



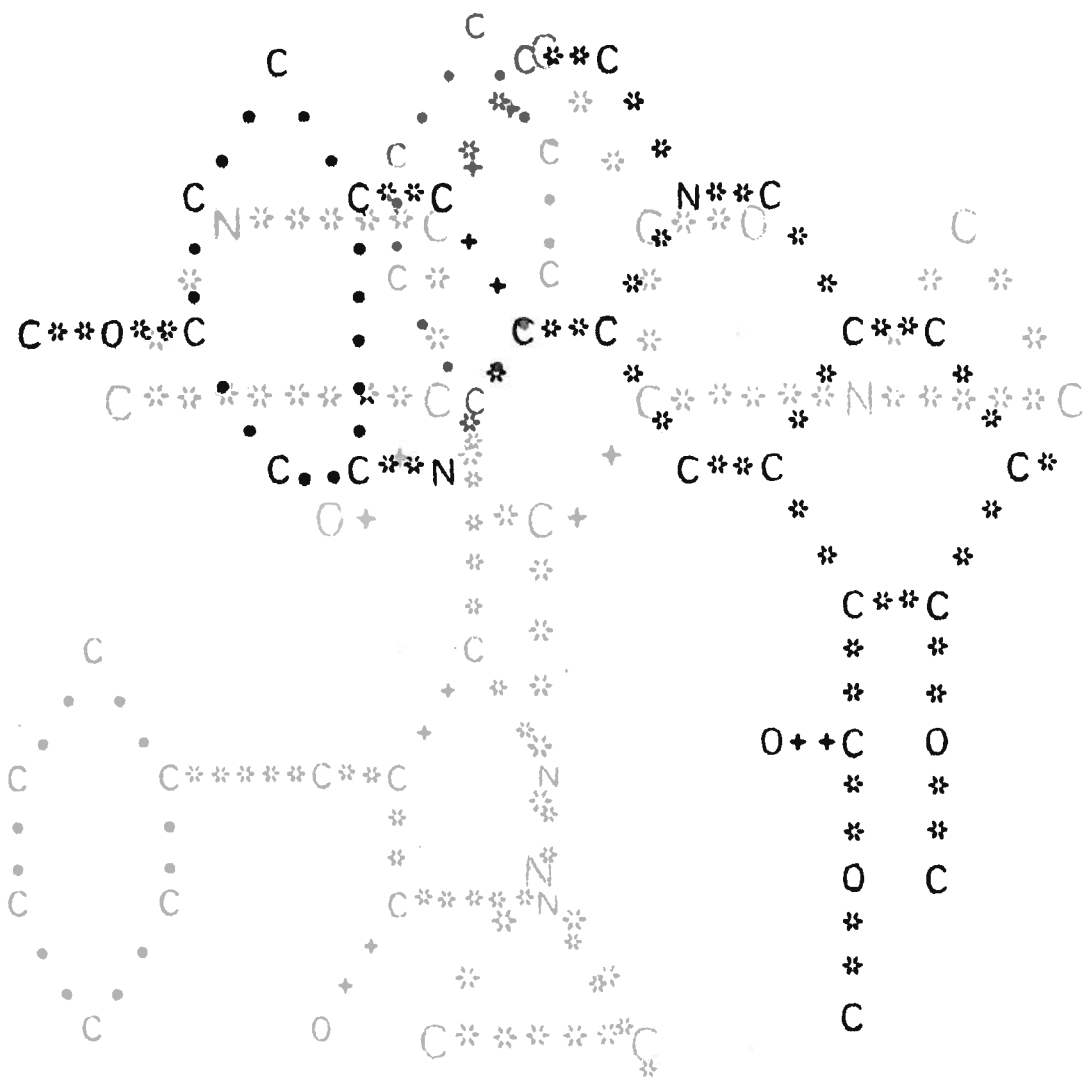
THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST

MARYLAND SECTION
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

VOL. XXXV

FEBRUARY, 1979

NUMBER 2



PROPOSED BUDGET 1979 - MARYLAND SECTION,
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Receipts

ACS Allotment	5000
ACS Commission Bounty	50
Local Dues	2000
Monthly Meetings (based on dinner prices of \$7.50/5.50)	4600
Bar Support at Monthly Meetings	500
Advertisements in <i>The Chesapeake Chemist</i>	1500
Interest from Savings Account	300
MARM	250
ACS grant for Student Chemistry Week	500

Expenses

	Total	\$14,700
Chairman	100	
Chairman Elect	300	
Secretary	75	
Treasurer	50	
Executive Committee	50	
Councilors (4)	800	
Awards	400	
Program	50	
Publicity		
Meeting Notices	150	
Other	25	
Remsen Lecture	1500	
Speakers Expenses/Monthly Meetings	800	
Membership	25	
<i>The Chesapeake Chemist</i>	4000	
Chemistry Week for 11th & 12th graders	1200(*)	
Monthly Meetings	5100	
All other Committees	100	

Total \$14,700

*Budget for March 1979, Student Activity

1. Dinner	150 @ \$7.00 Each	\$1,050.00
2. Bus	3 @ \$60.00 Each	180.00
3. Correspondence, Postage, Telephone, etc.		20.00
4. Miscellaneous		20.00
		<u>1,270.00</u>
		\$1,270.00

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Trace analyses and molecular weights

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COMMITTEE CHAIRPEOPLE - 1979

Awards & National Nominations....
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338-7417

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435-0100

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BRUNO M. VASTA

Mr. Vasta is the director of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Chemical Information Division which is responsible for developing and implementing centralized information services for the Office of Toxic Substances. Specifically, this Division designs and operates computerized systems in support of the Toxic Substances Control Act, including the Chemicals in Commerce Information System and the EPA/NIH Chemical Information System. Previous to joining EPA, Mr. Vasta spent over eight years with the National Library of Medicine as the Chief of the Bibliographic Services Division and Chief of the Toxicology Information Services Branch which was responsible for the design and implementation of the TOXLINE and CHEMLINE services. He has recently completed serving as Chairman of the ACS Division of Chemical Information.

Abstract of Mr. Vasta's Talk

INFORMATION RETRIEVAL SERVICES FOR THE BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

The need for biomedical information has been increasing at a staggering rate over the last 20 years. Every year the needs of people for more food, better drugs, clothing, housing, and health-care are creating more problems on a world-wide basis. Many of these problems are related to the release of potentially dangerous by-products and wastes into our environment. Yet, if we are to ensure the domestic needs of man, the chemical industry must pursue the development of newer and better products for the home, factory, and the farm. Consequently, there will be the risk of some potentially hazardous substances being released into our environment. We need to know more about these substances and to establish information repositories for the data.

The available information resources in this area are covered, with particular emphasis on the environmental field. The existence of 37 bibliographic services, 83 data bases and 25 million references are referenced as part of the information explosion. The information needs not only affect the laboratory and health technicians, but the industrial and governmental health-science administrators who need this information before decisions are rendered. Some insight will be provided on how far information retrieval has come and where it might be going in the future.

HERMAN SKOLNIK

Academic Record - B.S., Chem. Eng., Penn State, 1937; M.S. (1941) and Ph.D. (1943), Org. Chem., Univ. of Penna.

Honors - Phi Lambda Upsilon Chemistry Award, Penn State; University Scholarship and University Research Grant, Univ. of Penna.; A. M. Patterson Award for Chemical Documentation, 1969; ACS Div. of Chem. Information Award, 1976 (first recipient of award named after me); Philadelphia Patent Attorneys Assocn. award for best paper on patents (1978).

Professional Employment - Hercules Inc. since 1942; appointed Research Manager in 1952, position now held, in charge of Technical Information Division.

Publications - over 100 in organic chemistry, analytical chemistry, chemical engineering, and chemical information science. Authored "A Century of Chemistry", 1976, a commemorative book for the 100th year celebration of the American Chemical Society, and the two-volume book "Multi-sulfur and Sulfur and Oxygen 5- and 6-Membered Heterocycles" (1966).

...cont'd. on p. 7.

THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST

FEBRUARY MEETING

DATE:

Wednesday, February 14, 1979

PLACE:

Knott Science Center
The College of Notre Dame
North Charles Street

SPEAKERS & TOPICS:

6:00 pm
Mr. Bruno Vasta
Environmental Protection Agency
"Information Retrieval Services
for the Biomedical Sciences"

~~6:30 pm
Mr. Monroe Lanzet
Chanel, Inc.
Everything You Need to Know About
Cosmetics But Were Afraid to Ask~~

8:30 pm
Dr. Herman Skolnik
Hercules, Inc.
"Chemical Information Science
as a Discipline of Chemistry"

SOCIAL HOUR:

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



Mr. BRUNO M. VASTA

FEBRUARY, 1979



Dr. HERMAN SKOLNIK

COCKTAILS & DINNER:

Doyle Building Dining Room
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Maryland

Cocktails 7:00-7:30

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member of the American Chemical
Society 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 dinner and the meeting.



THE EDITOR'S FIST

BUDGETING: THE FIRST STEP IN PLANNING

The proposed budget for the Maryland Section appears elsewhere in this issue. This is the first such formal budget the Section has had for many years, and as such represents a welcome event. The Chairman of the Finance Committee, Alvin Bober, deserves much credit for producing this budget, whose preparation required more time and work than one might guess.

With one exception, the budget projects a continuation of the Section's activities and priorities of the last several years. The one exception is the \$1200.00 allocated for a "Chemistry Week" for 11th and 12th grade students. (The difference between the \$1200 in the budget and the \$1270 in the detailed listing is a detail, and should be overlooked.)

It can readily be argued that of this \$1200, only \$700 is "real," since the remaining \$500 is expected to come from a grant from National Headquarters that the Section would not otherwise receive. So be it.

In our opinion, however, \$700, of which 83% will be spent for food alone, represents a questionable approach. The goal, to attract more of the brighter students into chemistry, is intrinsically worthwhile. But the means were certainly not well thought out, and may even prove counter-productive. The way to a young man's heart is through his stomach; is it also the way to his (or her) mind? We have seen too many college students (let alone high school students) sitting somnambulistically through too many Section meetings to have any hope that the March meeting will inspire dozens of future chemists. Also, is it fair to Professor Bailar to present him with an audience containing 150 high school students, no matter how eager they are? (As of this writing, neither March speaker knows about "Chemistry Students' Week" and his unwitting role in it.)

A strong case can be made for increasing the Section's financial support of its monthly meetings, or of its Councilors' expenses at National Meetings, or of *The Chesapeake Chemist*. There is not enough money to do all three of these adequately now. This being the case, significant expenditures on ill-considered experiments need much more careful scrutiny than this one received at the Executive Committee meeting.

(Note: A friendly critic has cautioned me that the budget is not quite so final as this editorial suggests, and that there may be a significant change in "Chemistry Students' Week."
--E. F.)

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ADVANCE NOTICE

The next meeting of the Maryland Section will be held on March 28 at the US Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland. The featured speakers will be Dr. B. J. Luberoff, Editor of *ChemTech*, and Professor John C. Bailar of the University of Illinois. This meeting will also be the "Local Students' Awards Night."

SKOLNIK ...cont'd. from p. 4.

Abstract of Dr. Skolnik's Talk

CHEMICAL INFORMATION SCIENCE AS A DISCIPLINE OF CHEMISTRY

This talk will trace the development of chemical information science from the inception and evolution of the language of chemistry and the literature of chemistry, through the era when chemical information science became a career path for chemists, to the R&D milestones of these chemists over the past 25 years. Some of the milestones to be discussed are edge-notched punched cards, notation systems, nomenclature, indexing systems, and computerized and online information systems.

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