
LIFELINES

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

Montse Jorba, see *JALCA* **103**, 53, 2008

J. M. Font, see *JALCA* **97**, 277, 2002

Luís Ollé, see *JALCA* **101**, 284, 2006

Anne Lama received her PhD degree from the School of Applied Sciences, University of Northampton, UK. She is currently working as a Leather Technologist at the BLC Leather Technology Centre, UK; conducting research as part of the Consulting and Problem Solving team.

Stuart Allen received his Ph.D. degree from the Department of Biological Sciences at The University of Warwick. Stuart's background is molecular microbiology, which he uses to study various aspects of microbial growth and the response of microbes to natural antimicrobials. Stuart works in the School of Health at the University of Northampton, and is the Head of Health and Life Sciences, where he is involved in teaching microbiology and molecular biology. Stuart currently has three post-graduate research students working on molecular aspects of microbiology and novel uses of natural antimicrobials.

Geoffrey Attenburrow, see *JALCA* **107(5)**, 2012

Margaret Bates, see *JALCA* **107(5)**, 2012

Anthony Dale Covington, see *JALCA* **107(5)**, 2012

A. Paula M. Antunes, see *JALCA* **107(5)**, 2012

S. Sangeetha holds MSc degree in Organic Chemistry from University of Madras. Her research interests include synthetic organic chemistry and nanoparticle-collagen interactions.

N. Nishad Fathima, see *JALCA* **106**, 272, 2011

K. J. Sreeram, see *JALCA* **106**, 239, 2011

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

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

Junling Guo received his Bachelor's Degree in Biochemistry at Sichuan Agricultural University in 2010. Now he is undertaking his PhD research at Sichuan University. His research focuses on development of nanomaterials based on collagen fiber and the spectroscopic study on the molecular structure of collagen.

Wenhua Zhang see *JALCA* **100**, 432, 2005

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

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

THE 108TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

June 7 -10, 2012

Grandover Resort and Conference, Greensboro, NC

Welcome to the exciting venue of events that will be unfolding for us from June 7 to June 10, 2012. We will host our 108th Annual Convention at the Grandover Resort and Conference Center at Greensboro, North Carolina, June 7-10, 2012. It is a first class facility. You can learn more about Grandover by logging on to their website at <http://www.grandover.com>. In March we sent an e-mail containing full details about the convention, including registration and voting for our ALCA Slate of Candidates by e-mail. See our website for registration information and further announcements about our 108th Annual Meeting.

Prior to the official opening of the convention, the annual shotgun golf tournament will be held at the Grandover East Golf Course beginning at 1 pm. Pre-registration for golfers is a must to facilitate the start of the tournament. Further information on the golf outing will be found in your March convention info. Then, the official opening of the convention will begin with registration on Thursday, June 7, from 5 to 7 pm on the Grandville Registration Desk followed by a Cocktail Reception from 7 to 8 pm in the Griffin Room. Dinner and conversations with old and new associates in the leather industry will complete the evening.

ALCA President Andy Rhein will open the Technical Program at 8 am on Friday. This year's technical program is being organized by Vice-President Steve Gilberg and will offer a wide array of leather technologies covering tanning to

finishing to environmental issues and can be previewed in the coming months in this *Journal* and on our website. The John Arthur Wilson Lecture will be presented by Dr. Anthony Covington of the UK (see separate bio in this issue). Our Technical Committees will have an opportunity to meet and have discussions during lunchtime. The Friday technical sessions will end at 4:15 pm followed by the Fun Run at 5:00 pm. A cocktail party and dinner on the Grandville Lawn will cap off Friday's activities. This will be an exciting evening that you won't want to miss.

Technical papers will resume Saturday morning at 8 am followed by the Annual Business Meeting starting at 11. At noon everyone is invited to attend the Activities Awards Luncheon in Grandville Ballroom, where prizes will be awarded for the Fun Run and golf outing. Technical papers will resume in the afternoon from 1 to 4 pm with the Awards Banquet Social Hour beginning at 6 pm. The closing event Awards Banquet will start at 7 pm. The convention check out is on Sunday morning.

Please mark these dates on your calendar now, and join us for a wonderful time at the Grandover this June.

Lee Lehman
Convention Chair

SUBMISSIONS FOR THE 108TH ANNUAL CONVENTION TECHNICAL PROGRAM

American Leather Chemists Association

June 2012

*Partial Listing of Oral Presentations starting Friday, June 8
(Subject to Change)*

John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecture

“Leather Science: Requisite or Requiem?”

by Anthony Dale Covington, Emeritus Professor, British School of Leather Technology

Environmental Affairs Committee Panel Discussion

with Dietrich Tegtmeier of LANXESS,

Kim Dirks and Leigh Ann Johnston of Tyson Foods, and others

Topics: Sustainability and Environmental Updates

Other Papers to be presented on Friday and Saturday:

Effects of Pretanning Processes on Collagen Structure and Reactivity by Eleanor M. Brown, United States Department of Agriculture, Eastern Regional Research Center, Wyndmoor, PA

Managing Chromium in Leather Manufacture by Jurgen Christner, TFL Ledertechnik GmbH, Weil am rhein, Germany

Volarization of Crust and Finished Leather Goods or Scrap - Extraction of Dyes, Tannins, Oils, Chromium and Collagen by JF Processes by Joana Felix, Franca, SP, Brazil

Improving Classification Hides Brazilians - Application of Collagen Hydrolysate and Chrome-Collagen Complex Resulting from the Process of Reusing of Shavings and Trimmings Wet-Blue by Joana Felix, Franca, SP, Brazil

The Nuances of Finishing Automotive Leather by Mark Gilbert, Alberdingk Boley, Inc., Greensboro, NC

High Quality Biodiesel and Glycerin from Fleshings by Karel Kolomaznik, Tomas Bata University, Czech Republic

Anti-Soiling Finishes for Automotive Leather by Leon Krings, Stahl Holdings B.V., Netherlands

Effects of Dehydration Methods on the Characteristics of Fibrous Networks from Un-tanned Hides by Cheng-Kung Liu, United States Department of Agriculture, Eastern Regional Research Center, Wyndmoor, PA

Automated Splitting, Sorting and Stacking with Reduced Manpower by Ivan Peloso, Alpe, Italy

Quality of New Soaking Formulations That Can Remove Hardened Bovine Manure by Mila Aldema-Ramos, United States Department of Agriculture, Eastern Regional Research Center, Wyndmoor, PA

Polymer Bio-Composites Based on Collagen by Jan Sedliacik, Technical University, Slovakia

Use of High Pressure Processing to Aid in the Hair Removal from Animal Carcasses/Hides by John Summerfield, Hormel Foods Research & Development

Preparation and Evaluation of Tara-Modified Products by Maryann M. Taylor, United States Department of Agriculture, Eastern Regional Research Center, Wyndmoor, PA

Sustainable Tanning by Dieter Tegtmeier, LANXESS Deutschland GmbH, Leverkusen, Germany

Factors Influencing Hide and Leather Quality and Grading in Domestic Buffalo by Muhammad Yasir Zahoor, University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan

Factors Influencing Hide and Leather Quality and Grading in Domestic Buffalo by Muhammad Yasir Zahoor, University of Veterinary & Animal Sciences, Lahore, Pakistan

Improvements in Gakushin wear Testing through Laboratory Automation by Bradley Hageman, The Dow Chemical Company, Spring House, PA

THE 53RD JOHN ARTHUR WILSON MEMORIAL LECTURE

by

Dr. Anthony Covington

The 53rd John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecture will be presented at the 108th ALCA Annual Convention at the Grandover Resort and Conference Center on June 8, 2012. The title of Dr. Covington's lecture is "**Leather Science: Requisite or Requiem?**"



Dr. Antony Covington

Anthony Dale Covington obtained the Graduateship of the Royal Institute of Chemistry (now the Royal Society of Chemistry) at Teesside Polytechnic (now the University of Teesside), then a PhD in physical organic chemistry at Stirling University under the supervision of R.P Bell FRS, followed by post-doctoral research in physical chemistry at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne, the city of his birth.

In 1976 he joined the British Leather Manufacturers' Association (later to become BLC the Leather Technology Centre in Northampton, UK), where he spent 18 years engaged in research and development, industrial consultancy and problem solving. He was exposed to a wide range of aspects of the global leather industry during this time, particularly working in different types of tanneries around the world. In 1995 he was appointed by Nene College, later to be The University of Northampton, to teach leather science in the British School of Leather Technology, becoming Professor of Leather Science in 1996.

His career in the leather industry spans more than 35 years, producing *inter alia* 55 lectures in 12 countries around the world, 24 doctoral graduates and over 260 technical publications. His most recent publications include, *Tanning Chemistry: The Science of Leather*, published in 2009 by the Royal Society of Chemistry. In recognition of this achievement, the American Leather Chemists Association gave Professor Covington the Alsop Award in 2011. He is a Fellow of the Society of Leather Technologists and Chemists and a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Professor Covington gave his first John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecture at the ALCA Annual Convention in 1998. He is a former President of the International Union of Leather Technologists and Chemists (1995-7) and in 2009; the IULTCS gave him their Merit Award for Excellence in the Leather Industry. He is currently semi-retired as an Emeritus Professor.

Leather Science: Requisite or Requiem?

ABSTRACT

The current state of leather science (not leather technology) in the global leather industry is reviewed. The review focuses on the following questions. Is leather science still required by the leather industry: if so, to what purpose? What remaining problems should be addressed?

Recent trends in leather science research are analysed in terms of the published topics over the last twenty five years and the sources of the publications in *JSLTC* and *JALCA*, as representative of the global research program.

The current state of knowledge is compared to the understanding of leather science in recent decades, where appropriate. Predictions of industrial and technical requirements made in the past are discussed with regard to the progress made to the present day by leather scientists.

The final questions. Is leather science a luxury the leather industry cannot afford? And, if leather scientists should be needed, from where can they be found?

COUNCIL CONFERENCE CALL MINUTES

AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION

SPRING COUNCIL MEETING

March 23, 2012 • 11 am Eastern/10 am Central Standard Time

Present

Officers:	Andy Rhein, Steve Gilberg, and Steve Lange
Council Members:	C.K. Liu, Andy Porter
Convention Chair:	Lee Lehman
Convention Vice	Chair: Steve Yanek
Executive Secretary:	Carol Adcock

1. Welcome. President Andy Rhein welcomed everyone to the spring council meeting, called the conference call to order, and thanked everyone for participating. One councilor was unable to participate due to travel. It was confirmed that a quorum was present. October 11, 2011 minutes were previously approved by email.

2. Convention Status Update.

2012 Annual Meeting

Lee Lehman, Convention Chair, reported that the convention would be held at Grandover Resort & Conference Center in Greensboro, NC, June 7 – 10. The room rate will be \$317.71 per night for a single and \$218.17 per person per night for double occupancy. He also reported that he had signed a golf contract for 48 players, but he has been assured by the golf pro that the number of golfers can be reduced to as little as 24 if done three weeks before the tournament.

The room block for the entire convention was reviewed. Wednesday night it is 20 rooms, with 80 rooms on Thursday and Friday, and 60 rooms on Saturday. We can reduce these numbers up to 20% by the hotel reservation deadline of May 4.

The registration fee for those staying at the designated hotel will remain the same as last year. The cost for all those staying at another facility will be the regular registration fee plus the meal plan for the three days of the convention. Accompanying guests not staying at the designated hotel will have to pay a fee for joining the group for meals.

Steve Yanek has previously been approved by council as Convention Vice Chair for 2012 and 2013. He reported that he is ready to start the financial campaign. It will be the same as last year except there will be golf signs since there will be a formal golf tournament. Steve also hopes to use the technical program schedule to encourage sponsors to send people to the convention.

Jim Ignatowski has previously been approved as the Sports Coordinator. The golf tournament will begin with lunch at the course at noon on Thursday, June 7. Buckman is sponsoring a golf pro, Larry Shaver, former Head Golf Coach at Vanderbilt University, to analyze golf swings using sensors and video with real time analysis and feedback. He will be available from 5 to 10 pm on Thursday.

Nick Latona will be able to attend the entire convention and will be the AV person for the technical sessions.

Technical Program

Steve Gilberg reviewed the schedule for the technical program that was sent out to Council on Tuesday. There will be an environmental panel. He is hopeful to get someone from either the automotive or shoe industry to give a presentation. Discussion followed about different avenues to find presenters in the local area such as a furniture representative. Mr. Yanek suggested contacting Ken Maxfield about presenting. He also proposed talking to a presenter from the 2008 convention at Grandover from the University of North Carolina, College of Textiles. C.K. Liu will contact Prof. Roger Merkel of American Institute for Goat Research, Langston University, OK to present a paper on goatskin tanning.

Wilson Lecture

The Wilson lecture is on schedule with Dr. Anthony Covington being the presenter. The title of his presentation is “Leather Science: Requisite or Requiem?” His bio and photo will be published in the April issue of the Journal. His abstract is still needed.

Alsop Award

The recipient of the award has been notified and will attend.

O’Flaherty Award

The recipient of the award has been notified and will attend.

2013 Convention Update:

Lee Lehman, 2013 Hotel Arrangements Chair and Convention Chair, has asked for proposals from three hotels for the 2013 convention. He specifically asked Council if they were interested in a new site in the Saratoga, New York area. Council agreed that it would be a good area for a convention. Mr. Lehman hopes to have a final proposal for the 2013 convention site by the end of April.

3. Financial Reports. Council had previously been emailed the financial statements for 2011 and the Performance vs. 2011 Budget report. The reports showed a loss for the year 2011 of \$8,012.27. The investment account of the Association showed a \$12,045.49 loss which accounts for more than the actual loss overall. Therefore it was felt that the Association is in sound financial position since the loss could entirely be credited to the investment account, which is only a loss on the books.

The income and expenses of the *Journal* were discussed. Although the books reflect a loss in that area, no dues income is attributed to the *Journal*. According to the statement on the dues invoice, \$77 out of every \$130 collect for dues is needed for the journal production. If that amount was credited as income to the *Journal*, the *Journal* would be considered self-sufficient.

Motion was made and carried to accept the 2011 financial reports. As soon as the membership votes on bylaw changes about the audit, either an audit or financial analysis will be performed on the 2011 books and reported to the membership in the journal.

Executive Secretary Carol Adcock reviewed the Membership Report and Breakdown as of March 20. There are a total of 355 members at the present time including SLTC members with three memberships pending.

Ms. Adcock also reported that final notices for dues and subscriptions had gone out a couple of weeks ago. A list of unpaid dues as of March 20, 2012 was also reviewed. Several Council members will contact some of those that are unpaid.

Mrs. Adcock reported that 7 advertisers committed for 2012 journal advertising. All are paid except two.

4. Technical Committee Reports. Technical Committee Coordinator, Steve Lange, gave the following report: The Education Committee has a new chair, Mainul Haque, since the convention last year. He will check with Mr. Haque to see how many students are currently submitting units to be graded.

Chair of the Environmental Affairs Committee, Sarah Drayna, has asked to be relieved of her duties since she is running for VP Elect. Mr. Lange contacted Kim Dirks about taking over as chair of that committee. He agreed to do so for one year. Motion was made and unanimously carried to approve the recommendation of Kim Dirks as Chair of the Environmental Affairs Committee.

Mr. Lange reported that the Research Liaison Committee will meet at 1 pm on Tuesday, April 24 through noon on Wednesday, April 25. That meeting will be followed by the

ASTM D-31 meeting. Notices have gone out twice now about the meeting.

Motion was made and carried to accept the Technical Committee Report.

5. Editor's Report – Robert White submitted the following written report:

March 6, 2012

Dear ALCA Officers and Councilors:

Editor's Report

Manuscripts activity during the most recent 6-month period (September through February) compare to the same period last year was:

	<u>Received</u>	<u>Rejected</u>	<u>Approved</u>	<u>In process</u>
2011	39	21	6	12
2012	33	11	12	10

This rate of new submissions is less than the same period last year, but with fewer rejections and a higher number of approvals. I am now scheduling approved manuscripts for our July 2012 issue.

Our Editorial Board continues to deploy their valuable expertise, especially evident in recent reviews of some exceptionally tedious manuscripts with very complex analytical methods. Jorge Lisnevsky and David Rabinovich continue to reliably provide Spanish translations of abstracts every month.

The efficient production process provided by KSA&D has enabled us to consistently upload our *e-Journal* by the first day of each month. In early February we had a comprehensive *Journal* opportunities tele-review with KSA&D the staff; subjects including blogs, availability for other devices (i.e. smart phones), e-banner ads, library penetration, academic necessities for print journals and more speed for our website. A www.alcajournal.com link has since been added to the Publication section of our website. It was concluded that our present open access Networking: Forum blog was appropriate and showing regular activity. But, we need to have more members actively responding to these Forum global technical inquiries.

The *Journal* page count YTD is 6% less than the same period last year.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert F. White
Journal Editor

Council reviewed the Editor's report and noted that although submissions were down, the rejection rate was lower. Mrs. Adcock reported that she discussed the slow speed of the online discussion forum with our web people. They did a reboot of the site, and the speed has increased.

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

6. Other Committee Report

Ways and Means Committee

Chair of the committee, Andy Rhein, submitted the following written report:

As of March 13, 2012 our Portfolio was valued at \$ 270,369. Incurring a loss of \$ 37,327 for the third quarter of 2011, I am pleased to report a gain of \$ 40,010 for the almost completed first quarter of 2012.

The following represents the present Asset Allocation:

Stocks	\$ 174,622
Unit Trust	\$ 36,639
Preferred Stocks	\$ 34,374
Closed End Funds	\$ 20,159
Cash	\$ 2,581
Money Funds	\$ 1,707
Income Account	\$ 286
Total	\$ 270,368

The following outlines the diversification of the Portfolio in %

Equities	72.5 %
Fixed Income	25.8 %
Cash	1.7 %
Total	100 %

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Rhein

President Rhein felt that Greg Cannon with Smith Barney was doing a very good job of managing the Association's portfolio. Motion was made and carried to accept the Ways and Means Committee Report.

Nominating Committee

The 2012 Nominating Committee had submitted a slate of candidates which was approved by Council. However, the nominee for VP Elect had to resign and a new candidate has been found. Council approved the new candidate, and the 2012 Slate of Candidates will be as follows:

VP Elect	
Councilors:	Sarah Drayna of Lanxess Goetz Hagen of Tannin Corporation Mainul Haque of GST AutoLeather, Inc. Renee J. Latona of ERRC, USDA Susan Steele of Buckman USA

The election will commence shortly using electionbuddy.com. The bylaws change will also be voted on at the same time. Ballots are due no later than 5 pm on June 1, 2012.

7. Old Business

Bylaws change regarding audit

Council approved a bylaw change to submit to the membership

regarding the annual audit of the Association. It was felt that the cost of annual audit for the Association has been steadily increasing; however, the number of members and financial activity of the Association has been decreasing, with the Association writing under 125 checks for 2011. Therefore, Council is requesting the following change in the bylaws in order to decrease the amount spent on annual audits while maintaining the integrity of our bookkeeping system.

The following changes in the Bylaws of this Association will be sent to the membership along with the electronic voting on the Slate of Candidates:

Article VI Finances:

Original:

5. Reports and Audits:

- (a) The Executive Secretary shall submit to the Council, at its annual mid-winter meeting, a report showing the financial condition of the Association on December 31 of the preceding year, and a summary of receipts and disbursements for the preceding year. This report shall be supported by an audit, made by a licensed public accountant.

Change:

5. Reports and Audits:

- (a) The Executive Secretary shall submit to the Council, on a quarterly basis, a report showing the financial condition of the Association, and a summary of receipts and disbursements for the quarter. This report shall be supported by financial analysis, performed by a licensed public accountant.

Electronic Voting

Late last year Council did a test of an electronic election software hosted by election buddy. This method will be done for the 2012 Election as well as the bylaw change as mentioned above.

8. New Business

No new business came before Council.

9. Next Council Meeting

The next Council meeting will be on Thursday, June 7 at Grandover Resort & Conference Center at 8 am including the hotel staff. Council was encouraged to attend. Dr. Liu reported that he will not be unable to attend due to a training event that has already been scheduled.

The old and new Council will meet briefly on Sunday, June 10, at Grandover at 9 am mainly to introduce the new members of Council.

President Rhein thanked everyone for participating. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Adcock, Executive Secretary