



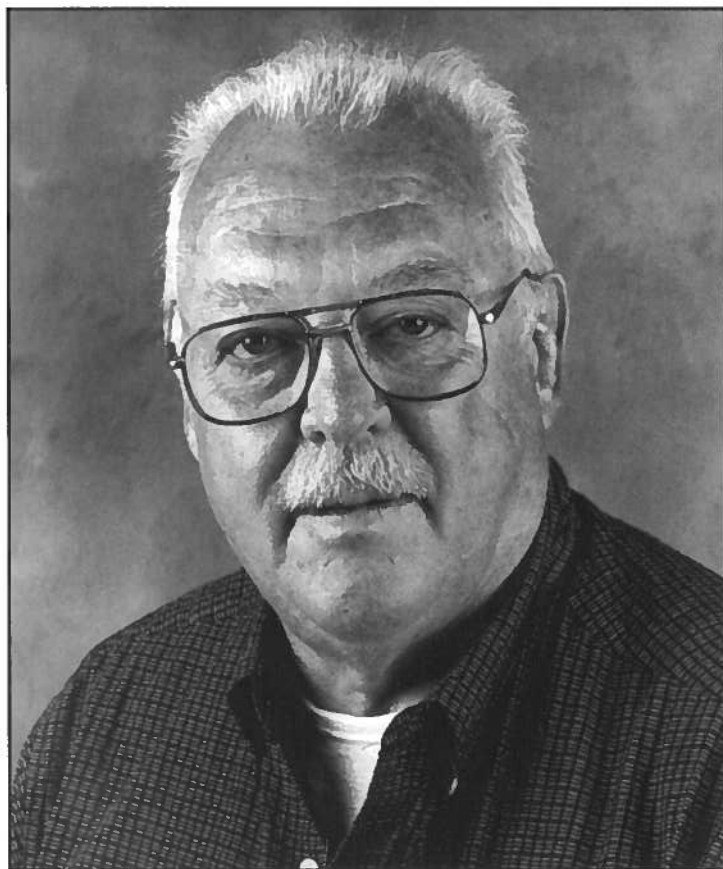
THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST

MARYLAND SECTION
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

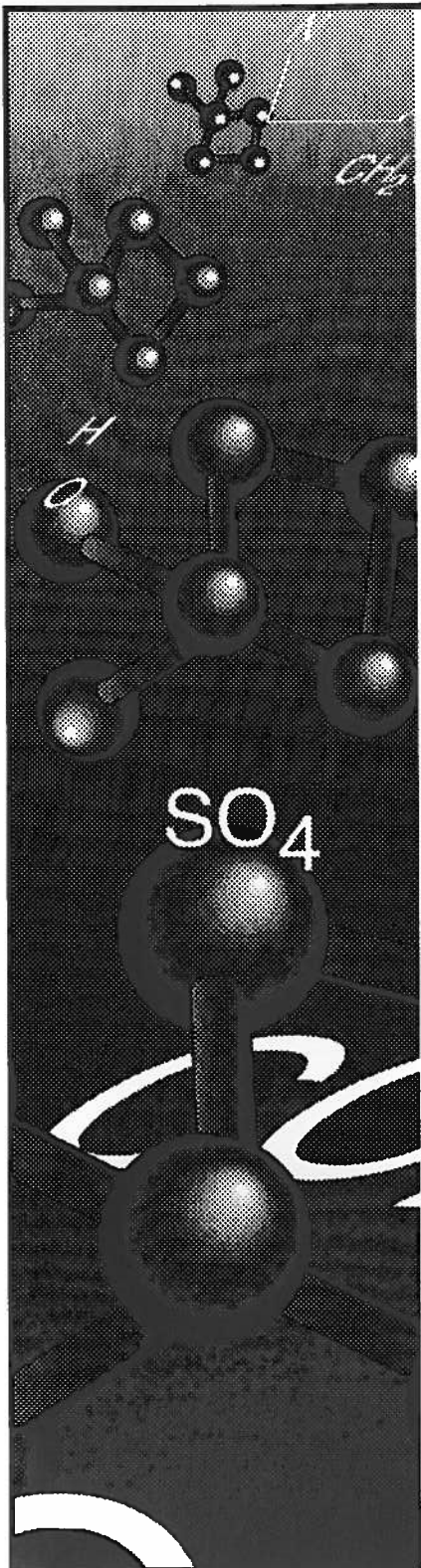
VOL. LVI

OCTOBER, 2000

NUMBER 7



RALPH N. BLOMSTER



The Eastern Analytical Symposium would like to announce . . .

the presentation of sessions specifically devoted to the needs of Pharmaceutical Analytical Chemists at the 2000 EAS. These sessions will take place during our annual meeting to be held October 29 – November 3, 2000 at the Atlantic City Convention Center in Atlantic City, New Jersey. Program highlights will include, but will not be limited to sessions on the following topics:

- Thermal Analysis for Polymorph Characterization
- Solids Characterization
- Methods Transfer
- Pharmaceutical Near-IR
- Dissolution
- Methods Validation
- HPLC of Pharmaceuticals
- Laboratory Investigations
- Pre-Approval Inspections

In addition, the roster of invited and contributed papers will be well complemented by both Short Course and Workshop presentations targeted at the attendees interested in more in-depth exposure to each of the above noted topics.

This program, combined with the new central location of Atlantic City, New Jersey, provides the Pharmaceutical Analytical Chemist with the right technical program in the right location for either picking up a new skill or sharpening existing ones.

This year, as always, EAS will continue to offer sessions, short courses, and workshops geared to the interests of all Analytical Chemists, spanning the range from microscopy to NMR, miniaturization, and separations based on chip technology.

EAS

P.O. Box 633
Montchanin, DE 19710-0633

For more information visit our
EAS web site:

<http://www.eas.org>
email: easinfo@aol.com
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RALPH N. BLOMSTER

Ralph N. Blomster is a native of Lynn, Massachusetts. He received a B.S. in 1953 from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy, an M.S. in 1958 from the University of Pittsburgh and a Ph.D. in 1963 from the University of Connecticut. From 1958-1959 he taught biological sciences and held fellowships at the University of Pittsburgh.

In 1963 he became an assistant professor of pharmacognosy at Pittsburgh and in 1966 he was promoted to associate professor. In 1968 he came to the University of Maryland at Baltimore as professor of pharmacognosy. He has served as chairman of that department and has also been professor and chairman of the department of medicinal chemistry/pharmacognosy. In 1989 he became a professor in the department of biomedical chemistry, also at UMAB, and in 1996 became professor emeritus in the department of pharmaceutical sciences.

Dr. Blomster's interests, in addition to herbalism and alternative medicine, include microbiology, biosynthesis, phytochemistry, chemotaxonomy and drug plant exploration, collection and extraction for biological testing.

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FOLK MEDICINE - HERBALISM

Folk medicines have been demonstrated to exert a powerful governing force on many cultures of the world today. In these days of scientific knowledge and reasoned logic, belief in folk medicine (herbalism) is still strong, and many people have great faith in herbal products. The use of herbal products is increasing among the general population for a wide variety of ailments and fills a niche in the field of alternative medicine. This is occurring because many of the population have suffered a loss of faith in contemporary medicine and have found that the use of herbalism, oriental medicine, and a variety of therapeutic procedures can provide a mechanism of health care that better suits their needs than does that of the HMOs and managed care systems.

Just what constitutes herbalism or folk medicine? Is it safe? Why does it exist? Humans love to experiment with self-medication, and people have used a wide variety of substances, some extremely noxious, until finding a variety of plants and other natural substances that alleviated their miseries or raised their spirits. Many of the products currently in vogue go back to grandma's medicine chest. How good are these products? These home remedies were passed from generation to generation and evolved as specifics for defined diseases. Can we lower health costs with these cures? How useful are many of these products? Are they safe? How good are such products as boneset, mullein, tansy, echinacea, kava-kava, St. John's wort, valerian, jewelweed, ginkgo and garlic?

I will review and discuss many of the herbal products being suggested today and try to explain their rational use and decide if they are toxic.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Dr. Shirish Shah has been appointed Chair of the Nominating Committee. He will gladly receive suggestions for candidates for elective offices to be voted on in the next Section election.

OCTOBER MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, October 18, 2000

PLACE: Millennium Inorganic Chemicals Research Center
6752 Baymeadow Drive
Glen Burnie, Maryland

SCHEDULE: 6:00 pm Social

6:30 pm Dinner

7:30 pm Building Tours

8:00 pm Lecture by Ralph N. Blomster
Professor Emeritus of Pharmaceutical Sciences
University of Maryland at Baltimore
"Folk Medicine - Herbalism"

Dinner price is \$19.00 per person, but spouses and retired chemists may attend for \$17.00; students may attend for \$9.50.

Dinner reservations should be made by mailing checks, payable to Maryland Section of ACS, to Dr. Shirish Shah, College of Notre Dame, 4701 North Charles Street, Baltimore, MD 21210 by October 11. Late reservations may be made by calling (410) 532-5712 by October 13. An answering machine is available.

It is not necessary to be a member of the American Chemical Society to attend. You may attend the lecture without attending the dinner.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE NORTH - Take the I-695 beltway to Route 10 south. Take the second exit, Ordnance Road East. Pass the first traffic light, then stay in the right lane and turn right onto Baymeadow Drive (at the Baymeadow Industrial Park). Follow the road about one-half mile until you see the company name in green letters on the right.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE SOUTH - From Route 100 take Route 10 north to the Ordnance Road exit. Stay in the right lane and turn right onto Baymeadow Drive (at the Baymeadow Industrial Park, bypassing two traffic lights). Follow the road about one-half mile until you see the company name in green lights on the right.

ACS ANNOUNCES GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS HONORS

The ACS, at a reception on August 21st at its national meeting in Washington, D.C., presented its annual "Grassroots Achievement Awards" to members and local sections that have made special efforts to advance state and federal science policy.

One of two Science Policy Awards was presented to Shirish Shah of the Maryland Section for outstanding individual achievement in advancing public policy to benefit chemistry and society.

Dr. Shah, the Section's Government Relations Representative, led a successful effort to recognize Congressman Roscoe Bartlett at a Maryland Local Section event and also visited the offices of his representatives on Capitol Hill on R&D issues. He has also been an active member of the Legislative Action Network and has encouraged other members to participate.

World Renowned Fisher Art Collection Comes to Chemical Heritage Foundation

Philadelphia—The Chemical Heritage Foundation has received the collection of art works and scientific antiques from Fisher Scientific International, Inc. This renowned collection includes about two hundred 17th and 18th century European artworks illustrating various scenes of the alchemist and his work, three hundred etchings, and more than sixty historical scientific instruments from the Louis Pasteur Memorial collection. The Fisher Collection, possibly the largest privately owned collection of scientific artwork in the world, offers splendid testament to the people, apparatus, and accomplishments of the forerunners of modern biochemistry, pharmacology, and medicine.

Fisher Scientific International Inc., which was founded in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania by Chester Garfield [C.G.] Fisher in 1902 (the Fisher family led the Company for more than 70 years), is a leading world provider of scientific and laboratory supplies and has customers in 145 countries. According to Paul Montrone, Fisher Scientific Chairman and CEO, "We are happy for the opportunity to share this treasure with the public and to gain greater visibility for Chester Fisher's invaluable collection, which does an extraordinary job of marrying the arts and sciences. These paintings portray life in the laboratories of early alchemists and physicians, whose work became the building blocks for modern science and medicine."

Chester Garfield Fisher, who started the collection in the 1920s, was fascinated by the history of laboratory apparatus. Most of the early paintings, photographic prints, and etchings in the collection depict an alchemist with his apparatus, thus reflecting Fisher's affinity for this subject. The Fisher Collection boasts the world-famous oil painting *The Alchemist*, executed by Flemish painter David Teniers the Younger, circa 1640. Other celebrated works contained in this collection include, *The Scientist* by Austrian painter Franz Christophe Janneck and *The Alchemist in his Study with a Woman Making Lace* by Dutch painter Thomas Wyck.

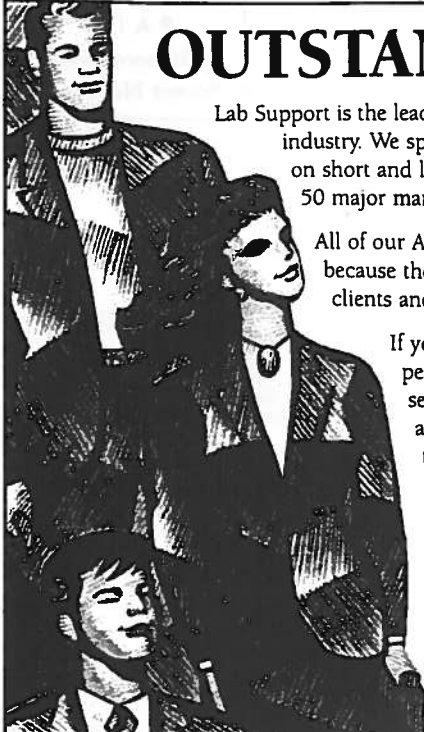
Chester Fisher's son, James Fisher, says of his father, "From the start, C.G.'s idea was to use the collection...to help the scientist, laboratory worker, etc., to gain a sense of history, heritage, and pride in the profession they have chosen." The Fisher Collection will make its debut at the Foundation in conjunction with its Gala Grand Opening celebration on June 22, 2000 and will continue to inspire and foster that sense of heritage while on permanent display in its new home—CHF's Chester G. Fisher Gallery.

"This is a magnificent gift," said Arnold Thackray, President of the Foundation. "Scientists the world over know about and admire these wonderful paintings, which vividly portray the romance of scientific engineering. Thanks to the generosity of Fisher Scientific International and the Fisher family, CHF can share this wonderful treasure with a worldwide audience, helping to advance both the heritage and public understanding of the chemical and molecular sciences."

The Chemical Heritage Foundation, which traces its origins to 1982, was founded by the American Chemical Society and the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Today, CHF enjoys the endorsement and support of twenty-seven professional societies and associations, and is recognized as the central agency for preserving, studying, and communicating the heritage of the chemical community.

The mission of the Chemical Heritage Foundation is to advance the heritage of the chemical sciences by collecting and disseminating information about historical resources; encouraging research, scholarship, and popular writing; publishing resource guides and historical materials; conducting oral histories; creating traveling exhibits; and taking other appropriate steps to make known the achievements of chemical scientists and the chemical process industries.

from the Chemical Heritage Foundation
visit their website at <http://www.chemheritage.org>.




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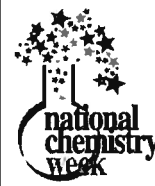
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National Chemistry Week Showcase

In recognition of the National Chemistry Week program, the American Chemical Society won the Award of Excellence in the 2000 Associations Advance America Awards program sponsored by the American Society of Association Executives (ASAE). NCW was one of thirty Award of Excellence winners chosen from more than 115 entries submitted nationwide. "ACS's program truly embodies the spirit of the Associations Advance America campaign. It is an honor and an inspiration to showcase this activity as an example of the many contributions associations are making to advance American society," remarked ASAE President Michael S. Olson. The NCW program is now in the running to receive a Summit Award to be presented at ASAE's 80th annual meeting in Orlando, FL in August.

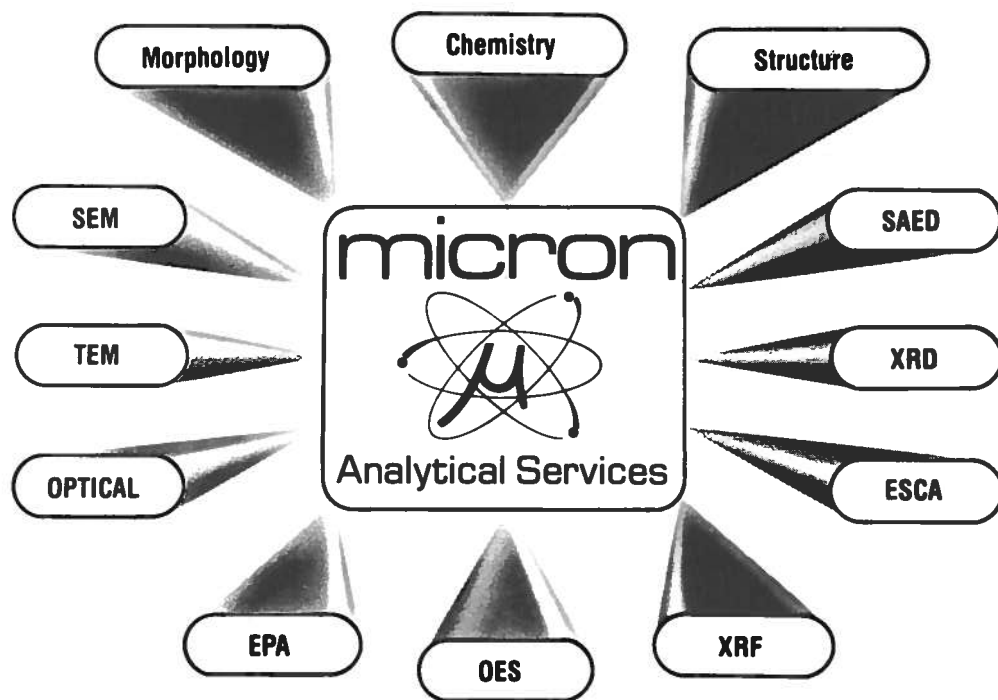
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Applications invited for CHF Research Travel Grants

Philadelphia—The Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) offers small travel grants to enable interested individuals to make use of the research resources of the Beckman Center for the History of Chemistry, the Othmer Library of Chemical History, and its associated facilities. Grants may be used for travel, subsistence, and copying costs. While grants do not normally exceed \$500, applications for up to \$1000 will be considered, particularly from international applicants.

Applications should include a complete curriculum vitae, a one page statement on the research proposed and the applicability of area resources, and a budget. In addition, applicants should arrange for two letters of reference to be sent directly to CHF. Applications should be sent to Mary Ellen Bowden, Chemical Heritage Foundation, 315 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106; phone 215 873 8228; fax 215 925 1954.