For information on section activities visit our web site at:

www.delawareacs.org
Artic Blast –
As I write this on January 3, Delaware is suffering from very cold weather. We expect some cold days at 20°F, but recent temperatures have approached 0°F. This should not be a problem for me after 34 years of living in northern Wisconsin where we experienced -30°F, not counting wind chill. But I was younger then! We need some Global Warming at this point.

Amazing Tyvek –
Several new apartment buildings are under construction in Newark and they all seem to use Tyvek Home Wrap between the inner and outer walls. This reminds me of my first introduction to this flashspun high-density polyethylene fiber web. It was invented by Jim White in 1955 at DuPont. I first saw Tyvek in 1962 at the Pioneering Research Lab at the Experimental station. They were exploring applications for this unique nonwoven fabric. One example was to use it as a replacement for paper in scientific journals, making them more durable. Bookbindings were examined, along with extra durable mailing envelopes. I even recall a photo of Joe Labovsky’s driveway covered in Tyvek before a snowstorm. That idea did not pan out!

Eventually DuPont figured out an excellent application of Tyvek — in building construction as a breathable moisture barrier. This has been a very successful use for this product. Other applications include wristbands, protective clothing, mailing bags, etc.

I recall a funny incident about ten years ago when Chad Halliday was C.E.O. of DuPont. The Delaware Art Museum was building a new addition and it was close to his home. He was alarmed when he saw a cheap substitute for Tyvek being used! He called the Museum Director and raised some interesting points – like the Museum was founded by DuPont family members who had long been major donors to the Museum. Construction stopped, the cheap knockoff was removed and Tyvek

continued on page 12
CHAIR’S COLUMN

As I am writing this column, holiday season is over, lights and decorations on houses and windows are down, and it is freezing cold outside. At least, the winter solstice is over, days will become longer, and soon we will welcome spring again.

Motion of the sun and the seasons has been a mean to keep record of time for every civilization. This holiday season I was fortunate enough to visit the ancient Mayan city Chichén Itzá and observe its famous Kukulkan pyramid, which served Mayans are not only one of the civilizations that invented a very precise calendar, but they were also the first ‘polymer engineers’, who discovered natural rubber and how to process it to produce rubber balls. I was fascinated by the complexity of the engineering behind the construction of all the temples and the effort of Mayan people to keep detailed records of their history, through which we can shed light to events that occurred centuries ago. As I was watching the magnificent structures at the archeological site, I couldn’t help thinking of what would be preserved from our century in thousands of years from now.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the ACS Delaware section. While it is easy to say, it is an impressive amount of time. Over the years our section showed a tremendous effort to acknowledge achievements, activities, and accomplishments.

continued on page 12

Disclaimer: The views and opinions expressed in the columns are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect those of the Delaware Local Section.
Greetings, Happy New Year and
Invitation to Celebrate Our
Delaware Section’s 100th Anniversary

This year our Delaware ACS section will be celebrating the 100th Anniversary of our Delaware Section. We are in the initial phase of planning a program and events this coming year and plan to have a meeting in early January to discuss options and schedule. We would like your input and participation, particularly if you have any thoughts, pictures and/or ideas to share. We will be coordinating the event with the Executive Committee, Del-Chem Bulletin Staff and special Anniversary Committee composed of section members volunteering to help.

I took the initiative to write an article on the past 50 years (since 1967) of history of the section based on my personal knowledge, participation and experience as a member during that time to the present 2017 following Herman Skolnik’s 50th year format published in the May issue of the Del-Chem Bulliten in 1967. A copy of my article has been reviewed by the Executive Committee and will be published. We would like to have your participation too and would like to have any pictures or memories you would like to share. The intent of this celebration is to preserve the past, sustain the present and perpetuate the future of our section. Hopefully we can use the information developed on our section’s history to display in the University of Delaware’s Brown Laboratory lobby where students can view some of the contributions of our section’s members both to industry, academia and community.

Norm Henry
Self appointed Historian 100th Anniversary Celebration

Piril Ertem
Chairman Delaware Section ACS 2018
Announcements

A New Chapter Begins

The Chemical Heritage Foundation is thrilled to announce that on February 1, we’ll become the Science History Institute.

At the end of 2015 the boards of CHF and the San Francisco–based Life Sciences Foundation approved a merger of the two organizations. Meetings between CHF and LSF revealed plans and ambitions that were remarkably similar. Rather than continue on parallel paths, leadership on both sides decided to bring the two organizations together. However, the name “Chemical Heritage Foundation” didn’t fit our new focus since we now study the history of chemistry, chemical engineering, and the life sciences. Our new name, Science History Institute, describes what we do today (study the history of the chemical and molecular sciences and accompanying engineering fields) and leaves us room to explore emerging fields as they develop. The new website and social media handles will be launched on February 1st.

WikiSalon

February 10, 2018
1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.
Chemical Heritage Foundation
315 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Interested in joining the ranks of this online encyclopedia’s volunteer editors? Stop by for our monthly WikiSalon, a casual gathering of Wikipedia enthusiasts and those interested in learning more. Participants can edit articles of their own choice and suggest articles needing improvement to the group. You provide your own laptop; we provide coffee, tea, and plenty of opportunity for spontaneous discussion and collaboration.

First-timer? No problem! One of our experienced guests will coach you through the process.

The Things We Keep

February 13, 2018
6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.
Chemical Heritage Foundation
315 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Sean Kelley, senior vice president at Eastern State Penitentiary and longtime staff member, will share personal and moving stories behind the historic site’s most

Things We Keep continued on page 6
prized artifacts, including inmate-made objects and replicas honoring the penitentiary’s historic features.

Make a special Valentine for your own beloved object (or person!), explore the exhibition Things Fall Apart, and enjoy a reception featuring live music, hors d’oeuvres, and drinks all inspired by the theme of love.

This program is presented as part of our exhibition Things Fall Apart, which explores the life and afterlife of things—and why we fight to preserve them.

Registration for this event is required. Tickets are $20 per person, $35 per couple. For more information, contact Alexis Pedrick at apedrick@chemheritage.org.

About Eastern State Penitentiary

Eastern State Penitentiary was once the most famous and expensive prison in the world, but it stands today in ruin, a haunting world of crumbling cellblocks and empty guard towers. Known for its grand architecture and strict discipline, this was the world’s first true “penitentiary,” a prison designed to inspire penitence, or true regret, in the hearts of prisoners. Its vaulted, skylighted cells once held many of America’s most notorious criminals, including Al Capone and bank robber “Slick Willie” Sutton.

Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site is located at 22nd Street and Fairmount Avenue, just five blocks from the Philadelphia Museum of Art. The penitentiary is open to visitors seven days a week, year round.

Guided Tour

February 24, 2018
2:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m.
Chemical Heritage Foundation
315 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106

Take a deeper dive into our permanent collection and changing exhibitions with a guided tour!

Hear strange and surprising stories from the history of science, and take advantage of the opportunity to chat with our experienced staff.

Hour-long, drop-in tours take place at 2:00 p.m. on the last Saturday of each month. Admission is free, and no reservations are necessary.
Delaware Section Executive Committee

Pictured (from left to right) are:
Martha Hollomon (councilor), Giang Vo (past-chair), Rakesh Nambiar (alternate councilor), Norm Henry (alternate councilor), Andrea Martin (director), Piril Ertem (chair elect 2018), Tiiffany Hoerter (councilor), Julie Brady (secretary), Allison Moore (director), Kim Huynh-Ba (alternate councilor).

Missing from the photo are Peiwen Zheng (past chair), Alicia Briegel (treasurer), Biswajit Choudhury (director), John Gavenonis (councilor), Maggie Schooler (councilor) and Nora Radu (alternate councilor).
Delaware ACS
Networking Happy Hour

Date: Thursday, Feb 15th, 2018

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 pm

Location: BBC Tavern and Grill
4019 Kennett Pike
Greenville
DE 19807

Cost: Free (registration required)
Food will be provided. Soft drinks and alcoholic beverages will be available for cash at the bar.

Please register so we can have enough food.

How to register?
Registration link can be found on the link on our website at www.delawareacs.org, or e-mail delawareacs@gmail.com to receive a link to online registration.

Members who are unable to register online should contact Piril Ertem at 302-407-4220.

What to expect?
1. Network with fellow members
2. Meet with the executive committee.
3. Provide input on future events, share memories of past events.

For information on section activities visit our website at www.delawareacs.org.
Chair Giang Vo called the meeting to order at 6:07 P.M.

Chair’s Report:
Giang introduced Piril Ertem to the attendees and thanked her again for taking on the position of Chair-Elect. He thanked the Committee for all their help during the past year and for allowing him the opportunity of being Chair.

Past-Chair’s Report:
Giang reported that Peiwen Zheng was unable to attend and had no report.

Chair-Elect’s Report:
Piril reported on Carothers Committee business. Tiffany Hoerter and Nora Radu are working on updating the website information pertaining to the Carothers award. C&EN news will publish a request for nominations in January, which does not historically generate many nominations. Nominations from the Executive Committee would be appreciated. Allison Moore asked again that the nomination recipient be updated.

The January meeting will be on the 16th, at the DuPont Country Club, featuring Dr. Pat Confalone.

Piril is working on the budget for next year and will send it out in January.

Secretary’s Report:
Julie Brady reported that National ACS has indicated that Rakesh Nambiar is not eligible to serve as a director as he is no longer an ACS member. Julie emailed Rakesh to check on his status but has not heard back. The position will need to be filled if he does not reinstate membership.

One of the College awardee letters was returned. Julie will attempt to contact the student via email.

Treasurer’s Report:
No report

Reports of Committees and Related Groups

Awards:
Nominations for the Section Awards are still being solicited. The College Award and Blunt Scholarship awards will also be presented at that meeting, in early spring. Norm thanked Julie for handling the awards correspondence.

Carothers:
Biswajit Choudhury, Giang, and Piril reported on the recent meeting. John Gavenonis and Neal Zondlo have left the committee. There are three new members of the committee, and a new chair, Andy Combs. They will discuss the secretary position
at the next meeting. Norm suggested that the Awards committee chair be a member of the Carothers committee. Tiffany suggested checking and possibly updating the Carothers committee procedures. Piril and Jit will follow through on this.

Jit noted that the past awards have been heavily skewed to one sub-discipline and that the committee would appreciate diversity in the nominations.

Centennial:

Norm reported on the history and article he has been working on. He has received feedback from a number of members. He requested that a picture of the Executive Committee be taken at the meeting, which was done. He has contacted Sheree Gold about putting information in the DelChem Bulletin, and Tiffany will put information on the website.

The Delaware Academy of Science is offering to feature the Centennial as their next display at Brown Laboratory at UD. Kim Hyunh-Ba suggested a calendar, or something similar be sent to members to mark the Centennial and Section activities. Andrea Martin suggested meetings focused on discoveries by members of the Section. Funds for the Centennial need to be included in the budget. Allison suggested tying an event to the 50-60 year member event.

Old Business:
Martha requested approval to sponsor MARM in 2021. It would be at UD starting the Wednesday after their graduation. Those involved in the recent proposal have agreed to stay involved. Approval now will allow the MARM Chairs access to training. Tiffany suggested re-sending the proposal for the Executive Committee’s review so it can be voted on when a quorum is present.

Kim inquired about the ACS training available to councilors and alternate councilors. Tiffany discussed the process of substitution at National meeting.

New Business:
The Committee thanked Giang for serving as Chair this year, it was highly appreciated. Allison moved to adjourn, Tiffany seconded. The motion carried, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 P.M.

Officers and Councilors Present:
Giang Vo, Julie Brady, Biswajit Choudhury, Piril Ertem, Norm Henry, Tiffany Hoerter, Kim Huynh-Ba, Martha Hollomon, Andrea Martin, Allison Moore.

Officers and Councilors Absent:
Alicia Briegel, John Gavenonis, Rakesh Nambiar, Nora Radu, Maggie Schooler, Peiwen Zheng

Others Present: none

Respectfully submitted,

Julie E. Brady
The Awards Committee of the Delaware Section of the ACS completed another successful year selecting and recognizing members, teachers and students for their contributions to chemistry, section outreach activities, leadership in research, teaching and academic achievements. In April Professor Stephan L. Buchwald received the Carother’s Award at the DuPont Country Club in recognition of his contributions for outstanding advances in catalyzed chemical reactions. The title of his presentation was “Palladium-Catalyzed Carbon-Heteroatom Bond-Forming Reactions”. In September 50, 60 and for the first time 70 year members of ACS were recognized with membership certificates at a lunch meeting at the Double Tree Hotel in Wilmington, DE.

College student awardees were also selected for the outstanding junior in Chemistry and Biochemistry and Chemical Engineering Departments at the University of Delaware and the Blunt Memorial Scholarship Award for academic achievements in chemistry at Delaware Technical Community College. In December nominees were solicited for the Delaware Section Award and the Tillman-Skolnick Award for contributions to the chemistry profession and to the Delaware Section’s program respectively. Dr. Robert Fallon from the University of Delaware was chosen to receive the Delaware Section Award to be given at a section meeting in March 2017. Also in December, Sharon Kreamer (Tatnell School) was selected to receive the High School Teacher’s Award and will receive her award at the March 2017 section meeting too. Text Book awardees were selected by their high school science advisors for outstanding senior high school students for their academic achievements. All these awards were scheduled and presented at our section in March 2017. The awards committee is also trying to encourage more award nominations from high schools and industry this coming year and has also allocated more funds in its budget for recognizing students for their academic achievements.

Norm Henry
Chairman Delaware Section Awards Committee
CHAIR’S COLUMN continued from page 3

ments of our members. Thanks to Herman Skolnik, 1962 chairman of the section, we have reports on 50th and 75th anniversaries documenting rich history of our section. Of course, much has changed over the last 25 years. For instance, we are publishing DelChem bulletin electronically since 2006, which allowed reaching out to a larger audience. This year we will do our best to preserve the past to sustain the present. I would like to thank Norman Henry for taking the initiative to write a report on the past 50 years of the section. Please read his invitation letter to celebrate the 100th anniversary, and feel free to reach out to any of the executive committee members with your ideas or memories you would like to share.

We kicked off this year with a great event as a joint effort with the ChemVets. Our host was Dr. Pat Confalone, whose presentation reminded us the greater purpose of ACS; engaging chemists and society, not only on national level but also globally. Learning about continuous growth of ACS and the role of the ACS Board of Directors was a valuable experience as a young chemist and as a member of the ACS Delaware executive committee. I would like to thank Dr. Confalone one more time for accepting our invitation, ChemVets for their endless effort to keep the chemists of the Delaware area connected, and our members for their attendance.

Last but not the least, I would like to invite you to the first networking event of the year. We will host a Happy Hour on February 15th at the BBC Tavern and Grill. I hope to see you there.

Piril

Crazy Weather  Al Denio continued from page 2

replaced it. I wonder if that tidbit is now in Halliday’s resume?

The DuPont Diaper Fiasco – The Textile Fibers Department was impressed by the growing use of disposable diapers. That seemed like a great area to explore so they set up a Diaper Project. Val and I had a son and daughter in diapers at that point (1962) so we volunteered to help in the testing.

A colleague on the project was studying the flushability of the diapers. He had a toilet hooked up to Pyrex glass piping! His research notebook now in storage, would be a fun read.

Val and I were quite impressed with the diapers that we tested. It appeared that the company could capture a major share of the market. There was only one problem when the Board of Directors decided not to proceed. DuPont did not own a forest like the competition so that the wood pulp starting material would be costly. I wonder why that question was not raised before the company spent a ton of money? I should note that our young diaper testers suffered no ill effects and are now U.S. government Taxpayers.
Call for Nominations for Section Officers and Councilors

The Delaware Section of the American Chemical society is looking for candidates for local section officers to run in the May 2018 elections. The terms would begin January 2019. If you or someone you know is interested in running for the following positions, please contact Giang Vo at 302-695-7318 or by email at giadongvo@gmail.com. The deadline for submission of materials is March 1, 2018.

The positions that are open include:

- Chair…………………………………………….1 year term
- Chair Elect............................................................1 year term
- Secretary...............................................................2 year term
- Director.................................................................3 year term
- Councilors.............................................................3 year term
- Alternate Councilors...............................................3 year term

Job descriptions can be found at:

http://www.delawareacs.org/documents

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INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

NuMega Resonance Labs ..............14
Robertson Microlit Labs ..............14
Micron ..................................14
Scenes From Our January 16th Meeting

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February
10 WikiSalon, Chemical Heritage Foundation, 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
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