#### d. Investments:

A bar chart was shown reflecting the portfolio performance since 2004. The chart compared first quarter earnings versus the average portfolio value.

The report was included on the slide, which read as follows:

As of April 30, 2012, our investments were valued at \$265,735. The year-to-date liquid earnings were \$3,980 (\$995/mo). Note in the graphic for program year 2012 that both our First Quarter Earnings and Overall Portfolio Value follow their respective trends since 2009. We feel our investments, money market and recovered funds are well positioned to endure volatility and earnings pressure as we still see in the market.

**e. Sponsorship:**

This year's meeting had a three level sponsorship program. They were Gold for a donation of \$1,000, Silver for a donation of \$750, and Bronze for a donation of \$500. There were 8 gold, 8 silver, and 6 bronze donors. 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 4 exhibitors and 6 program advertisers. Appreciation was also extended to these generous supporters.

**9. New Business:****a. Website info:**

Everyone was reminded to go to the Association's website at [www.leatherchemists.org](http://www.leatherchemists.org) for information about the Association as well as updates on next year's convention. The website has a wealth of information on the history of the Association as well as a comprehensive list of all journal articles back to 1906. Abstracts go back to 1997. All articles can be searched by title, author or subject.

**b. 2013 Annual Meeting:**

The Association will host its 109th ALCA Annual Meeting at Pinehurst Resort at Pinehurst, NC, June 20-23, 2013.

**c. Question from Attendee:**

The question was asked if the vacancy left by Mrs. Drayna on the Council had been addressed since she was becoming the new Vice President Elect. President Rhein reported that Council had proceeded per the Association's by-laws to vote on her replacement during their council meeting prior to the convention. President Rhein will be filling Mrs. Drayna's vacancy on Council.

**10. 2013 Wilson Lecture:**

The 2013 Wilson Lecturer was announced. It will be Elton Hurlow. His bio was given as follows:

**Current Position & Contact:**

Global Market Development Manager – Leather, Buckman International

**Academic qualifications:**

- MBA, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee WI (1993)
- MSc, (Distinction) Rhodes University, South Africa (1987); Thesis "Anaerobic Digestion of Vegetable Tannins"
- BA, University of South Africa, UNISA, South Africa (1985)
- BSc, (Honours - Chemistry) University of Cape Town, South Africa (1979)

**Years of experience in the leather industry: 29**

- Research - LIRI, South Africa: Senior Research Chemist (1983 – 1987)
- Tanning Operations – United States Leather Holdings: Pfister & Vogel - Technical, Operations; USL - International Sales, AR Clarke: Operations, General Manager (1988 – 1997)
- Chemical supply – Buckman: Global Marketing (1997 – present)

**Professional Positions Held:**

- ALCA: President and Life Member - Member since 1989, President 1999-2001
- IULTCS: President 2008–2009, IUL Chair 2010-present.
- SLTC South Africa Section: Secretary/Treasurer 1985–1987

**Selection of Papers and Presentations:**

1. *Investigation of Red Stains on Wetblue Leather*; Proceedings of 31<sup>st</sup> IULTCS Congress, Valencia, Sept 2011
2. *A New Antifungal Agent for the Leather Industry: S-Hexyl-S-Chloromethyl-cyanodithiocarbamate*; JSLTC, 95, 7-10, 2011; (Also presented at 8<sup>th</sup> AICLST, Kolkata, 2011)
3. *Fungal Growth on Wetblue: Methods to Measure Impact on Leather Quality*; Proceedings of 30<sup>th</sup> IULTCS Congress, Beijing, Oct 2009; (Reprinted JALCA 105, 1-7, 2010)
4. *Antibiotics in Hide Preservation and Bacterial Control*; JALCA, 102, 62-67, 2007
5. *Emission of Fungicides from Furniture Leather*; JSLTC, 89, 210-213, 2005
6. *Monitoring Methods for Effective Microorganism Control*; LGR Lecture, March 2004
7. *Microorganism Control During Leather Manufacture*, Coauthor Chapter 20: Leather Technicians Pocketbook 339-352, 1999
8. *Effect of Polyphosphate Chain Length on Shrinkage Temperature*; JALCA, 81, 197-207, 1986

**11. In Memory:**

There was a moment of silence observed for one member who passed on during the past year:

Thomas DiGiacomo d. July 11, 2011

**12. Adjournment:**

President Andy Rhein called for a motion to adjourn the annual business meeting held at the 108<sup>th</sup> convention of the American Leather Chemists Association. The motion was made and seconded. Motion carried.

# COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

## AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

### Grandover Resorts & Conference Center, Greensboro, NC

### June 10, 2012

Officers: Andreas Rhein, Steven Gilberg,  
Steve Lange

Councilors: Mike Bley, Cheng-Kung Liu,  
Andy Porter, John Rodden

Executive Secretary: Carol Adcock

Editor: Robert F. White

Convention Chair: Lee Lehman

#### 1. Welcome – Andy Rhein, President

President Andy Rhein called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. New councilors Goetz Hagen and Susan Steele were unable to attend. Sarah Drayna was welcomed as the new Vice President Elect, but she was unable to attend the meeting. Thanks were extended to councilors leaving office, Alex Campbell and Mike Bley.

#### 2. Comments on Purpose, Function and Issues – Andy Rhein

It was felt that this portion of the agenda could be dispensed with as everyone in attendance was on Council before the convention and was familiar with the various positions within the ALCA.

#### 3. Annual Convention – Lee Lehman

##### 2012 Convention

Discussion was held regarding the convention. The site was very nice, and things went fairly smooth. It was felt that moderators needed to be prepared to ask at least one question after each presentation if there was time. Suggestions were made about collecting the bios of each presenter. The Technical Program Chair will try to collect all bios and have them in the packets each moderator receives with the certificates for the presenters.

After the convention, Council was informed that a survey will be sent to all attendees to evaluate this year's convention. The deadline for returning the survey will be July 16.

##### 2013 Convention

After the Council vote for the 2013 convention site, there was much discussion among the attendees at the convention about

the 2013 location. Council polled the membership at the Annual Business Meeting held on June 9 to let their voice be heard on which site they would like to have. They were given a choice between Gideon Putnam Resort in Saratoga Springs, NY and Pinehurst Resort in Pinehurst, NC. It was clear that the membership wanted to have the 2013 convention at Pinehurst. Motion was then made to change the site of the 2013 Annual Convention to Pinehurst Resort in Pinehurst, NC. The motion was seconded and passed.

Council instructed Mr. Lehman to increase the number of rooms to 100 on Thursday and Friday nights to insure there would be enough rooms for the larger crowd that is anticipated by the change in venue. A change in the schedule for the convention was also proposed allowing more time for social interaction. The officers and Mrs. Adcock will work on this after the convention. Mr. Lehman will follow up and obtain a contract from Pinehurst that he will present to the new President of the Association and the Executive Secretary before signing it.

#### 4. Handing over of Gavel to New President – Andy Rhein

President Rhein thanked Council for their help during his tenure. He is looking forward to continuing as a member of Council as a councilor. He then turned the gavel over to new President Gilberg.

#### 5. Major Issues Before Council – Steve Gilberg

The convention will continue to be one of the biggest fundraisers for the Association. It is necessary to keep the convention relevant to all members and increase participation in all areas. Retention and recruitment of members also continues to be a high priority for the Association.

#### 6. Wrap up/Next Council Meeting

The fall Council meeting will be a conference call to be set in mid October at a later date.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted by:  
Carol Adcock, Executive Secretary  
Adcock, Executive Secretary

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

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



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