



# Newsletter for Senior Chemists

JULY 2019

Senior Chemists on the Move, Meyer-The First 100 Years, Diversity & Retirement, and Conversations with International Students

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## LET'S CELEBRATE GERALD MEYER "THE FIRST 100 YEARS!"

ACS will host a special symposium – Gerald Meyer: The First 100 Years – during the ACS National Meeting in San Diego CA on Tuesday, August 27 from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel, Indigo Ballroom H.

The program will have a number of special presentations, including remarks honoring Meyer; a spotlight on his life as a professional, scientist, educator, leader, volunteer, mentor,

## Senior Chemists on the Move Let's Get Ready for San Diego!

*Dr. Arlene Garrison holds the position of Vice President of University Partnerships at Oak Ridge Associated Universities (ORAU). Dr. Garrison previously served as Program Director at the National Science Foundation and as Associate Vice President for Research at the University of Tennessee. She's a member of the American Chemical Society, where she was named a Fellow in 2014, is an*



*Alternate Councilor for the ACS East Tennessee Section, immediate past-chair of the ACS Business Development and Management Division, and the chair of the ACS Senior Chemists Committee. She received her doctorate in analytical chemistry and a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from the University of Tennessee. She serves on numerous non-profit boards. In recognition of her volunteer work in science outreach to pre-college students, Garrison was one of the 10,000 Olympic Torch Bearers as the torch moved to the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta.*

This mid-summer newsletter again demonstrates that the Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) is an active group! That's one reason we call the ACS Network group of chemists over age 50 "**Senior Chemists on the Move!**" Come join our conversations at <https://communities.acs.org/groups/senior-chemists>

I know you will enjoy this newsletter. It is packed with items with an international aspect for the International

and friend; and a reception. This special event is being sponsored by the ACS Division on Small Chemical Businesses and co-sponsored by ACS Divisions on Business Development & Management, Chemical Education, Energy & Fuel, and the History of Chemistry, as well as the Senior Chemists Committee. You're invited to join us for this special party!



ACS Legacy Leader E. Gerald Meyer celebrates his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday with his named scholar, Cameron Taylor, and Endowment Founders dinner guests in November 2018. Credit: Peter Cutts



## MEET AND TREAT EVENT COME JOIN US!

### NETWORKING WITH CHEMISTRY PROFESSIONALS

Sponsored by the American Chemical Society  
Senior Chemists & Younger Chemists Committees  
ACS 2019 National Meeting in San Diego, CA



**Sunday, August 25, 2019**  
**Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina Hotel**  
**San Diego Ballroom Foyer**  
**2:00-3:30 p.m.**

**Professionals in industry, academia, government,  
small businesses, and non-profit, please join us.**

Year of the Periodic Table, plus reports on rewarding volunteer opportunities.

As you plan for the upcoming ACS National Meeting in San Diego, please make time for the special symposium and birthday celebration for Gerry Meyer. Gerry is turning 100 years old this year, and you are invited to join us for the special party. Gerry is an extremely active member of SCC. I am also sure he has won more foot races than the rest of the committee members combined. You'll hear more about his running adventures in this issue. He's a perfect example of what it means to be a senior chemist on the move.

Please also plan to join us for the Senior Chemists Breakfast in San Diego on Tuesday, August 27 at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel. Ralph Keeling, professor of geochemistry at the Scripps Institution will be our keynote speaker. We will be repeating the ice cream social with younger chemists looking for their first jobs and students seeking advice on next steps for academic and professional success. The event will take place from 2:00-3:30 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, August 25 at the Marriott Marquis San Diego Marina Hotel. Information for our SCC events will also be included on the ACS national meeting app and online via [the ACS Network](#), the San Diego meeting program, and the [SCC website](#).

The committee is committed to expanding our impact, and senior events have been planned at most regional meetings in 2019 and 2020. Please let us know if you are involved with planning future regional meetings – we would love to assist. The committee members are also developing a local section program and welcome invitations to share best practices for creating a senior chemists group for a local section. The 2018 annual reports indicated that there are 66 local section senior groups and close to 70 events were held. We will be presenting ChemLuminary Awards to two of those sections in San Diego. These are awards for **Best Ongoing Senior Activity in a Local Section that Benefits the Community, Local Schools, or Legislative Government** and the **Most Innovative Activity in a Local Section for Senior Chemists**. Please consider forming a senior group in your local section, applying for a SCC mini-grant to support this initiative and other events for senior chemists, and nominating a local section for these awards next year.

SCC's Mission is "to address community needs and ambitions by utilizing senior chemists' knowledge and

**Share your expertise and experiences with undergraduates and younger chemists, and enjoy a frozen treat with us as part of our thanks for your participation!**

**If you would like to participate, please send an email to [seniorchemists@acs.org](mailto:seniorchemists@acs.org).**

**We hope to see you in San Diego!**

**Ralph Keeling from Scripps Institution of Oceanography to Speak at Senior Chemists Breakfast in San Diego**



Make plans now to attend the Senior Chemists Breakfast at the ACS National Meeting in San Diego, on Tuesday, August 27, at 7:30 AM, in the Hilton San Diego Bayfront, Indigo Ballroom AE. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Ralph Keeling, Professor of Geochemistry at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in La Jolla, CA. His talk, "Let CO<sub>2</sub> Levels Do the Talking," focuses on the merit of framing the climate discussion around the buildup of CO<sub>2</sub> and its control. A clear understanding of what is happening with CO<sub>2</sub> is a useful starting point for appreciating what will be required to get the climate problem under control. Ralph is the son of Charles Keeling, the creator of the famous Keeling Curve.

Tickets are \$20.00 each and can be purchased with, or added to your [meeting registration](#). REGISTER NOW! This is a sell out event.

*experience.*" If you have ideas for mentoring, networking, career consulting, or starting a senior chemists group, please let us know by sending an email to [seniorchemists@acs.org](mailto:seniorchemists@acs.org).

Please join us at the ACS National Meeting in San Diego, CA, for events at the ACS regional meetings, or online at the [ACS Network community of Senior Chemists on the move!](#)

**VISIT THE SENIOR CHEMISTS  
@ THE ACS EXPO IN SAN DIEGO  
Booth #1727  
San Diego Convention Center**

Receive information on how to GET INVOLVED in your Local Section, the Mini-Grant Program, the *Newsletter for Senior Chemists*, and Regional Meeting Activities for Senior Chemists.



**Welcome Reception  
Sunday, August 25 at 6:00 pm**

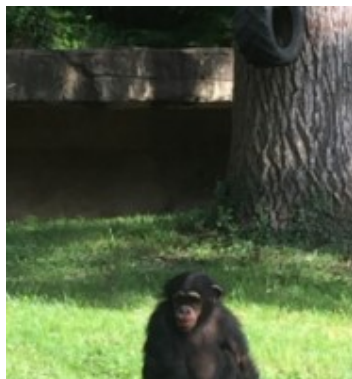
**EXPO HOURS  
Monday-Tuesday,  
August 26-27 from 9:00am-5:00pm**



**C&EN COMMENT, JULY 15, 2019:  
Senior Chemists on the Move  
and Paying It Forward  
[CHECK IT OUT!](#)**

*The following articles are a part of our on-going series about the many and varied activities of (mostly, but not all) retired senior chemists. We are always glad to hear from senior chemists. Tell us about some of the*

**activities you do or great places to visit. Please send your article, or a suggestion for an article, to the Senior Chemists Committee [INBOX](mailto:seniorchemists@acs.org) ✉ [seniorchemists@acs.org](mailto:seniorchemists@acs.org) (Editor)**



## A Zoo Docent by Carole Anderson

*Carole Anderson is the daughter of Dr. Ray Anderson, a retired chemist and member of the Senior Chemists Committee. She retired in 2015 after teaching 28 years in the Kansas City, Missouri Public School District. She has Bachelor's degrees in Psychology and Elementary Education, a Master's Degree in Curriculum and Instruction, and certification in ESL (English as a Second Language), all earned at the University of Missouri in Kansas City. Retirement pursuits include being a docent at the Kansas City Zoo and travel.*

I'm not the most likely person to write an article for senior chemists. While I did begin my career as a science teacher, funding for elementary science pretty much dried up in my district in the 90s. I subsequently spent the better part of my career teaching ESL, and, while hands-on science is a great way to get kids to use English, that's still a bit of a stretch. It could be that my father was looking for a column to fill, or it could be that he thinks my retirement is pretty cool!

I became a docent for my local zoo 26 years ago. As I was still teaching full time, my volunteering was limited to weekends and school holidays. I did typical docent-type things, generally interpreting exhibits and educating visitors about both the animals in our collection and their wild counterparts. I enjoyed it a lot, although some years it was challenging to fulfill the required hours.

Once I retired and my schedule opened up, I discovered a whole new world of zoo volunteering. There are literally hundreds of different opportunities to fit any particular skill set or interest. Best of all, you can select a variety of departments to spend your time with, so the work never becomes routine.

One of my favorite areas to volunteer is the commissary. It isn't very challenging work...pretty much anyone with solid knife skills and the ability to use a scale can do it. But it's hard to really comprehend how much a male lowland gorilla eats in a day until you've loaded up his 40 gallon Rubbermaid tub. You also learn a lot about individual animals, like how a nursing chimpanzee's nutritional needs skyrocket, or how keepers help manage diabetic baboons' health through diet. It raises interesting questions, too. I'm still not sure why our bobcat gets large mice while the eagle owls get extra-large specimens.

Another assignment I enjoy is walking some of our domesticated animals. Goats, donkeys, and even llamas are haltered and walked around zoo grounds. It gives the animals some exercise and a chance to be out of their exhibits, and perhaps to find something tasty to browse on. It's also a huge hit with our guests. We older folk may go to zoos primarily to see exotic animals, but, to the toddler set, coming face to face with a Nubian goat is just as exciting as spotting a leopard in a tree. To some urban kids, domestic animals are just as foreign to their experience as exotic ones.

The zoo also likes to have help with overnight programs. Scout groups, school groups, church groups, and families can camp out at the zoo, either in tents or indoors in one of the buildings. The campouts are themed and involve several educational activities, a night hike through the zoo and of course, s'mores. The activities are great fun, but they don't compare to the thrill of waking up to a lion's roar in the middle of the night. It's a spine-tingling experience not often found in the Midwest!

I could go on and on about the various experiences available as a zoo volunteer. I love it because every day is different. It's always rewarding and there are always opportunities to try something different. In fact, I just heard the elephant keepers are looking for help with a research project!

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## Diversity, the Key to a Happy Retirement by Ronald Archer

*Dr. Ronald D. Archer did his undergraduate work at Illinois State Normal University in Physical Sciences and received a Master's degree in Chemistry Education there, too. After serving time in the U.S. Army during the Korean War, he did his PhD at the University of Illinois in Inorganic Chemistry with John C. Bailar, Jr., who served as president of the American Chemical*



*Society while Ron was a student in his laboratory. After teaching for four years at the University of California Riverside and three years at Tulane University in New Orleans, Ron spent 33 years teaching at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst before retiring in 1999. He has many retirement activities, has been an ACS member for more than 60 years, is a member of the Connecticut Valley Section, and served as a Councilor for 36 years (1980-2016).*

When I retired in 1999, I had no idea what I'd do to fill my time. One of the first things I did was to write a book for Wiley: *Inorganic and Organometallic Polymers*. I'd been working on it before then, but hadn't made much progress while I was employed. The book took quite a bit of my time, although I also found time to spend a month in Florida each winter, and found the change of scene helped my writing, too.

My wife was having health problems, but she seemed better in Florida. Then in early 2004 shortly after we celebrated our 50th Wedding Anniversary with 75 friends and relatives, she passed away just as I was being inaugurated into the Rotary Club of Amherst. I was also the president of the University of Massachusetts Retired Faculty Association that year!



It was fortunate that I engaged myself in many new directions:

- Clarinet and choir music (which I discussed in an article last March);
- Evangelism with several Lutheran and Episcopal churches under partnership with John Vaught, which led to three Episcopal churches in Connecticut increasing their congregational giving by up to 30%;
- A support group with seven women, each of whom had lost her spouse, too;
- Rotary activities, including a very successful Oktoberfest, which could not be repeated due to Massachusetts laws that require all alcoholic beverages be dispensed by an employee of the business where the activity is being held; thus the breweries who offered to help us could not be asked to come back for a second year;
- Overseas travel, including several western and central European trips, one to Israel and Egypt, one to the Galapagos, one to the Panama Canal, one to Russia, etc.;
- Masonic activities (I just completed two years as the Marshall for Vernon lodge);
- Shriner activities (I'm secretary & treasurer of the one Shriner organization);
- Tabulation of the collections at my church once a month for the past 25 years;
- Tennis about twice a week all year long, and golf once a week in season plus a few times in Florida each winter (although I was slowed down with a broken hip in early 2018);
- American Chemical Society activities, including councilor for the Connecticut Valley Section from 1980-2016, chair of a task force that led to the Senior Chemists Committee; member of the Committee on Committees, Budget and Finance, Council Educational Policy Committee (including being chair), and now as a member of the Senior Chemists Committee.

On top of this, I've been the caregiver (14-17 hours per day) for my significant other (Margery Roy), who suffered two strokes in June/July 2013, and lives in a wheelchair in my condo. We do have aides mornings and evenings.

I enjoy being busy or I wouldn't do all these things. Once a year, I take a three to four-week break in Florida, and I attend most family activities my four children and five grandchildren throw at me, including graduations and weddings.

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## Independent Living in a Retirement Community by Anna Wilson

*Anna Wilson is a native of Indiana. She received her BS and MS in Chemistry Education from Purdue University, earned a teaching license, and taught in local high schools for a few years. After working in the Purdue Freshman Chemistry Prep Lab for four years, she was hired by the Biochemistry Department to create the position of Teaching Laboratory Coordinator which she held from 1975 to 2007. She has been an ACS member for 43 years, and has been active in many roles in the Division of Chemical Education, and is a member of the Senior Chemists Committee. She moved into her current living quarters at Westminster Village in June 2018.*

I was widowed at age 75 with one married daughter, a son-in-law, and three grandchildren who all lived about 200 miles away. I am in fairly good shape with no major physical or mental issues. I can cook, clean house, and manage my own business affairs. I have found that the main problem of an older single woman living alone is the general outdoor chores like mowing grass, trimming bushes, and snow removal. Other factors are the location of bathrooms and laundry facilities in a three-floor house. But the biggest drawback was being alone. I had friends but I had to go somewhere, or they needed to make arrangements to stop by, so I didn't see people very often. Mostly, it was just me, my computer, the TV, and a lot of books.

After two years, I looked at some retirement facilities in the area and decided on one near Purdue where I knew several people who already lived there. This facility has independent living and assisted living apartments of various sizes, larger apartments, and stand-alone cottages. There are several arrangements for purchasing your "new home" and a monthly fee which covers heating, basic TV, bi-monthly cleaning, all utilities, and one meal a day in the dining areas. There is a wellness group to help with everyday necessities if needed and a very extensive fitness area, including excellent staff. I have a 750 square feet apartment with three rooms (living room, bedroom, second bedroom/computer room), a small kitchen, two bathrooms, and more closet space than I had in my house.

The main benefit of my move is social interactions. I live on the first floor of a four-floor building where there are 14 apartments in two wings. Each floor has a lobby area with books, puzzles, chairs, couches, and small tables. You can sit out here and greet or chat with dozens of people a day if you wish. Everyone in the building is very friendly and helps to look out for each other. When I moved in, I felt I immediately had at least 20 new friends. The staff is very good, the food is good and plentiful. There is always something happening that I can join in or observe. All kinds of craft and physical activities are available for an individual or a group.

I have a friend who was widowed about the same time as me who moved into a stand-alone condo house. It has been much more difficult for her to meet new friends and become involved with activities. I think she envies my decision.



I am very happy with my decision to move to this facility. I have very good new friends, lots of people to interact with, and plenty of activities to keep me physically and mentally alive. The apartment is comfortable and big enough. I knew I would be happy here when I asked if I could use nails to hang my pictures and the coordinator said, "Of course. It is your home."

## Quinine: A Natural Product that Conquered the World by Søren Brøgger Christensen

*Søren Brøgger Christensen is a recently retired Emeritus Professor from the University of Copenhagen in Denmark, where he worked in the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences. He continues to work with colleagues and to write after retirement. Professor Søren Brøgger read the Senior Chemists' Newsletter, and contacted us to suggest writing an article about how chemistry has affected history - for example, in the synthesis or isolation of molecules that are important to medicine and to human life. One example is the isolation of the natural product quinine, which became very important in preventing and curing malaria as Dr. Christensen describes in the following article.*

The burden of malaria is illustrated by the facts that in 2017 about 435,000 people died from it. About 60% of these were children younger than five years.<sup>1</sup> Until quinine became available, mortality due to malaria prevented Europeans from going into Africa.<sup>2</sup> In the 19<sup>th</sup> century three quarters of the world's population, including Europeans and North Americans, were exposed to malaria.<sup>3</sup> The disease is caused by five different

species of *Plasmodium* parasites.<sup>4,5</sup> The majority of deaths are caused by infections with *P. falciparum* (cerebral malaria) which only exists in the tropics.<sup>4</sup> The first efficient drug against malaria was the bark of trees belonging to the genus *Cinchona* (Rubiaceae) which was endemic to the Andes in Peru.<sup>6-9</sup> Malaria was not a problem in pre-Columbian America, but the Incas might have used the bark to treat shivering.<sup>10,11,12</sup>

Jesuit monks brought the bark to Europe in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.<sup>9,13</sup> The drug proved its value by curing a number of patients in Europe including members of some royal families.<sup>9,13</sup> The use of Cinchona bark to prevent malaria in the British navy was suggested by Lind in 1768, based on its successful use at the siege of Belgrade in 1717.<sup>10</sup> The effects of the bark, however, were varying and probably caused by not knowing the quinine content, which could vary from a few percent up to 20%.<sup>13-16</sup> The French pharmacists Pelletier and Caventou succeeded in isolating quinine (Figure 1) from the bark in 1820 and shortly after they could produce 3500 kg a year.<sup>9,17</sup> The use of quinine instead of *Cinchona* bark was tremendous progress, since this enabled administration of the correct dose needed for a healing effect.<sup>4,17</sup>

Broussais probably was the first to cure malaria with quinine.<sup>18</sup> During the conquest of Algeria in 1834, the French military physician Maillot reduced the mortality among soldiers suffering from malaria from 23% to 4% by treatment with quinine.<sup>9</sup> A more impressive result was obtained by the British physician Baikie. In the fourth expedition on the river Niger in 1854, he prophylactic treated the crew with two times 250 mg of quinine a day resulting in no deaths from malaria.<sup>2</sup> The bitterness of quinine encouraged development of drinks like gin and tonic, Schweppes and Dubonnet in order to mask the taste.<sup>9,19</sup> The discoveries of Maillot and Baikie paved the way for the Europeans to colonize Africa, India, and South East Asia.<sup>9</sup> The successful prevention of malaria increased the demand for quinine during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. In order to meet the demand, expeditions to Peru were performed to bring *Cinchona* seeds to Asia to create plantations. In 1865, Ledger found seeds in Peru, from which high quinine producing *Cinchona* trees could be grown on Java.<sup>7</sup> Having ensured a stable quinine supply, the European powers agreed on the colonization of Africa at the Berliner conference 1885. During the Second World War, blockage of the supply of Cinchona bark from Indonesia by the Japanese was a severe drawback for the Americans in the Pacific war.

To review the citations noted in this article, please [click here](#).

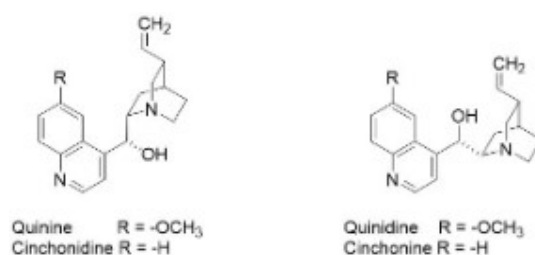


Figure 1 - Quinine, quinidine, cinchonine and cinchonidine

*We continue to celebrate 2019 as the "International Year of the Periodic Table" and in doing so, we've decided to share highlights from some work being done by an ACS International Chapter and with international students. We turn our focus below to two articles on work being done towards the mission of the Senior Chemists Committee to "improve lives using the knowledge and experience of senior chemists" and the establishment of the ACS South Korea Chapter.*

## Conversations with International Students by Bob Angelici



*Dr. Robert Angelici did his undergraduate chemistry degree at St. Olaf College, and his graduate work at Northwestern University in Inorganic Chemistry. Most of his career was spent at Iowa State University, teaching and doing research in various aspects of the organometallic chemistry of the transition metals. After retirement, he began the activity discussed in the following article. He also*



*enjoys bicycling, golf, bowling, dancing, travelling, and attending performing arts events. He has been an ACS member for 59 years, and is currently a member of the Ames Section.*

After I retired, I wanted to continue to be involved in the chemistry department at Iowa State University. I had always enjoyed working with graduate students. I realized that some international graduate students struggled with the English language. As many of these students began their graduate programs as Teaching Assistants (TAs), it was necessary for them to pass a university-administered English-speaking exam that qualified them for either laboratory or recitation (quiz section) teaching duties. Those who did not achieve a score that qualified them for all possible TA assignments were required to take a course that emphasized spoken English communication. As new students in the department, who had not yet joined a research group in their first semester, their personal contacts were primarily with students from their own country. In order to give students an opportunity to practice their English, I created the [English Conversation Group \(ECG\)](#).

The chairman of the chemistry department agreed to let me invite students to join the ECG with the goal of helping them to achieve a higher English score that would make them eligible for a broader range of TA assignments. The TA coordinator in the department identified students who might benefit from practicing their English. The sizes of the first-year ECG groups have ranged from three to nine students during the past nine years that I have had such groups. During our hour-long meetings once a week, we initially practiced various sections of the university English test, part of which involved giving a five-minute lecture on a chemistry topic in a setting that simulated a classroom. Some students even opted to give hour-long lectures on various topics ranging from their undergraduate research to cooking their favorite Chinese dish. Other groups enjoyed having discussions on a range of topics, including sports, food, cars, music, etc. We also talked about more practical topics like opening a bank account or buying a car.

By the end of the first semester, all of the students had joined a research group and had also taken the university English test again. Most of them improved their scores, and I asked if they would like to continue our weekly conversations in the Spring semester. Usually about half of them continued. In the smaller group, we talked about more personal topics ---- families, career goals, and their current research projects. They were interested in my life experiences and in various aspects of American culture. From time-to-time, a student would talk with me privately about a personal concern. I mostly acted as a sounding board that would help them to see different sides of a situation that would help them to make a thoughtful decision.

At the end of the second semester, one or two students would continue conversations during the summer and into the Fall of their second year. At the same time, I would begin a new ECG group with first-year students. So, as the years went by, I would typically have three active groups at the same time. Sometimes postdocs from various research groups and even from another department would join. Participants came from many countries: China, Korea, Vietnam, Iran, Turkey, and India; in recent years, most have come from China. When students reached the stage where they began writing their first papers, I would talk with them about the paper-writing process and details of composition and sentence structure. I continue to enjoy learning from and conversing with international students.

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## ACS South Korea International Chapter

by Choon H. Do (2014 Chair of the South Korean Chapter)

**Establishment:** ACS South Korea International Chemical Sciences Chapter was established in April 2014. It was initiated by the suggestion of Professor Eli M. Pearce, ACS president in 2002 during the 246th ACS National Meeting in Indianapolis, September 2013. He directed Dr. Choon H. Do to contact Dr. Bradley Miller, former Director of the Office of International Affairs (OIA), for the preparation. With assistance of the staff within OIA, Dr. Do and Dr. Yung Doug Suh applied for the establishment of the chapter with 30 signatures ACS members in Korea in December 2013. Once the Korean Chapter was established, we registered the Korean Chapter as a corporation, so that it becomes an official scientific organization in Korea. The registration is the most important matter to operate the Chapter in Korea in February 2016. Dr. H. N. Cheng, and Prof. Ellene Contis, Chairs of the Committee on International Activities (IAC) and Dr. Attila Pavlath, ACS



president in 2000, gave valuable advice for the operation of the young Chapter. Ricardo McKlmon and Lori Brown (OIA staff) assisted with communications.

**Succession of the Chapter:** The chapter chairs and secretaries have been elected according to the Bylaws of the chapter every year successfully: August 2014-2015: Chair, Prof. C. H. Do (Sunchon National Univ.), Secretary, Prof. H. Sohn (Chosun Univ.); 2016: Chair, D. S. Chung (Seoul National Univ.), Secretary, Y. D. Suh (KRICT); 2017: Chair, Prof. C. G. Cho (Hanyang Univ.), Secretary, Prof. T. H. Park (Postech); 2018: Chair, Prof. E. Kim (Yonsei Univ.), Secretary, Prof. B. Jeong (Ewha Womans Univ.); 2019: Chair, Prof. S.Y. Kim (KAIST), Secretary; Prof. J.W. Park (GIST), Chair-Elect for 2019, Prof. W. G. Kim (Korea Univ.).

**Activities:** ACS Korean Chapter Official Launch was held in Busan in August 2015. Chair Dr. H.N. Cheng of IAC, the ACS Director of Membership and Director of OIA, and several staff attended the Launch, too. We presented Student Travel Awards jointly with IAC to encourage attending the ACS meetings and Korean Nights. Dr. C. H. Do and Dr. Agnes Rimando, a member of IAC planned a symposium as an initial joint effort of Korean chapter and IAC in 2014 and the ACS Agricultural & Food Division (AGFD) symposium on Korean foods and beverages was held at the 253rd ACS Meeting in April 2018 in San Francisco. The ACS Symposium Series Book on the symposium will be published soon. The first Joint Conference of ACS Asia-Pacific International Chapters was held in Jeju, Korea in November 5-8, 2017.

**Prospect:** The section has a membership of 100, and is still working on its activities, its financial standing, and other matters. The main effort is given to expand the roles of the chapter and to promote the scientific connection among the chapter members in Korea with colleagues of ACS members in the United States and worldwide, as well. We believe the continuous support from the ACS is also vital for the further development of the chapter activities, which is, in a way, to accomplish the purpose of the chapter.

## SENIOR OLYMPICS UPDATE FROM THE ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL

*Portions of this article were previously published in the Albuquerque Journal and provided to SCC by Dr. Kathleen Schultz. Kathleen is an ACS fellow and has been a member for more than 50 years. She has served ACS in many positions and is currently a member of the ACS Board of Directors.*

“E. Gerald Meyer is back home in his native Albuquerque to run the 100 and 200 meters. It’s the eighth National Senior Games for the emeritus professor of chemistry and former Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Wyoming, and a past president of the American Institute of Chemists. Meyer was a faculty member at the University of New Mexico from 1950 to 1992, and New Mexico Highlands University as head of the chemistry department from 1953–1963.”

Gerry is a member of the Senior Chemists’ Committee, and a special symposium in his honor will be held at the ACS meeting in San Diego, on Tuesday August 27 at the Hilton San Diego Bayfront Hotel. Congratulations Gerry. You did it!



Credit: Photo of Meyer by Albuquerque Journal

## What Chemistry Legacy Will You Leave?

by Susan Ainsworth, Communications Program Manager, ACS Development



Professor Emeritus [John Wiesenfeld](#) was motivated to become an ACS Legacy Leader to honor his father, who was a chemist. [Cathy Sigal](#), retired Director of International Research at JDRF, allocated money in her will to augment the [Irving S. Sigal Postdoctoral Research Fellowship](#) established in memory of her husband, a



brilliant biochemist who died in 1988. Yet another Legacy Leader, [E. Gerald Meyer](#), a University of Wyoming Professor Emeritus, made a gift to the ACS Scholars Program to endow the E.G. Meyer Family Scholarship to open the door to chemistry to more underrepresented minority students.

As someone who has also carved out a distinguished career in chemistry, what legacy will YOU leave? Becoming an ACS Legacy Leader is as simple as providing an indication in writing that you have made an estate gift to ACS. Some contributions that qualify are:

- Making a bequest in a will or trust.
- Naming ACS as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy.
- Creating a life income gift that will ultimately benefit ACS.
- Naming ACS as a beneficiary of an IRA or other retirement plan.

Making a gift through your will is a powerful way to support the next generation of chemical scientists. To learn more, go to: [www.acs.org/legacy](http://www.acs.org/legacy) or contact Mary Bet Dobson, CAP®, Assistant Director of ACS Development at 202-872-4094 or [PlannedGifts@acs.org](mailto:PlannedGifts@acs.org).



## Chemistry Café

Welcome to Chemistry Café. This column provides tips and tools to help you communicate effectively about your work, research, studies, or activities and public engagement. Our goal is to help you tell your story about science and, in the process, put a human face on chemistry. Each column covers one topic. Let us know how we can support you by sending questions, suggestions and feedback to [chemistrycafe@acs.org](mailto:chemistrycafe@acs.org).

### Four tips for communicating complex ideas

As the field of chemistry continues to grow, chemists and chemistry professionals are called on more and more to present on research and science to audiences with non-science backgrounds. Moving the science forward centers on our ability to share information and experiences with others. To do so, we must optimize our communication techniques to reach beyond the discipline. Here are four tips to communicate complex ideas more clearly:

**Explain it like you would to your neighbor:** When describing a complex concept, technical jargon will

## Honoring Our Delaware Section History

This past year, our Delaware ACS section celebrated its 100th anniversary with an article in our Del-Chem Bulletin, a general meeting to recognize 50,60 and 70 year members and a display of historic pictures of places, persons and things that were part of Section programs, activities and accomplishments during those 100 years. We even had a 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary cake with the Periodic Table (all 118 elements). Those in attendance at the meeting received an ACS element pin Fm (Fermium) for the 100<sup>th</sup> element. Our Section is rich in heritage and many of its members have made notable contributions to the chemical profession in industry, academia and public service. Since this activity was a memorable event, a group of our senior chemists (Chem-Vets) decided it would be nice to share some of these pictures and historical items from our section in a display at the University of Delaware's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry Lammot DuPont Laboratory on campus in Newark, Delaware. We also thought that since it was the International Year of the Periodic Table, we would do an exhibit on this timely topic as well. We were granted permission to use display cases in the lobbies of both laboratories to set up the exhibit that we had previously used to display Carother's original laboratory equipment he used to make Nylon and Stephanie Kwolek's items that she used to make Kevlar. We thought the exhibit would attract the attention of University of Delaware students and the public and would remind them of

distance you from reaching a broader audience. Reduce or eliminate acronyms or industry-specific terms, when possible. Practice your material on someone who is not familiar with your field.

**Get creative in your delivery:** Use every day analogies to relay your content in a simple way. When you can, link back to the human perspective and explain how the research is impactful. Focus on storytelling with data. Demonstrating data trends and patterns over time can further explain and empower your findings in a clear-cut way. When presenting on a complex subject, break up the humdrum of a lecture by posing a question or including an interactive game.

**Kick up the visual appeal:** Imagery and illustration in presentations are especially compelling to the eye. Explore new ways to present your information. Consider switching from the traditional slide deck to more visually interactive presentations with motion graphics and a zoomable canvas. Images and infographics help illustrate content in a memorable way for your audience.

**Recap for a clean finish:** Whether your information is complex or just high in volume, it's important always to include a concise top-level summary at the close to reiterate the takeaways from your presentation. This leaves your audience feeling informed.

the importance of the past chemists and their accomplishments.



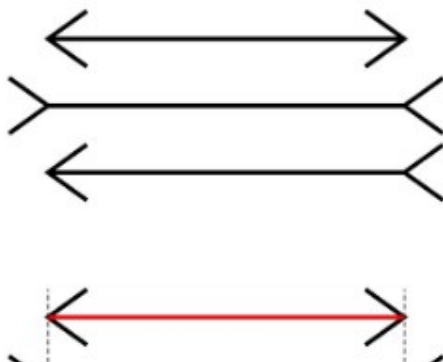
We thought it would also be a nice activity for other Senior Chemist Committee members in their respective Local Sections with their own history to share our experience. Hence, I submitted this article to the Senior Chemist's Newsletter. Many senior chemists have close association with their graduate schools, alumni and classmates and possibly could contact their schools about setting up an exhibit too. Hopefully, current students, alumni and professors would learn more about the local sections and past members who have contributed to our profession. This activity could also generate some interest and participation from local ACS section student affiliates. The event was free, open to the public and the display will be open at least for a year or two.

Norm Henry and Al Denio

Senior Chemists, Delaware Section

## Sleights of Mind: Mysteries and Myths of Cognitive Deception SCC Breakfast Speaker in Orlando by Thomas Beattie

*Thomas Beattie is the former SCC chair and is now a consultant to the committee. He gained his PhD in Physical Organic Chemistry at the University of Wisconsin. He is an ACS Fellow and a member of the San Diego Local Section. Since SCC's inception, Beattie has led planning for the SCC Breakfast which has has a successful series of speakers.*



On April 2, 2019, at the Senior Chemists Breakfast held in Orlando, FL, the audience was captivated by the talk presented by Dr. Peter Hancock, Provost Distinguished Research Professor in the Department of Psychology and the Institute for Simulation and Training at the University of Central Florida. The talk was called "Sleights of Mind: Mysteries and Myths of Cognitive Deception". Beginning with some well-known examples of visual deception such as Mobius drawings and simple drawings specifically designed to deceive, he went on to describe more subtle attempts, such as the painting by the German painter Hans




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Holbein the Younger in the National Gallery in London, and the Piltdown Man hoax.

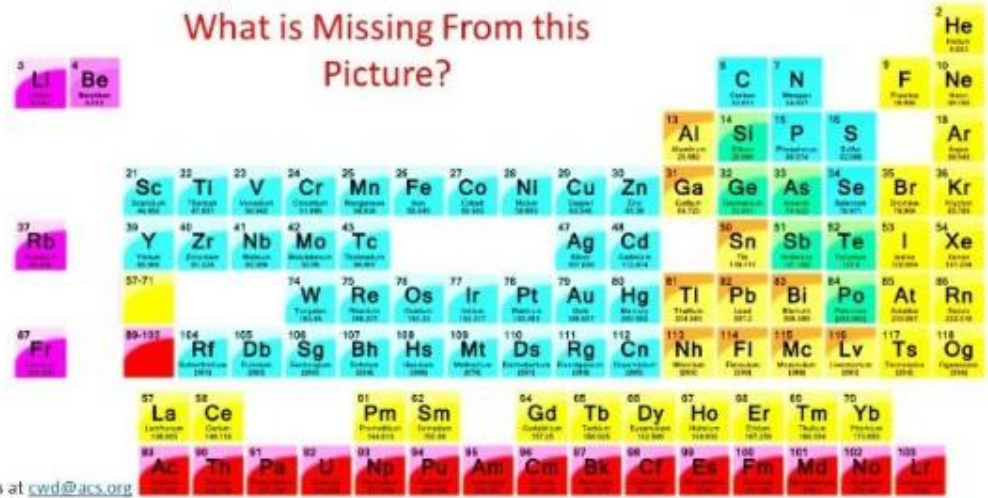
In the Holbein painting of 1533 titled "The Ambassadors", there is an image in the foreground which is at first difficult to make out.

When told it is a distorted skull (representing mortality), it becomes somewhat believable but it is still hard to see. It is only when one stands to the right of it, and close to the plane of the painting that the true image of the skull becomes evident. Remarkable trickery from almost 500 years ago! [Try googling](#) this painting to see for yourself!

Professor Hancock then spent some time describing the "Piltdown Man" hoax. Try Amazon to see if you can locate his Piltdown Man book. From the examples presented here, you might guess that Professor Hancock is English (Holbein was German, but he lived for a while in London). If Professor Hancock's topic seems of interest, you can learn more by reading his book "Hoax Springs Eternal: The Psychology of Human Deception".

 ACS Committee  
Chemists with Disabilities

## What is Missing From this Picture?



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### EDITOR'S NOTE

by Lynn Hartshorn

We hope you have enjoyed reading this Newsletter. We welcome your comments and suggestions. **As always, we need articles from our readers!** The Newsletter would not be possible without the help of our readers. We publish a wide variety of articles: examples include chemistry, senior activities and retirement, trips to unusual destinations and interesting museums, the history of science, volunteer activities, etc. If you have an idea but are not sure if it would be a suitable article, send an email with your suggestion to: [SeniorChemists@acs.org](mailto:SeniorChemists@acs.org).

The maximum length is 500 words, but shorter articles are welcome. **Please submit your articles and ideas to the email address above, in the form of a Doc or DocX.** Photos and images are very welcome, please submit them in JPEG or PDF formats.



Thanks, and we look forward to hearing from you.

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**Staff Liaison:** Ms. Semora Johns Smith

**Committee Contact Information:** [SeniorChemists@ACS.org](mailto:SeniorChemists@ACS.org)

*(\*) ACS Fellows*

American Chemical Society | [1155 Sixteenth Street, NW | Washington, DC 20036](https://www.acs.org)

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