



THE

CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST

MARYLAND SECTION
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

VOL. XXXIV

JANUARY, 1978

NUMBER 1



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CHAIRMAN



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CHAIRMAN-ELECT



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SECRETARY



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MARYLAND SECTION — ACS
OFFICERS FOR 1978

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN

This month I am writing in a dual capacity as program chairman for the 1977-1978 meeting program and as the 1978 chairman of the section. First of all, let me invite you to attend the monthly meeting on January 18 at Eudowood Gardens. The title of the talk by Dr. Meites, "Will Non-Linear Regression Ever Replace the Physical Chemist?," somewhat intrigues me, and it is apparent from his abstract that he will have some provocative remarks. Dr. Meites' talk will be complemented by the presentation of Dr. Dessy on "Laboratory Automation - Micro, Mini, or Midicomputers," so I urge you to come to both talks and the dinner for a pleasant and informative evening. The cocktail hour this month is courtesy of Hewlett-Packard, and to this company we express our appreciation. You will note that the dinner prices this month have been modestly increased. This higher cost reflects an increase in prices charged by the caterer. Although this increase has been passed along to you the actual cost of the dinner is still substantially subsidized by the section.

As the 1978 chairman of the section let me invite you, not only to the January meeting again, but also to participate in the activities of the Maryland section. Anyone attending the Executive Committee meetings cannot help but be aware of an increasing activity in the section. In addition to the active standing committees listed on page 3 of each issue of *The Chesapeake Chemist*, there are *ad hoc* committees on student awards, bylaws' revision, and nominations for section affairs. There is growing involvement by the section in chemical education, national ACS affairs, and safety in the laboratory, to name but a few areas of increasing activity. During 1978 there will be major revisions in the bylaws and in long and short range financial planning for the section. The 12th Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting will be held in Hunt Valley in April. Since it looks like it is going to be a stimulating and busy year for us, I cordially invite you to become involved in our activities. After all, it is your society. I look forward to seeing you on the 18th.

James Leslie
Chairman

MORGAN MESSAGE

The ACS Committee on Chemical Education has just announced that Morgan State University's Student Affiliate has received an "Outstanding" rating for its program in 1976-77. It is one of only 37 chapters out of a total of 680 to receive this coveted recognition, the highest that the committee gives. The Maryland Section is extremely proud of the fact that one of the chapters in its area has received this honor. Kudos go to Willie M. Ringo, last year's president, and all of the other Morganites who worked so hard to make the year a success.

-- ELS

CHEMISTRY SEMINARS AT TOWSON STATE UNIVERSITY

ROOM 534 of SMITH HALL, TSU CAMPUS, at 12:30 pm.

- Feb 21 Howard J. Cohen (Glidden Pigments Div. SCM Corp.):
"The R & D Chemist in Industry"
- March 7 Frederick Miesowicz (DuPont):
"Biochemical Allene-Acetylene Isomerizations."
- March 21 Margaret R. Bunow (NIH):
"Raman Spectroscopy of Biological Membranes."



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Awards & National Nominations....
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338-7417

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JANUARY MEETING

LOUIS MEITES

Louis Meites was born in Baltimore, in 1926. He received the B.A. from Middlebury College in Vermont in 1945 and the Ph.D. from Harvard in 1947. At Harvard his thesis research was done in analytical chemistry under the direction of James J. Lingane. He served on the faculties of Princeton, Yale, and the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn before joining Clarkson College of Technology as Professor of Chemistry and Chairman of the Department of Chemistry in 1968. Most of his research has been in electroanalytical and, since about 1967, thermoanalytical chemistry, and in the development of new techniques for data handling. His books include *Polarographic Techniques*, *Advanced Analytical Chemistry*, the *Handbook of Analytical Chemistry*, *Electrochemical Data*, and the new *CRC Handbook of Organic Electrochemistry*. He was the founding editor of *Critical Reviews in Analytical Chemistry*, has been a member of the Electroanalytical Chemistry Commission of IUPAC, has contributed chapters and reviews to about a dozen collective volumes, and is the author of approximately 150 research papers.

Abstract of Dr. Meites' Talk

WILL NON-LINEAR REGRESSION EVER REPLACE THE PHYSICAL CHEMIST?

Every physiochemical experiment involves both the acquisition of data and their interpretation. Such advances have been made in data acquisition that it is now feasible to imagine, design, and perform experiments that would hardly have been possible with older techniques. This talk deals with attempts to make similar advances in data interpretation. Non-linear regression, pointwise variance analysis, deviation-pattern recognition, and automatic classification will be described, and a few representative examples of each will be cited. As they come to be more widely used they will exert significant impacts on the work of physical (and other) chemists, whom they will liberate so that human imagination and ingenuity need no longer be devoted to routine chores that computers can perform, but can instead be dedicated to higher purposes.

RAYMOND E. DESSY

Raymond E. Dessy has been at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University since 1966 as Professor of Chemistry. He came there from the University of Cincinnati where he was Assistant and Associate Professor of Chemistry from 1957-1966. He received his B.S. in Pharmacy in 1953 and a Ph.D. in Chemistry in 1956 from the University of Pittsburgh. He was an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow 1962-64, and a National Science Foundation Fellow during his Sabbatical leave 1963-64.

His research interests revolve around the study of fast organometallic reaction mechanisms using electrochemistry, which led him into computer automated instrument design in 1969. Since then his research group has pursued two paths: automated instrument design, and development of courses designed to teach the chemist minicomputer and microcomputer interfacing and applications. The hands-on ACS courses taught on this subject since 1971 have undergone 4 complete revisions of courseware, software and equipment, the latest using the DEC LSI-11 microcomputers. An ACS lecture course on Laboratory Automation was initiated in August of 1975 and is being prepared for the ACS/NSF audio-visual project.

DATE:

Wednesday, January 18, 1978

PLACE:

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

SPEAKERS & TOPICS:

5:30 p.m.
Louis Meites
Clarkson College of Technology
"Will Non-Linear Regression Ever
Replace the Physical Chemist?"

8:30 p.m.
Raymond E. Dessy
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
and State University
"Laboratory Automation - Micro,
Mini, or Midicomputer?"

SOCIAL HOUR:

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



LOUIS MEITES



RAYMOND E. DESSY

COCKTAILS & DINNER:

Eudowood Gardens Dining Room
Cocktails 6:30-7:15

Courtesy: Hewlett-Packard

Hot buffet dinner (7:15) \$6.50
per person, EXCEPT: Spouses,
retired chemists and students,
and their spouses may attend the
dinner at \$4.50. Reservations
are necessary for the dinner and
should be made by the Friday
before the meeting 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 with-
out going to the dinner. You are
invited to bring your spouse and
friends to both the talks and the
dinner.

LABORATORY AUTOMATION - MICRO, MINI OR MIDICOMPUTER?

Laboratory Automation is a subject of intense interest in these times which are demanding more data, better data, and data correlation. The increasing costs of analytical support personnel, and the increasing sample load insist that steps toward laboratory automation be made. Yet many laboratories are finding it difficult to design logical, consistent plans for this important, costly step. The plethora of routes available is the basic cause of the problem, along with a lack of knowledge of the cost of software development. This seminar is intended to examine some typical case-histories in laboratory automation, and analyze the routes used, and the overall success of the operation.



"Here comes the
microprocessor professor."

(Courtesy of R.E.D.)

SPECIAL MEXICAN CRUISES - ANAHEIM SPRING MEETING (March 12 - 17)

The Southern California Section has arranged with Princess Cruises for two cruises to the Mexican Riviera. The first cruise will depart on Feb. 27 for 12 days, stopping at Puerto Vallarta, Manzanillo, Acapulco, Zihuatanejo, and Mazatlan, returning to Los Angeles March 10th. The second cruise will depart the final day of the meeting, March 17, for an 8-day cruise visiting Puerto Vallarta, Mazatlan, and Cabo San Lucas, returning to Los Angeles on March 24. Reduced air fares will be available only in conjunction with these cruises.

The cruises are open to all ACS members and their families. All information and brochures can be obtained from the Southern California office. Space is limited and we suggest that you book now so you will not be disappointed later. Write to CRUISES, American Chemical Society, 1540 N. Hudson Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90028, or phone (213) 469-7278.

(NOTE: This announcement is printed as a service to the Southern California Section. The Maryland Section of the ACS does not necessarily approve or endorse these cruises. Be sure to read the fine print carefully before you sign anything.)

Letter To The Editor

Sir:

A topic of discussion in many laboratories is the declining enrollment in professional society membership. The analysis of this downward trend by some bench people is novel and extraordinary. However, most agree that chemists have to be motivated to join the American Chemical Society.

It is also agreed that chemists consider the relevancy and need for a professional group before they commit themselves. How can we in the Maryland Section do anything about this situation? We certainly try to have enough local section activities to attract a chemist. But let us review certain facts. Less than 10% of our members attend a monthly meeting. It is practically impossible to have a competitive election in our Section. The nominating committee has problems in filling out a slate of non-competitive candidates.

Obviously, we have to widen the base of our Section's activities and functions so that we are more attractive and relevant to "side line" chemists. The answer, of course, is new ideas that fit the present day needs of the Maryland Section.

I propose that we form a coalition with our sister professional societies such as APS, Engineering, SAS, AMS, etc., and have a Science Sunday in the Inner Harbor area. Many of our neighborhoods and ethnic civic groups have participated in these Sunday happenings and have been most pleased with the results. These events have solidified communities and organizations.

I believe that we owe ourselves and our community an opportunity to see chemistry and our scientific and engineering associates in action. A successful program will instill a pride of belonging and recruit newcomers to chemistry. Once we establish a pattern of "doing" for these side line chemists, it will be easy to keep them active. The Maryland Section should have a relevant program and goals that not only foster professionalism for local chemists but help in making our community a place of inspiration.

A climate that supports chemistry and science endeavors attracts new industry and institutions that are chemistry and science oriented. Everyone likes a winner. Let's get on the band wagon and improve the level of opportunity for chemists in Maryland.

Alvin Bober
U. S. Customs Lab.
103 S. Gay Street
Baltimore, Md. 21202

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

Enclosed is \$ _____ (\$6.50/\$4.50* per person) for dinner reservations at the Eudowood Gardens Dining Room for the following persons:

NAME	(Please print or type)	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).

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