Welcome to the June edition of the Coblentz Society’s Newsletter. Things are starting to look “normal” everywhere around us, just in time for stepping outdoors in the scorching sun. Do start planning to attend all your favorite conferences in person starting with SciX 2021. The much awaited and long overdue revamping of the Coblentz website is nearly complete and the site is now live! Do check out the new look and while you’re there make sure your membership dues are up to date.

~ Savitha Panikar, Editor

**President’s Message**  
*Contributed by Ellen Miseo*

It is here!

As you might have noticed, the [new website](#) went live during the week of June 7th. I hope that all the members feel that it is an improvement over the old site.

An enormous thank you to Mary Carrabba for all the hard work she put into it.

I think we both feel it has been fun and definitely useful, but one of the things it has pointed out to me is that we need two things going forward. We need new content, and we need to maintain the site. Anyone interested in helping with either of these efforts should contact Mary and me.

Coupled with the new website, we will be launching a new member drive with help from the marketing firm. We will be placing ads on LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter to drive new members to our website where we showcase the member benefits and value of the Society. Look for those ads.

In member news, our Board Member, Peter Larkin, is running for President of the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. In my opinion, electing Peter to the position will be beneficial to the Coblentz Society. We are both a technical section and an affiliated Society to SAS; we represent the largest single group of members in SAS. Peter understands the needs of all spectroscopists, the needs of both Societies, and is committed to having SAS operate with best practices.

Our members are busy and active in the spectroscopy community. As I had mentioned last month, Wiley is producing a series of webinars revolving around the contents of the two-volume set on Portable Spectroscopy edited by Richard Crocombe, Pauline Leary, and Brooke Kammrath.
Jim de Haseth is working with another arm of Wiley and will be presenting educational webinars on June 21 to June 24 on searching vibrational spectra and going beyond a simple hit. (Editor’s note: more information follows later in the Newsletter.)

Society members have contributed courses to the educational efforts at both SciX, EAS and (although not yet accepted) Pittcon. Help us support these educational efforts by pointing out that the courses will be quality courses and attendees will get a lot out of them.

As I mentioned last month, SciX is still planning an in-person meeting and Coblentz is still committed to significant participation. I will reiterate that if you are thinking about going to the conference and are 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. And they are not only for those submitting papers. One of the best ways to be involved in the community is to attend conferences and this will provide support to attend.

Finally – as I mentioned last month, membership renewals are slightly down, probably from the fact that there has not been a live conference since Pittcon 2020. 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.

Awards!

The Coblentz Award

The Coblentz Society is pleased to announce that Prof. Dr. Sandra Luber of the University of Zurich has been selected as the recipient of the 2021 Coblentz Award. The Coblentz Award is presented annually to an outstanding young molecular spectroscopist and is the Society’s original and most prestigious award. Due to complications arising from the COVID-19 situation, the date and place of the award presentation has not yet been determined. To read more, click here.

And as a reminder, the 2020 Coblentz Award will be presented to Dr. Benjamin P. Fingerhut of the Theory Department, Max Born Institute at the 2021 International Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy [ISMS]. ISMS will be virtual, and the award will be presented on Tuesday, June 22nd at 8:00 a.m. EDT followed by Dr. Fingerhut’s plenary award lecture “Noncovalent Interactions of Hydrated DNA and RNA Mapped by 2D-IR Spectroscopy.”

Coblentz Student Awards

Hot off the presses! This year’s winners of the Coblentz Student Awards are Isabella Goodenough [Eric Borguet, Temple University], Paulina Koziol [Tomasz Wrobel, Jagiellonian University], and Chris Warkentin [Renee Frontiera, University of Minnesota]. Pauline Koziol has also been recognized with the 2021 William G. Fateley Student Award. Watch for our July Newsletter for more details. Congratulations to all our student awardees!

Call for Nominations

2022 Coblentz Award

The Coblentz Award is presented annually to an outstanding young molecular spectroscopist under the age of 40. Nominations for the 2022 award are due by July 15th of this year. More information may be found on the Society’s website.
2022 Emerging Leader in Molecular Spectroscopy Award

Selected by an independent scientific committee, the Emerging Leader in Molecular Spectroscopy Award recognizes the achievements and aspirations of a talented young molecular spectroscopist who has made strides early in his or her career toward the advancement of molecular spectroscopy techniques and applications. The winner must be within 10 years of receiving his or her Ph.D. The submission deadline for the 2022 award is December 3, 2021.

Mentoring Event Report
Contributed by Jim Rydzak

The Coblentz Society organized a virtual panel mentoring event on May 14th. The panel consisted of representatives from industry (Proctor and Gamble, Dow Chemical, Merck Pharmaceutical, and Red Wave Technology) and government labs (FDA and Savannah River National Labs) as well as two consultants who had varied backgrounds in industry and a professor from the University of Illinois who is also an entrepreneur and founder of SpectroClick. Profiles of the panel members were sent out to the registrants and posted on the events website page so that participants could formulate questions prior to the event as well as during the event. I wish the attendance could have been better, but those who participated seemed to have gotten their questions answered and appreciated the many and varied perspectives of the panel. Our next scheduled mentoring events will be held Monday, September 27th lunchtime at SciX and Monday, November 15th lunchtime at EAS. Pre-registering for those events is recommended.

Webinars

Got some free time where you could be learning something instead of binge-watching TV shows on Netflix? Join Dr. James de Haseth of Light Light Solutions and Wiley Science Solutions for a four-part webinar series to learn how to use spectral databases more effectively. The series titled Effective Use of IR & Raman Identification: Beyond Direct Spectral Searching will be held June 21-24. Click here to register for a single session or join all four!

Did you miss the first webinar in the Portable Spectroscopy and Spectrometry series - Portable Spectroscopy within Forensics, Law Enforcement, Safety and Security presented by Coblentz members Brooke Kammrath, Pauline Leary, and Mike Hargreaves? Here’s the link to the on-demand recording!

New York/New Jersey SAS Monthly Speaker

The New York/New Jersey section of SAS cordially invites all interested spectroscopists to join them virtually for a talk June 24th by the renowned Coblentz Society member Professor Karen Faulds. Click here for more info.

Coblentz Member discounts

Wiley is delighted to support the Coblentz Society through a collaboration in sharing content and offering members discount on all Wiley books, with an extended discount on a specific selection of spectroscopy-related titles.
Offers on Books & Reference Work Articles:

25% discount to members on all Wiley books and a 40% discount to members on a specific selection of analytical chemistry books. Contact the Coblentz office for Promo Code. (Offer runs through 12/31/2022)

Contact the Coblentz office for Promo Code. (Start Date: 6/1/2021; End Date: 12/31/2022)

Links to Related Wiley Content:

Wiley Analytical Science is a single, subject-based website hosting professional and a selection of peer-reviewed content from five well-established publication-based websites in Analytical Science and Wiley Online Library.

Wiley Science Solutions is dedicated to providing the research community with the latest analytical data to support the important discoveries made every day. These data collections are constantly expanding and evolving to meet the needs of your laboratories. Includes the Sigma-Aldrich Raman Library and the recently acquired Bio-Rad’s Informatics Spectroscopy Software and Spectral Databases.

Journals and Related Reference Works:

- Journal of Raman Spectroscopy
- Luminescence
- Journal of Chemometrics
- X-Ray Spectrometry
- Surface & Interface Analysis
- Encyclopedia of Analytical Chemistry
- Encyclopedia of Applied Physics

Peak Spectroscopy Software is offering a 50% discount to Coblentz 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 to request the discount.

Coblentz Society Desk Books

The Society is offering a discount on our classic Desk Book series. Books may be purchased individually for $80 or $350 for the five-volume set. See the education page on our website for more details or go directly to our store to purchase.

Bulletin Board

Looking to sell or donate a used instrument? One of our members in the UK is looking. Please contact Derek Robson for details. (Editor’s note: if anyone tried clicking on Derek’s contact link in the May Newsletter it would have resulted in a dead end, apologies for the inconvenience. The correct link is now provided.)
Any “dinosaurs” or small libraries out there looking for paper copies of *Applied Spectroscopy*? Contact the Coblentz Society’s office.

**Amazon Smile**

*Get ready for Prime Day!* Sign up for AmazonSmile and select Coblentz Society as your preferred charity at smile.amazon.com/ch/23-7212847. Remember to shop for deals at smile.amazon.com, or with AmazonSmile ON in the Amazon app, and AmazonSmile will donate to us at no cost to you. Thanks to all our members who participated during the first quarter of this year. Your donations help the Society!

Not getting enough of the Society? Is it a bit much to wait a month for our newsletters? Then join our LinkedIn group to get our latest news bytes or follow us on Twitter to show your support for the Coblentz Society. We’re always looking forward to hearing of all the fun applications with spectroscopy in school, work, and elsewhere.

~ Savitha Panikar, Newsletter Editor