



## Coblentz Society Newsletter

April 2021

Welcome to the April 2021 edition of The Coblentz Society Newsletter. There's a lot going on in the Society; please make certain to read all the way to the end!

### **Williams-Wright Award 2022 – Last Call for Nominations**

Do you know of an industrial spectroscopist who has made worthwhile contributions in the field of vibrational spectroscopy? Found a novel application of IR or Raman spectroscopy and/or improved existing methods or techniques? Then consider nominating them for the Williams-Wright Award. Are you that outstanding spectroscopist? Then ask a colleague to nominate you! This is the last call for the 2022 Award; nominations close on May 1, 2021. Click [here](#) for details.

### **New Lifetime Members**

Please join us in welcoming our two newest lifetime members of the Coblentz Society – [Jerry DeMenna](#) and [Robert D. Johnson](#). Thank you both for your support of the Society through your lifetime memberships.

### **President's Message**

*Submitted by Ellen Miseo*

We are into April. At least in New England, the weather is warmer, and the daffodils are blooming. As I talked about last month, we had a virtual Pittcon but for the fall, both SciX and EAS are planning a live conference. Let's hope that it happens.

SciX has a call for papers and there are several ways to participate in the conference. The Coblentz Society is planning to present a few workshops on vibrational spectroscopy and the Education Coordinator is still looking for contributions that will address the attendees' needs. If you have presented a class in the past or think you have a good offering for SciX, please get in touch with both [me](#) and [Annie Dowgiallo](#). I would be happy to review any proposals or ideas, so we don't duplicate offerings.

If you are thinking about submitting a paper and are a young researcher concerned about the expense of the conference in Providence, don't forget that the Society has both travel grants and dependent

care grants available. These are meant to defray the cost of attending a conference that will enhance your career. More information may be found further along in this newsletter.

EAS has completed the offerings for classes but there is a call for papers if you are interested. For those of you who view EAS as a chromatography conference, please rethink this. Three of our prominent members, **Brooke Kammrath**, **Jim Rydzak**, and **Suzanne Schreyer** are active in the conference and are promoting the area of spectroscopy. Spectroscopy has increased at the conference and for some of you who can't make it to Providence this will be the first opportunity for a live conference.

Our website development and rebranding efforts continue, and the content is progressing. We are soliciting help in generating content. I am coordinating the effort and we will need content for both infrared and Raman. We are not necessarily talking about lectures on theory but rather on the more practical aspects of the science. I will happily discuss the vision with anyone who is interested in generating content. Videos, lectures, and podcasts are all welcome.

Finally, as I mentioned last month, membership renewals are slightly down – probably from the fact that there has not been a live conference in the past year. It is easy to renew on the website and if you have forgotten your password, it is easy to reset it (unlike SAS) and Mary is willing to help anyone who is really stuck. Your participation in the Society is making the efforts in education possible. If you're not certain, please check your membership status **now** at [members.coblentz.org](http://members.coblentz.org).

### **Speed Mentoring**

Would you like to know what it's like to work as a chemist/spectroscopist in pharma, chemical/petrochemical, or consumer products industries as well as instrument companies, national labs, the FDA, or in academia? If yes, then sign up for a virtual speed mentoring session. The sooner you sign up, the earlier your questions get answered.

If you were a Mentor during past in-person sessions or wish to be one, there are opportunities to do so outside of conferences. If you can spare some time, share your experiences with soon-to-graduate, fresh graduates, and even young industry professionals via a virtual speed mentoring session.

A virtual session will be held in the immediate future. Register as a mentor by emailing [Jim Rydzak](mailto:Jim.Rydzak@coblenz.org). Stay tuned for updates on our [events page](#). Don't miss out on this rewarding experience!

### **Travel Grants and Scholarships – Call for Applications**

Looking for funds to support travel or additional learning? In our efforts to support the learning and application of vibrational spectroscopy, the Society has created three grants to assist students and young professionals. Travel and dependent care grants are available! Apply soon if you're looking for financial aid to attend SciX 2021. Details of these grants can be found [here](#). Speaking of SciX.....

### **SciX 2021**

With the vaccination efforts ploughing through full steam ahead, it seems more and more likely that SciX 2021 will resume as an in-person meeting. Get ready to meet at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence September 26<sup>th</sup> through October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021. Check out the conference [website](#) for abstract submissions (oral submissions are due by May 17<sup>th</sup>), program information, award presentations, and more. We look forward to meeting you all at SciX 2021!

## **What has The Coblenz Society done for you?**

If you have been following our past newsletters you are aware that the Coblenz website is undergoing a complete rebranding and renovation. Would you like your words of gratitude (or complaints!) towards the Society displayed on the website? Then send in your comments to [Savitha Panikar](#) or [Mary Carrabba](#) on how you have benefited from the Society and its activities. A few lucky submitters will be selected to have their quotes displayed on the Society's new homepage.

## **Coblenz Member Discount!!**

Peak Spectroscopy Software is offering a 50% discount to Coblenz members for their software! Peaks is the next version of eFTIR, with a re-branded name. For more details, please visit <https://www.PeakSpectroscopy.com/>. Email [peaks@tds.net](mailto:peaks@tds.net) to request the discount.

## **Amazon Smile**

Just a reminder - the Coblenz Society is now part of the Amazon Smile program! Make a difference this year. Shop at [smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7212847](https://smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7212847) to generate donations for the Coblenz Society! 0.5% of your purchase will go to support your Society and its mission. Maintaining our non-profit tax status depends in part on donations from people like you.

## **And, as always, we would like to hear from you!**

Your stories, information and, especially, feedback would add to the diverse perspective we aim at sharing via the Society Newsletter to trigger meaningful discussions at conferences or to simply be passed along for the public's general knowledge. We are soliciting ideas for articles on "This uses spectroscopy?!" to be linked to from the Newsletter. Please send ideas our way.

Thanks for reading!

Savitha Panikar, Newsletter Editor