

Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of HIST Sept. 7, 1997

The meeting was called to order at 5:11pm.

1) Announcements concerning the various social events for the week were made.

a. The Past Chair Pin was presented to Joe Lambert,

2) The Agenda was approved.

3) The minutes of the meeting on April 13, 1997 were accepted. 4) Reports:

4.1) Chair - Harold Goldwhite

a. Arnold Thackray and Harold both strongly recommended that a seat on the Board of Overseers for CHF be reserved for a HIST appointment.

b. Richard Rice has agreed to continue as Program Chair through 1998. He was unable to attend this meeting, but sent a written report, which is attached.

c. Discussion of the Industrial Program from the ACS.

d. A request was made from the Santa Clara Valley section to add the Executive Committee's weight to a resolution to create a George Washington Carver Recognition Day in California. This resolution is coming before the Council for California. The committee agreed to support this resolution.

e. We are requested to nominate a person to be on the ACS Committee on Science. Mary Virginia said that this same request came up in the CHED Executive Committee meeting and they did not nominate anyone. Discussion centered around a strategy to enhance a nominee's chance to be appointed to this committee. Consensus was that no one would be nominated from HIST in 1997, but that we should work with CHED and other Divisions to nominate a single person.

f. Announcement of Congressional Fellowships. These are for one year in Washington, DC with a stipend of \$40,000.

4.2) Secretary-Treasurer - Vera Mainz

The current financial summary was discussed (attached). Vera believes we should have enough income to publish two issues of the Bulletin per year, without causing cash-flow problems. This will have to be monitored and reported upon at the next meeting.

Vera also drew the Committee's attention to the year's travel expenses, and expressed her understanding of the Division's responsibility for the Dexter Award winner's travel expenses. By the terms of the award, the Dexter winner covers their own travel expenses. This year, the Division found itself covering Alper's expenses for picking up Laidler's award. This was brought to the attention of the Committee in order for HIST not to have to cover such expenses again.

Vera was asked to provide some continuity in expense/income category descriptions to make comparison easier.

4.3) Councilor's Report

Mary Virginia Orna: She is serving on the Nominations and Elections Committee of the ACS, as well as chairing the subcommittee for the slate for Region 2 Board of Directors.

Ben is still serving as HIST liaison to the Council Committee on Public Relations. This

committee has usually worked with local sections, but is starting to work with the Divisions and with other ACS committees. He has asked again to be appointed to the Divisional Activities Committee.

A general note from both our Councilors is that our Division is fortunate in having both of them active in Committees.

#### 4.4) Program Chair - Richard Rice

Richard could not attend the meeting but sent a written report, which is attached. See 4.1(b).

#### 4.5) Bulletin Editor - Paul Jones

Paul informed the Committee that issue #20 (which contains an index to the first 20 issues) is currently at the printer. It should be sent out by next week. The issue is 88 pages and the printing cost is slightly under \$4000. This issue is dated 1997, and will conclude our legal obligation to advertise Wotiz' book.

Paul asked whether it would be appropriate to have the masthead of the Bulletin show W. B. Jensen as the founding editor. After some discussion, Paul was asked to check with Ned Heindel about the legalities of the issue.

Paul inherited 47 library subscribers; currently he has 56 subscribers. We discussed how to get the subscription base to increase. There was a consensus that perhaps we should publish a subscription page for libraries in the Newsletter that our members could tear out and give to their Acquisitions Librarian.

A draft of a letter from Harold to Paul Anderson was presented. The letter asked for \$10,000 in support for the Bulletin from the ACS. We agreed that a phrase averring the support of the Executive Committee should be added.

#### 4.6) Divisional Officers Caucus - Ben Chastain

Ben reported that DOC is trying to define its role within ACS in order to better serve its community. He also reported that Jim Bradford, an ACS staff member, wondered about providing a server for Divisions and local sections.

Other issues before the Caucus:

a) Since all abstracts are available on line for National ACS meetings, why should they continue to be published?

b) What constitutes the "Official Program" - the web version or the C & E News version?

c) Should a database be established for Program Chairs, in order to facilitate their contact with each other?

d) Any feedback on the programming schedule for this meeting - it is an example of "compressed scheduling"?

#### 5) Nominating

The nominating committee reported the following slate:

Chair-Elect: John Borchardt and Steve <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub>

Councilor: Paul Jones and Al Kirsch

It was brought to the nominating committee's attention that our Councilor positions gain in

prestige and responsibility the longer they represent us. Since neither of the current candidates for councilor were currently serving in that capacity, the committee was asked to re-consider the slate before sending out the ballots.

NOTE: The final slate for councilor was: M. V. Orna, A. Kirsch.

6) By-law revisions (a technical change, replacing the word Chairman with Chair)

The by-law revision was approved as presented.

7) Chemical Heritage Foundation Governance - Thackray

a) Building - all in place; should be complete by -2000.

b) Staffing - CHF can go ahead and hire more staff, but don't have much functional space yet.

M. V. Orna is now full time with Educational Services.

c) Library Services - E. Swan has been active in getting the library in shape for use.

d) Historical Services - Leo Slater is the contact person.

e) Programming - need to work out programming that would be appropriate for both HIST and CHF.

f) Governance - the governance of CHF is being restructured. It will become a two tier system with a smaller Governing Council having fiduciary and legal control (both ACS and AICHE would have a single representative) and a larger Board of Overseers (25-50 members) which would have some kind of veto control over the Governing Council. The Board of Overseers brief would be to advise on general issues (two representatives from ACS and one from HIST).

A discussion took place on the whether travel funds for the HIST representative could be obtained from either CHF or ACS. A workable compromise might be to have the HIST representative be one of the ACS representatives, since their travel expenses are already covered. An alternate plan would be to have the HIST representative be someone who lives close to the Philadelphia area. This might also insure some continuity in our representation.

8) National Historical Chemical Landmarks Program - Heindel

Ned raised a political issue -- many of the sites which have been designated or which are under discussion have strong corporate backing. This can be very helpful, but there is an imbalance of industrial submissions vs. other types of submission, e.g., academic sites. He asked the Division's help in finding a better balance, especially with regard to a better regional distribution and minority recognition. The approach right now is to talk to the staff on the Local Section Activities Committee, and get Ned on the agenda for the conference for newly elected local section officers in order to discuss this issue. Ned noted that the Royal Society of Chemistry has approached him to do some sites together.

The Winter 1997 (Feb. 1998) issue of CHF magazine will have a summary of NHCLP sites.

The meeting was adjourned around 7:00pm.

## HIST PROGRAMMING REPORT-Richard E. Rice, Program Chair (9/4/97)

Of course, any program would be a letdown after San Francisco, but the Las Vegas program has turned out to be more substantial than I expected. And in this, I'm very glad to have been wrong. I'm sorry I can't be there with you.

Jan Hayes has organized the symposium "Not Only Chemists Do Chemistry" with a superb list of speakers. Several of the papers from the symposium and more from the general sessions will also be given as posters at Sci-Mix. As always, there are many gems among the general papers too, which include one by Dr. David Lewis, the recipient of this year's Outstanding Paper Award. Although it was only accidental, presenting that award at a meeting when we don't have a Dexter Award symposium seems like a good idea to me. Both awards were made at the Chicago meeting, and I thought that the Outstanding Paper Award presentation was overshadowed by the Dexter Award. However, we will again have the two awards given at the same meeting next year as we are planning on Dexter Award symposia at both Dallas and Boston.

These meetings are shaping up very nicely. At Dallas I expect the usual dozen or so general papers, along with two symposia. Tom Strom and his two co-organizers are putting together a broad range of topics for "History of Chemistry in the Southwest." We will also have a Dexter Award symposium honoring the most recent recipient, Professor Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent. I am hoping that Mary Jo Nye will again organize that symposium after the excellent job she did for Prof. Laidler at San Francisco.

Boston should be as big a draw as San Francisco, and therefore I'm expecting another large batch of papers in HIST. There are several symposia in the works. Paul Jones is working on "History of the U.S. Pharmaceutical Industry," and I believe that the Division of Medicinal Chemistry will be co-sponsoring that with HIST. The Women Chemists Committee has asked us to co-sponsor the symposium "Contributions of American Women to Chemistry."

I have been talking with Madeleine Jacobs, editor of *C&EN*, about how HIST might participate in the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations for our cherished magazine. The folks at *C&EN* are compiling a list of the magazine's 75 most outstanding papers from over the years, and those authors who are still alive will be invited to some kind of black-tie gala at the Boston meeting. Madeleine, Harold, and I all agreed that these people are an outstanding and readily available pool of speakers for a HIST symposium celebrating 75 years of *C&EN*. Madeleine will be getting me a list of the authors who intend to be present in Boston, and I will try to put together a list of speakers from that group. So if this and the other symposia, along with general papers and Sci-Mix posters, turn out as planned, HIST will have an embarrassment of riches at the Boston meeting.

One last item. Harold has asked me to continue on as program chair through 1998, a year longer than my original agreement with Paul Jones (1995-97). I have agreed, so the penultimate year of this millennium will see a new division chair and a new program chair take over the reins of HIST. Until then, I will continue to try to put together the very best HIST programs that I can. But I'm only the facilitator, and the excellent programs that we've had and that are being planned result from the hard work of all those who present papers and organize sessions for HIST. See you all in Dallas!

Cash Flow Report  
1/1/97 Through 9/2/97

<b>INFLOWS</b>	
Bulletin - Lib	\$ 890.00
Bulletin-Bkls	\$ 377.00
Cachet Income	\$ 54.00
Div Income	\$ 227.90
Dues income	\$14,656.28
Invest Inc	\$ 689.55
Misc Inc	\$ 120.00
Royalties	\$ 339.45
Travel Reimb	\$ 1,838.86
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>\$19,193.04</b>
<b>OUTFLOWS</b>	
Abstracts	\$ 1,143.32
Award	\$ 100.00
Bank Chrg	\$ 5.76
Bulletin	\$ 6,050.74
Division Admin	\$ 240.00
Invest Exp	\$ 150.00
Meeting	\$ 870.00
Supplies	\$ 345.95
Travel	\$ 5,340.11
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>\$14,245.88</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 4,947.16</b>

Report to the Division of the History of Chemistry  
Las Vegas ACS Meeting  
September 7, 1997

The Chemical Heritage Foundation is undergoing more changes of interest to the Division of the History of Chemistry:

1. Mary Virginia Orna will continue to edit *Chemical Heritage* magazine for the time being, but will concentrate on educational activities more and more as Director of Educational Services, having started full time just one week ago on September 1. As the activities that emanate from her office continue to evolve, she will undoubtedly be seeking to collaborate with the activities of the Division, and to solicit ideas for a variety of activities including materials, workshops, and other services to teachers and to students. To that end, she convened two advisory board meetings, one on March 15 for chemistry educators in the local Pennsylvania/Delaware/New Jersey Tristate region, and one with respect to national outreach on May 9-10, 1997. She will continue to keep these persons abreast of activities and seek their advice.
2. *Chemical Heritage* magazine has evolved into a magazine cum newsletter and continues to seek feature articles and items of interest to the chemical disciplines community. We plan to publish thrice yearly in 1998. We would especially welcome articles and items of interest on the American 20th century industrial chemical sciences. The Division is invited to encourage chemical educators to place their names on the mailing list for future issues.
3. A new CHF publications brochure is now available. We encourage you to stop by the CHF booth at the exhibit to pick up items of interest and to chat with our staff. We plan to have a complete list of staff with telephone numbers and e-mail addresses available at the booth. June Bretz, our new staff member in External Relations, and Leo Slater, Research Historian and Program Manager, will be staffing the booth most of the time.
4. The new traveling exhibit, "Chemistry Is Electric," opened in May as part of the Dow Chemical Company's centennial celebration in Midland, MI and is now available for booking. Other traveling exhibits include Polymers and People, The Structures of Life, R B. Woodward and Scaling Up. Most suitable for schools, colleges, museums, science centers, National Chemistry Week activities and regional ACS meetings, they are available to institutions on a loan basis that includes return shipping as the only charge. Each exhibit has an accompanying descriptive booklet that is excellent documentation in its own right. These booklets are available for a modest charge, and are listed in our publications brochure.
5. The CHF Reading List, "Introduction to the Chemical Sciences," is currently being updated under the editorship of Ted Benfey and will be available very soon.
6. "Chemical Achievers," an instructional supplement and aid, is in the final stages of publication.

7. CHF continues its lecture series and awards program. The Ullyot Scholar, Ronald Tempest of Germantown Academy, spent four weeks at CHF in July and August to work on his project on fuel cells. The Garfield Fellowship, which supports work on the history of scientific information systems, is held by Bob Williams of the University of South Carolina. During the period of the fellowship he will conduct 5-7 oral history interviews with former leaders in the field of information science, plan a conference on the history of the field, construct several chronologies which document the history of scientific information systems in the U.S., and identify significant manuscript and archival resources needed by researchers in the field. Mark Hamel currently holds the first Gordon Cain Fellowship in Entrepreneurship and Innovation, an award established to help graduate students complete doctoral studies charting the historical connections of chemical science, engineering, and business. His dissertation, 'Tables Turned: Energy, Economy, and Equilibrium in American Food Research, 1880-1930,' examines the relationship between industrial and technological growth in the food business, institutional and instrumental development in nutrition research, and private and public initiative to foster healthy diet in popular forums

8. CHF has recently added its 100th Oral History to its collection, and has another 70 in preparation or processing. The Oral History Program at CHF is an attempt to capture the histories, stories, and tales of the chemical sciences and technologies that have made great progress a reality in the twentieth century. Our special task is to explore and preserve the lived experience of the men and women, the engineers and chemists, executives and technicians, whose accomplishments are the stuff of history. Our program creates the raw materials for the production of history. Each oral history file consists of the original tapes, a copy of the final transcript edited for reading, the original verbatim transcript, and the working transcript with interviewee's comments. Additional research materials, such as scientific papers, patents, pictures, and unpublished manuscripts, round out the file.

9. Books. "A Devotion to Their Science: Pioneer Women in Radioactivity," by Geoff and Marelene Rayner-Canham is now available for shipping.

10. The Othmer Library. The Othmer Library staff has concentrated on collection management over the past few months. The most visible progress in this area continues to be the unpacking and shelving of library materials and installation of library shelving, making The Chemist's Club serials available for the first time since their acquisition in 1987. Several visitors to CHF who have seen the developing stack area on the 6th floor have remarked that "it looks like a real library!" Our visiting scholars have been pleasantly surprised to find that we've already unpacked the serials for which they were looking. New shelving will be added to the 5th floor in July to accommodate more library materials as we continue to unpack the remaining 3,500 boxes.

In early June, Elsa Atson joined CHF as our first Assistant Librarian for Technical Services. Elsa will create an electronic catalog of our library holdings to provide both bibliographic control for the collection, and to facilitate access for researchers. At present we are undertaking the process of becoming a member library of the Online Computerized Library Catalog (OCLC) system. OCLC is an international bibliographic database of holdings for

more than 14,000 member libraries. As we add our catalog records to the OCLC database, other member libraries will see the Othmer Library listed as an owner of those materials. Once our access to OCLC is fully implemented we will commence retrospective cataloging for our existing collection, starting with The Chemist's Club collection of monographs and serials. In addition to retrospective cataloging, we will also be creating catalog records on OCLC for new Library acquisitions, and for CHF's own publications. CHF's symbol on the OCLC database will be C8F; we expect to have access to the OCLC system by the end of August, at which time other OCLC members will be able to look for the symbol C8F to identify our holdings.

At its April meeting, the CHF Board, on the initiative of the Chemical Instrumentation Museum Group (CIMG), an operating arm of CHF, approved a collection policy and appointed a screening committee chaired by Tom Porro, that will help us to locate and acquire chemical instruments and apparatus that are of historical significance. In addition, the committee will review offers of items which we receive on a regular basis from individuals and laboratories. The new policy and procedures are helping us to clarify the kinds of items we should be acquiring, with review by experts in chemical instrumentation. As part of the new procedures we are requesting more detailed information about the items on offer, so that when items arrive at CHF our collection database will be more useful for future exhibits and use by researchers.

11. The Ulliot Public Affairs Lecture is scheduled for September 18 at CHF. Roy Vagelos, former CEO of Merck and Chairman of the Board of Regneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc., is the speaker. His topic is "Drug Discovery for Diseases of the Developed Third World," and all are welcome.