

theCHEMICALbulletin

MARCH • 1999

CHICAGO SECTION AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY PUBLIC AFFAIRS AWARD MEETING

FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 1999

COMO INN
546 North Milwaukee Avenue
Chicago, IL

DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING

From the North: Take I-90/94 to Ogden Avenue exit. Turn left onto Ogden to Milwaukee Av. And proceed South. The restaurant is located just over the expressway.

From the South: Take I-90/94 to Lake St. exit. Turn left on Lake to Halsted St. Turn right on Halsted to Milwaukee Av. Turn Left on Milwaukee to the restaurant.

FREE OR VALET PARKING

SOCIAL HOUR 6:00-7:00 P.M.
Cash Bar Available

DINNER 7:00 P.M.

Dinner reservations are required and should be received in the section office (847/647-8405) by noon on Tuesday, March 9, 1999. Dinner cost is \$23 to Section members who have paid their local section dues, members' families, visiting ACS members. Cost to non-members is \$25. Seating will be available for those who wish to attend the meeting without dinner. PLEASE HONOR YOUR RESERVATIONS. The Section must pay for all dinners ordered. No-shows will be billed.

The menu consists of Soup, House Salad, Pollo Champagne (Breast of Chicken sauteed in butter with mushrooms served with a light champagne sauce), Side of Pasta, Potato and Vegetable of the Day, Italian Bread, Italian Ice, and beverage. Fish entree (Baked Halibut Ortonato, spicy preparation) or vegetable plate available upon request at the time of reservation.

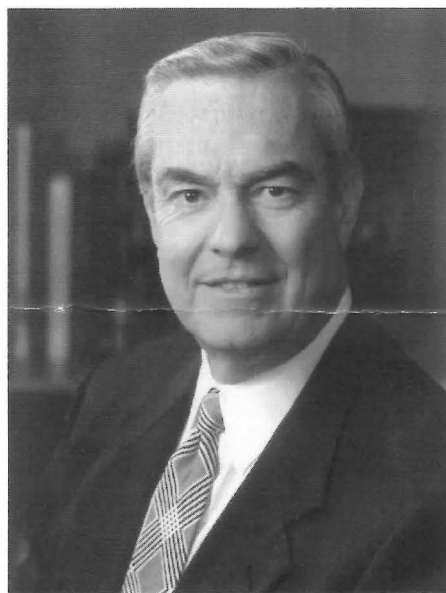
GENERAL MEETING 8:00 P.M.

1999 Public Affairs Award
to
Bill Kurtis

CITATION:

"For using the medium of television to educate schoolchildren about the mystery, adventure and satisfaction of scientific discovery, for helping to enlighten the general public regarding the role that science and technology continues to play in shaping our civilization, and for sharing generously your knowledge, time and experience with scientific, public and private organizations, we honor you with this award"

THE SPEAKER:



BILL KURTIS, Kurtis Productions, Ltd., Chicago, IL.

Bill Kurtis is well known to television viewers in the Chicago area. Although he has spent most of the last thirty plus years in Chicago, he is a native of Independence, Kansas. Bill graduated from

the University of Kansas with a BS in Journalism in 1962 and received his Juris Doctor from Washburn University School of Law in 1966. After passing the Kansas Bar that same year, instead of going into the practice of law, he headed for Chicago where he became a TV reporter for Channel 2, the local CBS outlet. It was one of the most exciting times in our nation's history to be a reporter, for there was much news in the streets during the sixties. Practically everyday brought some type of newsworthy demonstrations, civil disturbance or political activity. For a young reporter from a relatively small Kansas

(continued on page 2)

JOB CLUB

The next meeting of the Chicago Section Job Club will be held on Friday, March 12 at Como Inn at 5 p.m. The Job Club provides a continuing opportunity for unemployed members of the Section to meet with one another, share their experiences and develop a network that may help in identifying employment opportunities. Bring plenty of resumes and business cards to distribute to your colleagues.

Should you wish to attend the Section meeting following the Job Club, the fee for unemployed members is only \$12, and you can continue your networking activities. Please call the Section office for reservations and indicate that you are eligible for a discount.



Visit the
Chicago Section

at

<http://membership.acs.org/C/Chicago>

(continued from page 1)

town, this was an incredible educational opportunity. Kurtis made the most of it and by 1973 he had teamed up with Walter Jacobson to form one of the most dynamic TV anchor teams in the metropolitan area. As a team they established a formidable record for covering the news, and in the process Kurtis initiated several innovative practices which have become standards for the business today.

He became the first local "foreign correspondent" taking his reporting skills to world hot spots when international stories contained an element of special interest to Chicago. In 1975, he went to Vietnam two weeks before the fall of Saigon. Further trips followed breaking news stories: the sectarian war in Northern Ireland; the breakup of Rhodesia; and environmental and ecological tragedies such as the plight of the black rhino in Kenya and Tanzania.

In 1982, CBS asked him to anchor the "CBS Morning News" from New York and he also completed a series of hour long documentaries for the prestigious network program "CBS Reports". Bill returned to Chicago in 1985 with a new dream of expanding traditional long-form journalism into new areas. This led to a host of new award winning documentaries on the A&E Network. Of particular interest to scientists has been the "New Explorers" series. This Award winning series, highlights the exciting role of modern scientists, as they pursue the never-ending adventure of discovery. In addition to A&E, reruns of the series will continue on PBS until the year 2000. *Newsweek* Magazine calls THE NEW EXPLORERS "Nova with an adrenaline rush".

Beyond these television programs, what is most admirable about him is his desire to make a difference for good in the community. Toward that end he has worked to establish a unique partnership between corporations, schools, museums and partner science institutions in order to create a new approach to teaching science in the classroom. This approach called "The National Science Explorers Program" is one of the top science teaching initiatives in the country today. It has been used as a part of the curriculum of the Chicago Public School System since 1991 and has been adopted by several communities across the country, including Washington, DC, Cincinnati, Boston, Berkeley, Atlanta and Somerville, N.J.

In addition to the New Explorers Series, many of his programs in the American Justice and Investigative Reports Series have dealt with science and technology issues as they affect

the public. For all of these programs he has received many honors. For example, the NEW EXPLORERS series has received the prestigious George Foster Peabody Award, the Westinghouse-AAAS Award for Television. The National Educational Association Award for the Advancement of Science for the Advancement of Learning through Broadcasting, Chicago Public Schools' Department of Instructional Support Award for Promoting Science, to name just a few of the many awards that have come to him during recent years for the "New Explorers Series" alone. He has of course, received many other awards for overall excellence in television journalism covering a broad range of subject matter. We are honoring him with the Public Affairs Award for 1999 for his contributions not only to the enlightenment of schoolchildren, but also for helping to increase the overall understanding and appreciation of science by the general public.

JIM SHOFFNER
BARB MORIARTY
CoChairs Public Affairs Committee

THE TOPIC:

"The New Explorers: Science Journalism as an Educational Adventure"

The "New Explorers" documentary series highlights the exciting role of modern scientists, the "new explorers" of today, as they pursue the never-ending journey of discovery. The hourlong series began in 1991. Currently, it is seen on cable's A&E Network --- and in over 100 countries worldwide. Beyond these television broadcasts, we have developed a unique partnership with corporations, schools, museums and science institutions to create a new approach to teaching science in the classroom. The "National Science Explorers Program" has become one of the top science teaching initiatives in the country, including the Chicago Public School System since 1991. The development of the series, its use in educational systems and future programming projections using state-of-the-art satellite and computer based technologies will be presented and discussed.



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"CHEM SHORTS" For Kids

This column is presented by the Elementary Education Committee. They hope that it will reach young children and help increase science literacy. Please cut it out and pass it on to your children, grandchildren, or elementary teachers. It is hoped that teachers will try to incorporate some of these projects in this column into their lesson plans.

"Color Drops"

Kids, let's watch the ways in which food coloring can move through different liquids. You'll need 3 clear plastic cups, water, 4 teaspoons of salt, seltzer water, and food coloring.

Fill two of the cups 2/3 full with water. Add 1 drop of food coloring to the first cup and immediately observe what happens. You can use a worksheet to draw your results. To make the worksheet, first draw three simple cup shapes on the paper, indicate the liquid level by drawing a wavy line 2/3 of the way up, and label them plain water, salt water, and fizz water. Add the salt to the second cup and stir until the salt dissolves. Add one drop of food coloring to the this cup and immediately observe, and again draw what you saw. Now fill the third cup 2/3 full with seltzer water, add 1 drop of food coloring, observe, and draw.

What happened? In plain water the drop slowly swirls and moves through-out. In salt water, the drop starts to sink and then rises. In the fizz water, the drop quickly disperses and evenly colors the liquid. Why? Putting food coloring in plain water does not have a dramatic effect other than that the color becomes more pale (diluted). The gas bubbles in the fizz water act to speed things up, like an invisible stirring spoon. The drop of food coloring is quickly broken up and carried to all parts of the liquid. Salt water is more dense than plain water. This means that anything less dense will float on the top, including the food coloring (which is a drop of colored water).

Reference: Marlisa Ebeling (primary level teacher, Naperville district 203).

"ChemShorts" are on the internet at: <http://membership.acs.org/C/Chicago>.

KATHLEEN CARRADO
Elementary Education Committee.

50 YEAR MEMBERS

The ceremony honoring 50 year members with a certificate will be held at the June Chicago Section American Chemical Society meeting instead of April. The Section apologizes for any inconvenience to its 50 year old members.

ELEMENTAL ANALYSIS

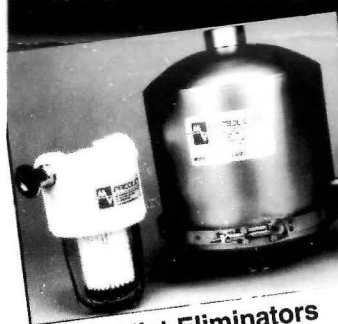
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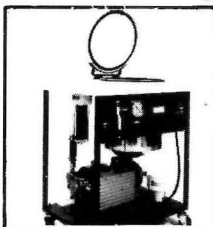
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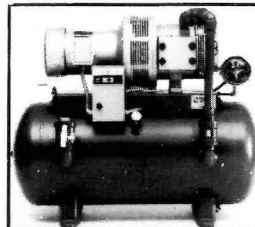
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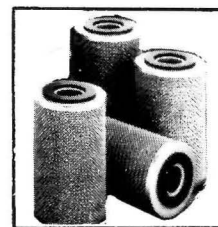
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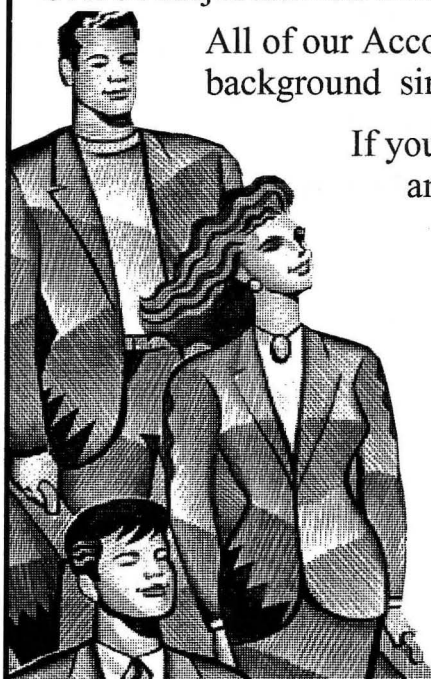
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HISTORY OF THE PUBLIC AFFAIRS AWARD

In 1982 the Public Affairs Committee decided to establish an award which would recognize those who were involved in science and public policy issues. One of the stipulations of the award was that the individual need not be a chemist or member of the society. As a result, although a majority of our honorees have been chemist, we have also honored an engineer and physicists. This year for the first time our honoree is not a member of one of the science and engineering professions but comes from the field of broadcasting. It was always our aim that when we identified a person whose contribution to the understanding and appreciation of science rose to the high level that we recognize as noteworthy, we would honor that person appropriately. It is therefore with a sense of pride and satisfaction that we confer this year's award on Bill Kurtis, one of the nation's outstanding television journalists, and add his name to the list of past honorees.

Public Affairs Award Recipients, 1983-1997

Awardee	Year
Carl Moore	1983
Ananda Chakrabarty	1984
Valdas Adamkus	1985
James Shoffner	1986
Etcyl Balair	1987
William Beranek	1989*
Leon Lederman	1991
Walter McCrone	1993
Walter Massey	1995
Zafra Lerman	1997

*After 1987, the award was given biannually.

JIM SHOFFNER
BARB MORIARTY
CoChair, Public Affairs Committee

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STEVE SICHAK
Chair, Chemical Health and Safety Committee

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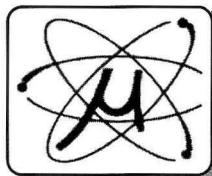
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CALENDAR

March 7-12, 1999. Pittcon '99 program, short courses and exposition will be held in Orlando, Florida. For more information and registration call The Pittsburgh Conference at (412) 825-3220 or (800) 825-3221.

March 10-12, 1999. The Milwaukee Section is sponsoring and ACS short course on elementary statistical design of experiments entitled "Experimental Design for Productivity and Quality in R&D" at Marquette University. For further information and registration contact Bob Goss at Oil-Dri (847) 634-3090; E-mail: 102070.3065@compuserve.com.

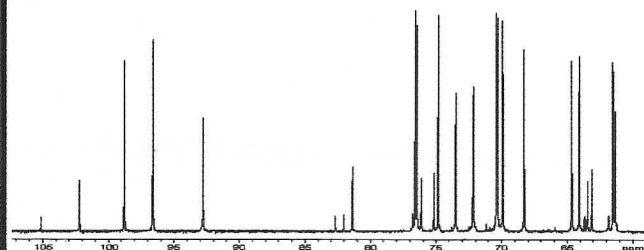
March 21-26, 1999. The 1999 National ACS Spring Meeting will be held in Anaheim, CA. For further information call the National ACS Office at (800) 227-5558.

April 23, 1999. The Chicago Section ACS presents Percy Julian's 100th Birthday Memorial Celebration to be held at Hyatt at University Village. For additional information call the Section office at (847) 647-8405.

May 21, 1999. The Chicago Section ACS presents the Willard Gibbs Award Banquet to be held at Monastero's Restaurant. For further information call the Section office at (847) 647-8405.

June 25, 1999. The Chicago Section ACS presents John Moore of the University of Wisconsin-Madison on "Can Virtual Reality have Real Virtue? Using Electronic Media Effectively" to be held at Kendall College. For more information call the Section office at (847) 647-8405.

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