THE COBLENTZ SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

A Society for Applied Spectroscopy Affiliate
Editor: K. S. Kalasinsky

Being Coblentz Society President is a tough job, as can be seen here as Kathy Kalasinsky conducts the last Board Meeting.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

As you can see from this Newsletter, the Coblentz Society has plenty of news to print, yet we still welcome articles and comments from you the member. Your continued input as to what you would like to see in the newsletter as well as contributed articles of your own are welcome and necessary for this communication to remain the vital link that it is. Regardless of the number of contributions, we will always be printing the events and progress of the society so you can keep in touch with the Board members and Officers.

As I approach the end of my presidency, this editor’s column will increase in size, as I will no longer be putting my comments in the President’s Message. You too are welcome to put your own personal views on topics of interest in vibrational spectroscopy in this newsletter. I can be contacted at the phone and address given at the end of this newsletter. See you in the news.

KATHY KALASINSKY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Society's revenue from the sale of reference spectra has been slow for this past year but is expected to increase now that several contract agreements appear to be in place.

The Society helped sponsor the XIIth International Conference on Raman Spectroscopy, the Gordon Conference on Vibrational Spectroscopy, and the ACS 11th Biennial Chemical Education Conference during the latter part of 1990. We are supporting the Western Spectroscopy Association meeting in 1991, and the Coblentz Speaker is Professor Nicholas J. Turro of Columbia University. We are already committed to support the 1993 International FT-IR Conference in Calgary.

Coblentz’s support and participation at the Ohio State Molecular Symposium has continued to be appreciated. The annual Beer Blast was the biggest success it has ever been. The Coblentz Award address delivered by Hai-Lung Dai, the award recipient, was given a prime spot on the plenary program at OSU. The selection committee has completed the process for the 1991 award, and Paul Bohn of the University of Illinois will be the next recipient.

Our Coblentz T-shirts have been reprinted in an all-new color and we’ve had record sales at recent conferences. We will have a booth at the Pittsburgh Conference and you can find out how to get a shirt by stopping by the booth. Make sure you set aside some time to also see

Coblentz Society President-Elect, Rachael Barbour (L) presents a plaque to Jenny Grasselli at a symposium honoring her at the PACSS Conference in Cleveland.
what else we will have on display at our Pittsburgh Conference booth.

Bob Obremski of Beckman Instruments was selected as the 1991 Williams-Wright awardee by the award selection committee. The Coblentz Society continues to administer the selection process for the Bomem-Michelson Award, and Al Pine of NIST was selected as the 1991 awardee. Excellent symposia have been arranged for both these awards at the Pittsburgh Conference. OSA was the organizer of the Lippincott Award this year, and Bob Field of M.I.T. was selected as the recipient. SAS will sponsor next year's award, and Coblentz will rotate in as the sponsoring society the following year.

IUPAC has requested permission to incorporate our recently published specifications for infrared spectra of vapors into their own international recommendations. The Spectral Evaluations Committee is still working on the specifications for infrared spectra of vapors at ambient temperatures.

The polystyrene standard is finally in the hands of NIST, who will be producing the standard package for distribution.

The Coblentz Society presented 29 Student Awards this spring. Each student received a congratulatory letter, a certificate, a copy of the Deskbook, and a one-year free membership in the Society.

The final editing for the ACS Eminent Chemist Documentary on Gerhard Herzberg and Bryce Crawford is about to be completed, and the Coblentz Society will receive a nice acknowledgment at the end of the tape for our financial support of this project.

The first Dick Lord Memorial Lecturer at the Bowdoin Conference this summer was Foil Miller. The Coblentz Society will be sponsoring this speaker each year. Next year's speaker will be, appropriately, Dana Mayo.

As you can see, the Society has been quite active and I want to thank all those who made all of these events possible. The Society continues to be active in many other areas, and we need as many volunteers as possible to carry on our mission to promote vibrational spectroscopy.

KATHY KALASINSKY

SYMPOSIUM HONORS
JEANETTE G. GRASSELLI

The Coblentz Society, the FACSS Conference, and the Cleveland Section of the Society of Applied Spectroscopy jointly sponsored a symposium at FACSS in Cleveland honoring Jenny Grasselli. Her contributions and influence have so touched us all that we were fighting over who would honor her next (thus the joint venture). Rachael Barbour, being a member of all three groups and an officer of the Coblentz Society, agreed to organize the symposium. Bob Jacobsen chaired the session, and the speakers were a list of Who's Who as well as Jenny's long-time friends and associates. This list included Jack Koenig of Case Western Reserve, who enlightened us on how much it cost "him" to be Jenny's consultant over the years; Dave Cameron of BP Research, who told of his contact with Jenny; Mary Ann Hazle of BP Research, who let us know who really drew all those Snoopy characters; Bill Fateley of Kansas State, who gave a talk as

Many of vibrational spectroscopy's well-known contributors attended a luncheon honoring Jenny Grasselli for her influence in the field. How many can you name in this picture?

only Bill Fateley can; Clara Craver, who gave us an insight into real-world problems; and Bruce Chase of E. I. du Pont, who made the profound statement, "Jenny is not just a role model for women in spectroscopy, but for both men and women." Jenny was presented with a plaque and then gave a mere hour-and-a-half talk, with three trays of slides, in which she turned the symposium around and acknowledged everyone who has touched her life and career. Only Jenny could take an opportunity like that and turn it into an honor for everyone else. Jenny, we love you!

OUR SPECTRAL DATA PROGRAM

Time for a Questionnaire?

How about helping us out? We need more input into deciding which aspects of the broad area of spectral needs the Society should be trying to fill. With limited means, we cannot be too ambitious without member cooperation and activity. Help us first find the right questions and then stop at our booth at the Pittsburgh Conference to give us your opinions and offers of help.

Examples of questions we need to explore:
1. How much real preference is there for digitized data over hardcopy for reference purposes?
2. Do you require digitized data in instrument-specific format?
3. Can you use the X-Y data as produced by the JCAMP.DX format?
4. Do you actually make final spectral comparisons from monitor resolution or do you use hardcopy for conclusions?
5. Do you want the option to choose either format?
6. Are you always able to find the answers to your unknown; that is, do you believe we need more reference data available?
7. Would you use search systems for PCs without spectral display but with well-labeled spectra in our reference books?
8. What resolution do you need?
9. What kinds of compounds or materials are you interested in?
10. Will you contribute digitized data on what basis?
11. If we initiate an ambitious program, are you available to help as either a volunteer or a partly subsidized worker?

I would like your thoughtful questions now. We'll put a survey together and get answers from Coblentz Society members and from the broader population of attendees at the Conference in March.
Clara Craver gave an invited talk at the FACSS Conference, challenging all of us to strive for excellence in our work and to try to influence those around us to do the same.

Reference Data We Now Have Available

We have 1500 selected digitized spectra in JCAMP.DX form. These are broadly useful chemicals you may find in industrial and pharmaceutical unknowns. In addition to pure chemicals, a substantial collection of commercial materials such as surfactants and some polymeric resins is included.

Special files of these 1500 spectra are available in digital format for Perkin-Elmer spectrometers and Analect spectrometers. Perkin-Elmer sells their data directly under the designation N187-0027. The Analect data are handled directly by the Coblentz Society.

Also available are 11,000 contributed hardcopy spectra which are peak-coded and PC searchable with the IRGO-Spectrasearch Program.

Our five widely distributed Special Collections books are still available: The DESK BOOK of Infrared Spectra, Infrared Spectra of HALOGENATED HYDROCARBONS, Infrared Spectra of PLASTICIZERS AND OTHER ADDITIVES, Infrared Spectra of GASES AND VAPORS, Infrared Spectra of REGULATED AND MAJOR INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS.

We always need spectra for comparison and confirmation purposes. If you are disposing of your own older spectra or of purchased outdated collections, think of the Society first. We may need them, and we even read microns!

Write or call with your data project ideas or information on the Coblentz Society IR Data Bases: Clara D. Craver, (314) 962-6704. The Coblentz Society, P.O. Box 9952, Kirkwood, MO 63122.

REQUEST FOR NOMINATIONS

The Coblentz Society requests nominations for the prestigious awards it supports:


Nominations, which should include a detailed description of the nominee's accomplishments, a curriculum vitae and as many supporting letters as possible, must be submitted to the award chairman [Dr. Geri Richmond, Department of Chemistry, University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403, Tel: (503) 346-4635] on or before July 1, 1991.

1992 Williams-Wright Award. This award is presented annually at the Pittsburgh Conference to an industrial spectroscopist who has made significant contributions to vibrational spectroscopy while working in industry. The work may include infrared and/or Raman spectroscopy, and instrumental development as well as theory and applications of vibrational spectroscopy. (Government labs are not considered industry in this definition.) No restrictions are placed on the selection of the awardee because of age, sex, or nationality, but the awardee must still be working at the time the award is presented. The nominating document should clearly state the significance of the contribution made by the nominee—i.e., the introduction of novel methods, techniques, or theories; innovative work in the field of vibrational spectroscopy; and/or significant vibrational spectroscopy arising from the volume of contributions in a specific area. The nomination should include a current vitae on the nominee and highlight any publications and talks. Seconding letters to the nomination are useful, but not necessary. Files on nominees will be kept active for three years, after which either the candidate must be re-nominated with an updated file or the file will be closed.


Like the Coblentz Award, the prize includes a $1000 cash prize plus a travel allowance to the Pittsburgh Conference. Nominations should be sent to the Chairman of the Williams-Wright Award Selection Committee [Dr. Nicholas Schlotter, Bell Communications Research, Room 3X183, 331 Newman Springs Rd., Red Bank, NJ 07701, Tel: (505) 667-7071] on or before May 1, 1991.

1992 Bomem-Michelson Award. This award is dedicated to the memory of Professor A. E. Michelson, developer of the Michelson interferometer. Bomem sponsors the award to honor scientists who have advanced the technique(s) of vibrational, molecular, Raman, or electronic spectroscopy. Contributions may be theoretical or experimental, or both. The recipient must be actively working and may be associated with the academic,
The Coblenz Society Booth can be found at many conferences. Look for us at the next one you attend. We have a lot more than just membership applications there.

industrial, governmental, or private sector. The awardee must be 37 years or older. The award consists of a medal and a $2500 honorarium. The presentation will be made at the Pittsburgh Conference in March 1992.

In order to ensure that the award is based on an independent evaluation of the candidate's performance, the selection is made by a committee chosen by the Coblenz Society. A nominating letter and seconding letters should be sent to: Dr. William Fateley, Department of Chemistry, Kansas State University, P.O. Box 688, Manhattan, KS 66502. Tel: (913)832-6298. The candidate's c.v. should be included as well as specific research efforts which make the candidate eligible for this award. Nominations will close May 1, 1991.


WINE & DINE WITH THE GREATS

The Coblenz Society will be sponsoring its annual wine & cheese reception following the Williams-Wright Symposium at the Pittsburgh Conference in Chicago. All conference are welcome, and we would especially encourage all Coblenz members to attend. Many of the well-known contributors to the field of vibrational spectroscopy will be there for you to meet with and ask questions of, if you like. Plan to be there; it will be an event that you will enjoy.

JOURNAL NEWS

Gus Zerbi has asked that we let the many friends of Bryce Crawford know that the long-awaited special issue of the Journal of Molecular Structure in Bryce's honor is now available.

A new journal, Vibrational Spectroscopy, will be published this year. It is a section of Analytica Chimica Acta and the editors are J. G. Grasselli of the U.S.A. and J. H. van der Maas of The Netherlands. The publishers are Elsevier Science. You should have received a questionnaire concerning this journal in your annual Coblenz dues statement; please return it if you have not already done so.

SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Membership. Anyone wishing to join the Society may do so by sending $5.00 to Dr. James A. de Haseth, Coblenz Society Membership Chairman, Department of Chemistry, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602.

Board Meeting. The Coblenz Society Board will hold its semi-annual meeting the first week in March at the Pittsburgh Conference in Chicago. Any article of business that you want the Board members to consider needs to be sent in writing to Dr. Kathy Kalasinsky, Coblenz Society President, 4709 Mercury Dr., Rockville, MD 20853, prior to the conference.

Coblenz Society T-Shirts. Due to the increasing demand for our T-shirts, a new printing of the popular design has just been completed, and in a new color too. Look for the shirts on display at various conferences and Coblenz functions.

Annual Meeting. The annual meeting of the Coblenz membership will be held prior to the Williams-Wright Symposium at the Pittsburgh Conference. Be sure to attend, as we will be presenting Honorary Memberships as well as conducting the general business of the Society.

COBLENZ SOCIETY BOARD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Expires</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Kathryn S. Kalasinsky</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td></td>
<td>(301)929-8719</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4709 Mercury Dr.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockville, MD 20853</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. John F. Rabolt</td>
<td>1991</td>
<td></td>
<td>(408)927-1613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IBM Almaden Research Center</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>650 Harry Road</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Jose, CA 95120-6099</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Hector L. Casal</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td></td>
<td>(216)-581-6308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BP Research</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland, OH 44128-2837</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Geraldine L. Richmond</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td></td>
<td>(503)946-4635</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Chemistry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Oregon</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eugene, OR 97403</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Sanford A. Asher</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td></td>
<td>(412)624-8570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Chemistry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Pittsburgh</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA 15260</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ms. Rachael L. Barbour</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td></td>
<td>(216)581-5562</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BP Research</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4440 Warrensville Center Rd.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland, OH 44128</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Arlene A. Garrison</td>
<td>1993</td>
<td></td>
<td>(615)974-3145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Department of Chemistry</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Tennessee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Knoxville, TN 37998-1600</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Matthews A. Hartcock</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td></td>
<td>(517)636-6332</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Dow Chemical Company</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analytical Sciences</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897 Building</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midland, MI 48667</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Curtis Marcott</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td></td>
<td>(513)245-2906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proctor &amp; Gamble</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P.O. Box 396707</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami Valley Labs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati, OH 45239-8707</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

COBLENZ SOCIETY OFFICERS

President: Dr. Kathryn S. Kalasinsky (301)929-8719
4709 Mercury Dr.
Rockville, MD 20853
Secretary: Dr. Robert W. Hannah
Perkin-Elmer Corporation
761 Main Avenue
Norwalk, CT 06859-0284
(203)834-4628

President-Elect: Ms. Rachael L. Barbour
BP Research
4440 Warrensville Center Road
Cleveland, OH 44128
(216)581-5562

Treasurer: Dr. Bruce Chase
CR&D 335/131A Experimental Station
E. I. du Pont
Wilmington, DE 19898
(302)695-4434