



# THE CHESAPEAKE CHEMIST

MARYLAND SECTION  
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

VOL. LVI

SEPTEMBER, 2000

NUMBER 6

ACS NATIONAL MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2000  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

The largest ACS meeting in history was called to order by President Daryl Busch at 8:00 am. All four Maryland Councilors attended the meeting along with 15,454 regular attendees and 2,853 registrants to the exhibits for a record total of 18,307 people. There were 8,200 papers presented and it was noted that the number of students, undergraduate and graduate, was high.

In his report to Council, President Busch reported that he is heading a group to consider the potential of the ACS property, Belmont, as a location for some type of ACS-sponsored institute, probably devoted to science policy.

President-elect Pavlath said in his report that he has written to all division and local section officers asking them to share their ideas for the ACS and to solicit comments from chemists in their area. Anyone with ideas, questions or comments about ACS can contact Dr. Pavlath through the ACS office in Washington.

Peter Christie, Board of Trustees Chair for the ACS Member Group Insurance Plans, announced two new insurance plans, long-term care and professional liability. Anyone interested in either plan can obtain details from the ACS office in Washington, or by logging on to [www.acs.org/insurance](http://www.acs.org/insurance).

John Crum, ACS Executive Director, said that the Chemical Abstracts Service has joined with the publications office to link every citation in an ACS journal to CAS databases. Mr. Crum also mentioned that the new CAS Data Center in Columbus will be completed by the end of the year. Also, ACS membership growth has accelerated significantly. The 159,000 membership makes ACS the world's largest scientific society.

The Employment Clearing House had 1,053 people registered, plus 165 employers with 723 positions available. Over 3,000 interviews were conducted.

A Mature Chemist Survey was sent to 5,000 members over age 50; a symposium presenting results will be given at the Fall National Meeting in Washington.

Finally, Council selected Eli M. Pearce and Glenn A. Crosby to be candidates for ACS President-elect in 2001.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Merle Eiss  
Don Jones

David Roswell  
Chuck Rowell

## 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  
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For more information, please contact us by phone at 410-796-4300 or visit our website at [www.acs.org/belmont](http://www.acs.org/belmont).



Alvin Bober (l) and Shirish Shah (r) with Congressman Roscoe Bartlett at Belmont for the 50-year member luncheon.

-photo by Frank Milio

Dr. and Mrs. Charles Rowell with new 50-year ACS member Alex Nickon. Prof. Nickon was Maryland Chemist of the Year in 1990.

-photo by Frank Milio



*College of Notre Dame*

### Agenda

6:00 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. *Social and Networking*  
6:45 p.m. – 7:45 p.m. *Dinner*  
7:45 p.m. *Lecture – Lead Poisoning: A Historical Perspective*

*The Great American Buffet dinner includes hot dishes, vegetables, rolls, beverages and dessert. Dinner price is \$16.00 for members, \$14.00 for retired members and spouses and \$8.00 for students. Make reservations by Friday, September 15, 2000 by calling Dr. Shirish Shah at the Section reservation line 410-532-5712. If you require a special meal (e.g., vegetarian, kosher) please indicate that need to Dr. Shah. Mail checks payable to Maryland Section, American Chemical Society to Dr. Shah at the Department of Chemistry, College of Notre Dame, 4701 North Charles Street, Baltimore, Maryland 21210. Payment at the door will also be accepted. Late reservations will be accepted on a space available basis. You may attend Dr. Joseph's presentation without a dinner reservation.*

### About the Speaker...

*J. Mehsen Joseph is Director, Laboratories Administration, Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. He is Associate Professor of Microbiology, University of Maryland, and an Associate in Epidemiology at the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health.*

*Dr. Joseph served as Secretary of the American Society for Microbiology from 1974 to 1984 and during that period served on the Publication Board for the Journal of Virology, Journal of Clinical Microbiology, and the Journal of Applied and Environmental Microbiology. He served two consecutive terms (1987-88) as President of the Association of State and territorial Public Health Laboratory Directors. Also he was Chairman of the U. S. National Committee/National Academy of Sciences/International Union of Microbiological Societies (1987-1992). He served on the Sea Grant Board of the University of Maryland, which led to the establishment of a Sea Grant College in Maryland. He served as Chairman of the NCID Board of Scientific Councilors from 1989-93.*

*He received the Barnett L. Cohen Distinguished Award in Microbiology in 1977 and the American Public Health Association Difco Award in 1985. He was elected to Honorary Membership in the American Society for Microbiology in 1986 and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology.*

*Dr. Joseph received his Ph.D. degree in Microbiology from the University of Maryland.*

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### OCTOBER MEETING

The Maryland Section will hold next month's meeting on October 18 at the Millennium Research Center.

The speaker will be Dr. Ralph Blomster, Professor Emeritus in the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Maryland at Baltimore.

The topic will be folk medicine and herbalism.

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### PICNIC

A fine picnic, complete with a guided nature walk, was enjoyed by a small group of Maryland Section members on July 9 at the McKeldin Area of Patapsco State Park.

Al Bober arranged the affair and presided at the grill.

Were you there? Why not?

FROM THE ARCHIVES  
by ERNEST F. SILVERSMITH

The Maryland Section of the American Chemical Society started in 1914. Before that, the nearest section was the Washington Section. Travel to Washington was even more difficult in 1914 than it is now, so a group headed by Ira Remsen (then president of Johns Hopkins) founded the Baltimore branch of the Washington Section. Shortly thereafter the group decided to found the Maryland Section. A charter was drawn up; copies appear in the Golden (1964) and Diamond (1989) commemorative issues of *The Chesapeake Chemist*.

The first meeting of the new section was held on October 10, 1914. An election was held, and W. D. B. Penniman (whose company, Penniman and Browne, still exists today) was elected as the first chairman. The talk at the meeting was on the reaction between bornyl chloride and copper.

The membership at that time was 70; it is almost 2000 today. Numerous chemistry-related industries have grown up within the Maryland Section's area. These include McCormick, founded in 1889, which had 10 researchers in 1964 and about 50 now. Other prominent industries: SCM Chemicals, W. R. Grace, Gascoyne Laboratories, Catalyst Research, Analyte Laboratories, Phase Separations Science, Becton-Dickinson and Guilford Pharmaceuticals. Because

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**Deadlines for receipt of applications for 2001 meetings:**

September 15, 2000 – Meetings between January 1 & June 30, 2001  
February 15, 2001 – Meetings between July 1 & December 31, 2001

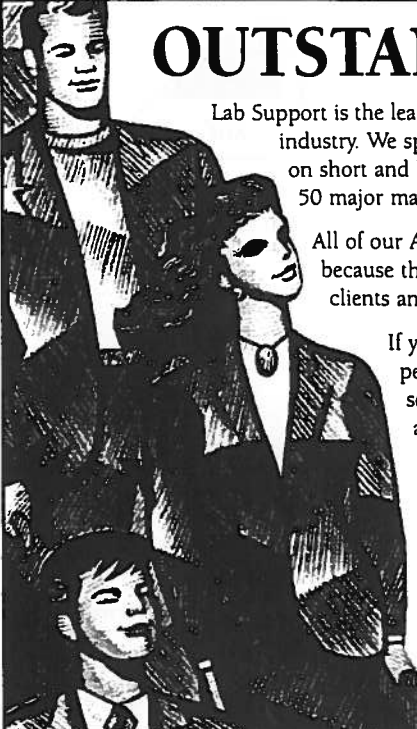
of the presence of such companies, famous trade-marked products such as Bromo-Seltzer, Mercurochrome and Bufferin were developed in the area.

Numerous chemistry-related government laboratories are also operated within the boundaries of the Section. Included in this category are the Aberdeen Proving Ground and its Edgewood facility, the Maryland State Department of Health, Frederick Cancer Research Facility and the Maryland State Police Crime Laboratory.

The Section also houses numerous distinguished academic institutions. In addition to serving as president of Johns Hopkins, Ira Remsen was an outstanding chemist. He discovered saccharin and really started graduate research in chemistry in the United States. More recently, the UMBC-UMAB consortium has joined Johns Hopkins as a Ph.D.-granting institution within the Maryland Section. Other academic institutions within the Section include Morgan State University, Towson University, College of Notre Dame, Loyola College, Western Maryland College, Hood College, Goucher College, the United States Naval Academy, Coppin State College, Villa Julie College, and several two-year colleges. The latter include Baltimore City Community College, the several campuses of Baltimore County Community College, Anne Arundel, Frederick and Howard Counties Community Colleges.

Today, our 86-year old section is as spry and active as ever. It has given the prestigious Remsen Award since 1946 and 13 of its winners have received Nobel Prizes. We still have monthly meetings during the academic year, a picnic each summer, a luncheon honoring 50-year ACS members and numerous outreach programs. These include awards to outstanding students in the Section's colleges and universities, active participation in National Chemistry Week, awards to high school teachers, provision of judges for science fairs and administration of the local level of the Chemistry Olympiad.

All in all, it's been a great 86 years, and the Section is as healthy and productive as ever.




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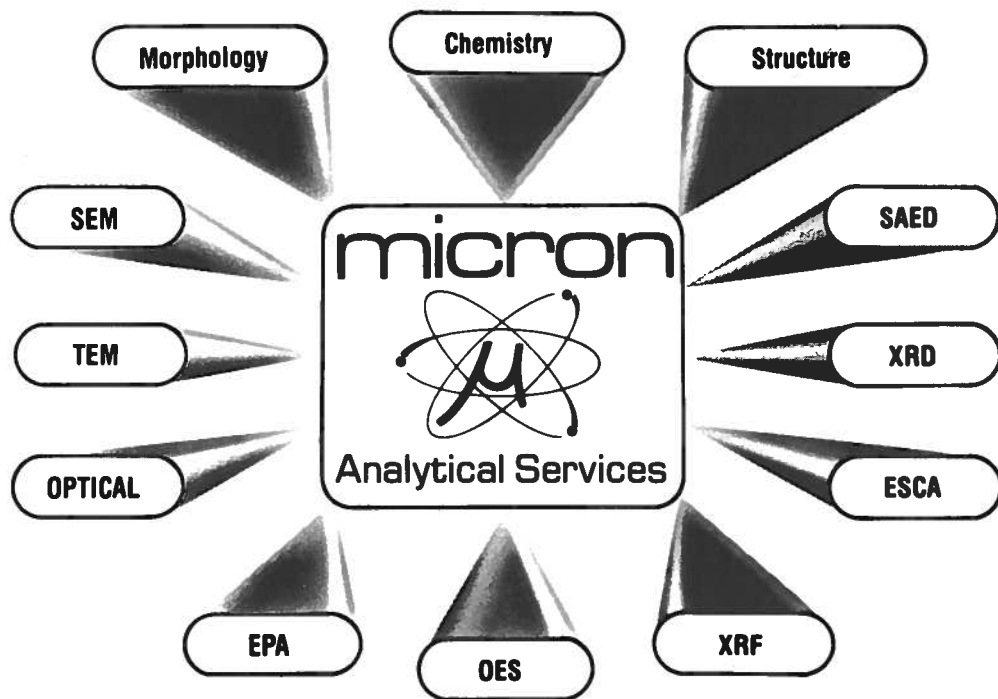
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**CHED**  
**Newsletter, Spring 2000**

**Q: Why did the white bear dissolve in water?**

**A: It was polar**

**Q: Why does hamburger have lower energy than steak?**

**A: Because it's in the ground state.**

A sodium atom and a neon atom were walking down the street together. The sodium atom stopped suddenly and the following exchange occurred:

Na: "I think I just lost an electron."

Ne: "Are you sure?"

Na: "Yes, I am positive."

**Q: How many physical chemists does it take to change a light bulb?**

**A: Only one, but he will change it three times, plot a straight line through the data, and then extrapolate to zero concentration.**

When Hydrogen Tech played Oxygen U, the game had just begun, When Hydrogen racked up two fast points, and Oxygen still had none. Then Oxygen scored a single goal, and thus it did remain, At Hydrogen two and Oxygen one, game called because of Rain!!