



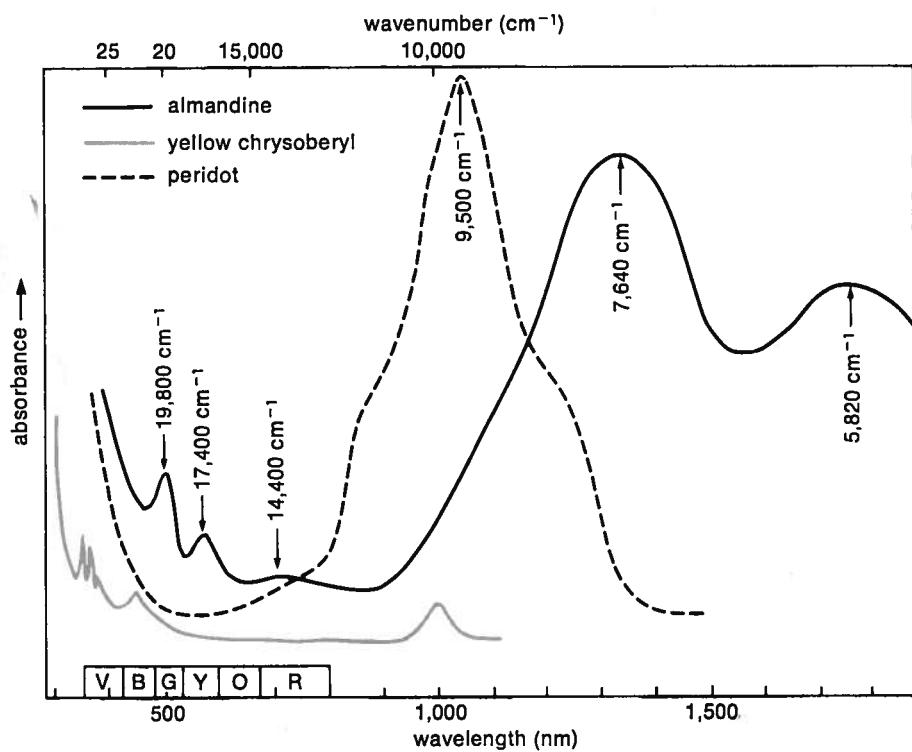
THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST

MARYLAND SECTION
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

VOL. XXXIII

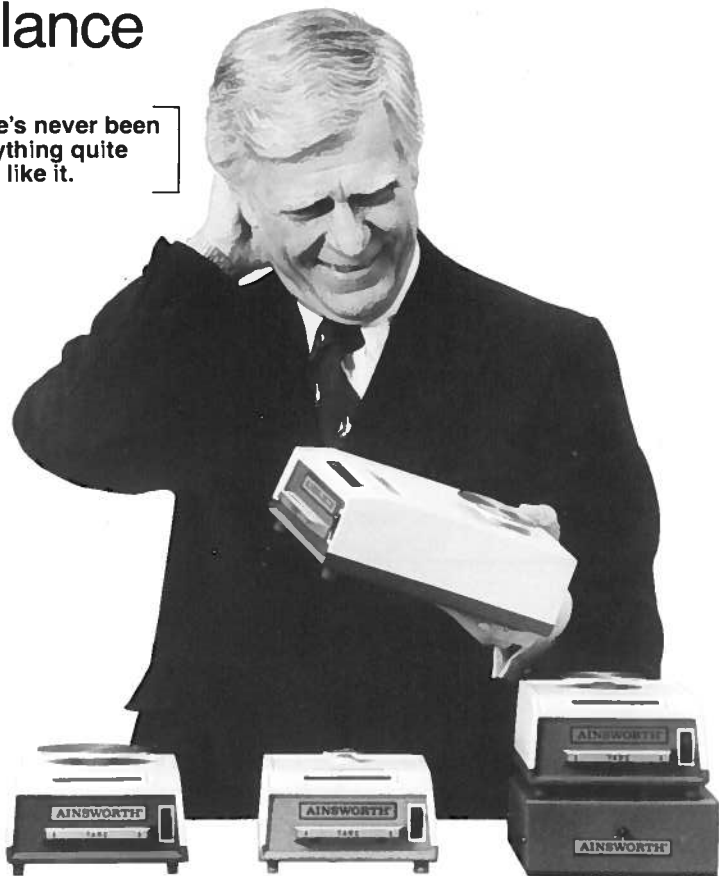
NOVEMBER, 1977

NUMBER 8



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THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST

VOL. XXXIII

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NUMBER 8

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COVER:
Absorption spectra
of three minerals.

Courtesy Prof. R. Burns

The Chesapeake Chemist is published monthly September through May by the Maryland Section of the American Chemical Society. Address editorial comments to Eli Freedman, 2411 Diana Road, Baltimore, Md. 21209. Send advertising copy and inquires to Kent R. Zeller, McCormick and Co., Inc., 204 Wight Avenue, Hunt Valley, Md. 21031. The Maryland Section is not responsible for opinions expressed herein. Editorials express the opinions only of their authors. The Editor is responsible for all unsigned material.

YOUR COUNCILOR'S REPORT

The Council of the ACS met in Chicago on August 31 from 8:30 a.m. to about 3 p.m. President Hill presided over the session which dealt with the several petitions which were up for action (cf. *C&EN* - Aug 15, p.28). The following lists my voting record on some of the more important (controversial) items.

MOTION	My Vote	Council Action
1. Procedure for Mail Ballot	Yes	Yes
2. Increase in Allotment for New & Reinstated Members	Yes	Yes
3. Constitution & Bylaws	Recommit	Recommit
4. Allocation to <i>C&EN</i>	No	Yes
5. Increase in Divisional Councilor Representation in Council	No	Yes
6. Written Arguments to Accompany Petitions for Amendment	Yes	Yes

I would like to comment further on some of the above.

Item 4: I spoke and voted against this petition which sets the allocation to *C&EN* on a percentage basis (23%) as opposed to the former flat dollar allocation. The Council was shown slides--previously shown at another meeting--which purport to demonstrate that *C&EN* is loved and respected by all. From my own viewpoint, *C&EN* is not an outstanding publication and I don't believe that the Council should commit itself to a fixed percentage--remember Social Security. I predict that the Council will soon be asked to increase the percentage from 23% to 30% to ?? Do you believe that *C&EN* is a publication to take pride in?

Item 5: I voted against this for several reasons. The petition decreases the number of representatives from the smaller Divisions, thus Councilors who have served the Society may well lose their positions. This also mirrors the growing tendency to label oneself as a particular kind of chemist--rather than as a member of the American Chemical Society. If one is interested *only* in the scientific aspects of one narrow speciality, then our Society and chemistry will suffer. I predict that this is the first step of a vigorous drive by the divisions to increase their share of political power--and \$\$! I believe that it is the local section and not the divisions which is best able to represent the ordinary member of the Society. (Less than 50% belong to any division.)

Finally, it was mentioned that proceedings to expel William P. Moore of the defunct Life Science Corp. for his role in the Kepone affair are being considered. No action is contemplated against any personnel at Allied Chemical. Do you think that the ACS should consider action against Allied? The Council also voted to express its concern about Meetings and Expositions intention of increasing registration fees to \$50 and \$60 in the near future. I think that our meeting registration fees resemble the "J curve" for world population. Ever upward!

Carl E. Minnier
Essex Community College

This month's meeting, which will be held at Martin's Eudowood, features two stimulating talks. The 5:30 presentation, on the health hazards of chemicals, is on a topic of increasing importance to chemists as more information becomes available on the effect chemicals have on the functioning of the human body. I am sure you will be interested in Dr. Guarnieri's discussion of how you can protect yourself from the effects of harmful chemicals.

In the second talk, Dr. Burns, a distinguished mineralogist, will present some recent results of his research on the physical processes that cause the magnificent colors of gems and minerals. He has summarized some of this work in the November-December issue of *American Scientist*; reading this article will be a stimulating appetizer for this part of our meeting.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge the support of several companies for the cocktail hours that precede most of the dinners during the year. These sponsors are of considerable help in defraying the costs of meetings. Should you have a chance to talk with their representatives, please let them know that this support is appreciated.

Elsewhere in this issue, you will find a short questionnaire about the kind of talks and locations for the meetings of the Maryland Section in the future. The Chairperson-elect in 1978 is the Program Chairperson for the 1978-1979 meetings. Any suggestions for future topics will be welcome, so please take the time to complete the questionnaire and return it.

I hope to see many of you at this month's meeting.

James Leslie
Program Chairman

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MICHAEL GUARNIERI

Michael Guarnieri was born in Warren, Ohio, in 1940. He obtained the B. S. degree from the University of Notre Dame in 1962, and the M. S. and Ph. D. from Ohio State University in 1965 and 1967, respectively. In 1976, he received the degree of M. P. H. from the Johns Hopkins University.

He has held postdoctoral appointments at the Wistar Institute and the Johns Hopkins Medical School, and was an assistant professor of neurology there from 1971 to 1975. Since 1975, he has been the president and director of Chemical Determinations for Medicine, which is located in Baltimore.

He has published about 25 papers in basic science and medical laboratory journals. He is a member of many professional societies and associations, including the ACS, AAAS, the American Society for Clinical Chemistry, and the American Association for Bioanalysis, of which he is a certified laboratory director.

Abstract of Dr. Guarnieri's Talk

PROTECTING THE HEALTH OF CHEMISTS FROM TOXIC CHEMICALS

We have known for many years that exposure to synthetic chemicals can increase the toxic effect of drugs or alcohol on the liver. More recent evidence has directly implicated environmental chemicals as major causes of cancer and other chronic diseases including mental health problems. How can chemists protect themselves?

The technology for protective health programs exists. The types of tests, delivery of services, costs and evaluation of protective (surveillance) programs will be discussed. Chemists will have to take an active role in organizing and managing this technology for two reasons. New products will react with chemicals already present in the environment. Hazards change. Chemists will have to interpret and evaluate such hazards. Secondly, chemists must play a prominent role in managing their health programs because there is a critical shortage of medical personnel.

ROGER BURNS

Roger George Burns was born at Wellington, New Zealand on December 28, 1937. He received the Bachelor of Science and Master of Science degrees in 1959 and 1961, respectively, from Victoria University of Wellington, New Zealand. In 1961, he was awarded the Science Research Fellowship from the Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851, London, which he held at the University of California, Berkeley, during 1961-1963. He also received a Fulbright Travel Grant in 1961, the Pacific Scholarship from the English Speaking Union (San Francisco) during 1961-1963, and a University of California Science Fellowship during 1963-1965. He received the Doctor of Philosophy degree from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1965. In 1968 he was awarded an honorary Master of Arts degree by Wadham College, Oxford, England. From 1965-1966 he was a senior research visitor at Cambridge University, England; from 1966-1967, senior lecturer in geochemistry at Victoria University, New Zealand; and from 1968-1970, University Lecturer in Geochemistry at Oxford, England. In 1970 he was appointed Associate Professor in the Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and in 1972 was promoted to Professor of Mineralogy and Geochemistry. He is a Fellow of the Mineralogical Society of America, the Mineralogical Society

...cont'd on p. 8

NOVEMBER MEETING

DATE:

Wednesday, November 16, 1977

PLACE:

Eudowood Gardens Lecture Room
Eudowood Plaza, Joppa Road near
Goucher Boulevard

SPEAKERS & TOPICS:

5:30 pm
Michael Guarnieri
Chemical Determinations for
Medicine
"Protecting the Health of Chemists
from Toxic Chemicals"

8:30 pm
Roger Burns
MIT
"Shedding Light on the Colors of
Gems and Minerals"

SOCIAL HOUR:

There will be a social hour after the meeting. Refreshments will be served.



ROGER BURNS

COCKTAILS & DINNER:

Eudowood Gardens Dining Room
Cocktails 6:30 - 7:15
*Courtesy: Varian Instrument
Division*

Hot buffet dinner (7:15) \$6.25 per person, EXCEPT: Spouses, retired chemists and students, and their spouses, may attend the dinner at \$4.25. Reservations are necessary for the dinner and should be made with

ACS RESERVATIONS
c/o James Leslie

USE THE CONVENIENT COUPON THAT APPEARS ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE.
(Or phone: 528-7440 (9-5 weekdays)
730-5761 (eves & weekends))

It is not necessary to be a member of the ACS to attend the dinner or the talks. The talks may be attended without going to the dinner. You are invited to bring your spouse and friends to both the talks and the dinner.



MICHAEL GUARNIERI

ROGER BURNS ...cont'd from p. 6

of Great Britain, and the Chemical Society; and a member of the Geochemical Society, the American Geophysical Union, and the New Zealand Geochemical Group. He was the recipient of the MSA Award from the Mineralogical Society of America for 1975. He is the author of a book and numerous published papers. His research interests are in transition element geochemistry and metallogenesis; spectroscopic studies of minerals, including Mössbauer, infrared, and electronic absorption methods; the crystal chemistry of lunar and terrestrial silicate minerals; and the mineralogy and origin of deep sea manganese nodules.

Abstract of Dr. Burns' Talk

SHEDDING LIGHT ON THE COLOR OF GEMS AND MINERALS

Color is the most striking property of minerals: it contributes greatly to the value of gems and also provides an aid in mineral identification. Indeed, gemstones may be recognized on the basis of their colors alone. By far the most important sources of color in minerals are the transition elements which give rise to various crystal field and charge transfer transitions. These two processes will be discussed, and some results of recent research into the color of minerals including absorption Mössbauer spectra will be presented.

The Johns Hopkins University Department of Chemistry Announces

THE RICHARD KOKES MEMORIAL LECTURE

Dr. James F. Roth
Monsanto Company

"Contributions of Academic Research to some Novel Industrial Catalytic Processes"

**Friday, December 9, 1977 - - Room 101, Remsen Hall
- - 8:00 p.m. - -**

*Cocktails and Dinner Preceding this Lecture, \$8.50
Call Ms. Pam Krum, 338-7421, for Dinner Reservations*

----- TEAR OUT DINNER RESERVATION FORM -----

Enclosed is \$ _____ (\$6.25/\$4.25* per person) for dinner reservations at the Eudowood Gardens Dining Room for the following persons:

NAME	<i>(Please print or type)</i>	AFFILIATION
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Please make checks payable to Maryland Section, ACS, and mail together with reservation form to James Leslie, 5150 Downwest Ride, Columbia, MD 21044. Or phone 528-7440 (9 - 5 weekdays; 730-5761 evenings & weekends).

*See note on p. 7.

Return by November 10th

BALLOT BALLOT BALLOT BALLOT BALLOT

ELECTION OF MARYLAND SECTION OFFICERS FOR 1978

<i>Chairman:</i>	JAMES LESLIE	_____
<i>Chairman-Elect:</i>	HOWARD COHEN	_____
<i>Secretary:</i>	ROBERT SCHNEIDER	_____
<i>Treasurer:</i>	RONALD KASSEL	_____
<i>Councillor:</i>	ERNEST SILVERSMITH	_____
<i>Alternate Councillor:</i>	WILLIAM ZEIGER	_____

INSTRUCTIONS

Carefully detach this page from the magazine. Place an "X" in the place indicated next to each name.

Turn the page over and fill out the questionnaire on the other side. Then fold the page, place it in an envelope, sign the envelope, and mail it to

Robert Schneider
Secretary, Maryland Section, ACS
1021 St. Michael's Road
Mt. Airy, MD 21771

Your name must not appear anywhere inside the envelope, but you must sign the envelope itself in order to validate your ballot.

THE EDITOR'S FIST ...cont'd from p. 11

large box in a brown bag, along with the correct change from the dollar that was tucked in with the secret note.

Some years later, while manfully pushing a grocery cart as my wife skillfully made the thousands of split-second decisions that the NAM says constitutes the art of shopping, I suddenly realized what product it was that the mysterious paper requested. It may be that my frustration over not knowing the contents of that folded paper had unknowingly given rise to all sorts of deep-seated tensions and anxieties; but if so, I was blissfully unaware of them. By that time, the product in question was being openly advertised in full-color prints that clearly pictured the box in which it was packaged. At least for that box, the plain brown wrapper was no longer required.

The ultimate revelation came this evening, as I was idly turning the pages of a popular magazine. There, in a splendid four-color ad, almost life-sized, was a picture, not of the box, but--the hand almost hesitates to write it--of the contents. Two of them, in fact, one of brand X and one of brand Y, each immersed in a glass of water (the Freudian significance of this immersion boggles the mind). Please don't ask about the text. I think there was some text, but the trauma of the picture blurred the print for me. (Or maybe it's time for my annual pilgrimage to the ophthalmologist?)

What about my discovery of the sixth advantage of growing old? How naive of you to ask, dear reader. It is the advantage of being able to fill part of a page with recollections like this when the members of the Maryland Section neglect to send in any material for *The Chesapeake Chemist*.

MARYLAND SECTION MEETINGS QUESTIONNAIRE

In order to assist the Program Chairperson in arranging the 1978-1979 monthly meeting program, please complete this questionnaire and mail it to the Section Secretary, Bob Schneider, along with your ballot.

1. I am interested in attending meetings on:

(Check all that interest you)

inorganic chemistry____ organic chemistry____ physical chemistry____

biological chemistry____ medicinal chemistry____ chemical education____

general topics_____

other (describe briefly)_____

2. I would be more inclined to attend meetings if they were held:

north of Baltimore____ south of Baltimore____

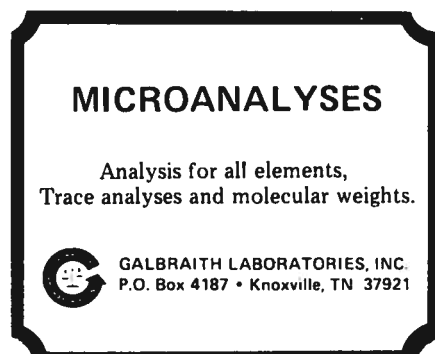
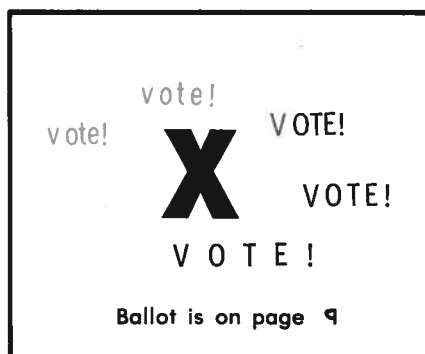
east of Baltimore____ west of Baltimore____

other (Please specify)_____

3. List any suggestions you have for topics or speakers at future meetings.

IF YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS . . .

Please **DO NOT** notify the Editor of the *Chesapeake Chemist*, but send your new and old addresses to: The American Chemical Society, 1155 Sixteenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. The Maryland Section will then be notified.



THE EDITOR'S FIST

It's That Time of the Year Again

By "that time," we mean election time. It's time to go through the exercise of placing an X next to the one name that appears for each office of the Maryland Section. The official ballot for this purpose appears elsewhere in this issue. Please take the time and 13¢ that it costs to fill out the ballot and to mail it to Bob Schneider.

The National Office of the ACS, in its (not quite) infinite wisdom, has repeatedly criticized the Maryland Section for its method of holding elections. The use of a mail ballot satisfies part of this criticism, which, it must be admitted, is well-taken in this instance. The opportunity of voting is each member's right, regardless of whether they chose to attend monthly meetings or not.

The insistence on a "competitive ballot" is another matter. There are those who insist that even local section elections must be competitive; *i.e.*, that there be at least two nominees for each office. Wonderful! Great! I completely agree with this idea, provided its advocates will please tell the Nominating Committee how they are to go about getting those two names. This year was no exception. It was hard enough to get one name for each position, let alone two.

If you dislike the "one office--one name" ballot, the time to do something about it will come about next May, when the membership of the 1978 Nominating Committee is published in *The Chesapeake Chemist*. Write to the Chairperson of the Committee, and tell him or her which office you will stand for. Or, at least, mention some names of potential candidates.

If you happen to believe that the Maryland Section is reasonably well-run (which is not a preposterous idea, regardless of ill-founded comments that occasionally emanate from the National Office), you can say so by returning your ballot. If you don't vote and don't stand for office yourself, how is one supposed to know if you are not satisfied?

An Aging Discovery

It is a mark of wisdom to recognize and accept the inevitable gracefully. And since I always adopt the camouflage of the external characteristics of wisdom, I never complain openly about the signs of approaching senescence. On the contrary, I keep a public reckoning of the advantages of growing old--five until now, for just this week, I discovered the sixth!

Many decades ago, my mother would occasionally give me a folded piece of paper, and tell me to hand it--still unopened--to the corner druggist. (This happened so long ago that I should explain that the "corner druggist" was what everybody called the local retail graduate pharmacist, whether his store was on the corner or not. Nowadays, there still are corner druggists, but all they sell are nickel bags of pain reliever.) I never peeked at the paper. It was always handed over, still folded, to the pharmacist or his clerk (more often than not, the same person) who would give me a moderately

...cont'd on p. 9

The Chesapeake Chemist

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