

Lifelines

Jie Liu received his PhD degree in 2007 from Institute of Mechanics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China. He currently is an associate professor of materials at Zhengzhou University, Zhengzhou, China. His research interests focus on design and synthesis of new materials from renewable resources, and the development of solutions for environmental and social problems. He has contributed to more than 30 publications in material science and engineering. He was a Visiting Scientist in the Biobased and Other Animal Coproducts Research Unit, Eastern Regional Research Center, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, from Oct. 2016 to Oct. 2017.

Eleanor M. Brown, see *JALCA* **93**, 328, 1998

Cheng-Kung Liu, see *JALCA* **94**, 158, 1999

Keyong Tang obtained both degrees of Bachelor and Master from Chengdu University of Science and Technology, China, majored in Leather Chemistry and Engineering. He received his PhD degree in 1998 from Sichuan University, China, majored in Chemical Fiber. He was a visiting scientist in Texas Tech University, USA from July, 2008 to July 2009, and he had experiences as a senior visiting professor in University of British Columbia, Canada, 2014 and University of Groningen, Netherland, 2016. He is now a professor in Zhengzhou University, China. His research interests include structure and behavior of collagen and leather, clean leather-making technology, and collagen-based Biomaterials, etc. More than 100 papers have been published.

A. Tamil Selvi, see *JALCA* **106**, 176, 2011

Gladstone C. Jayakumar, see *JALCA* **106**, 68, 2011

Nagarajan Usharani, see *JALCA* **105**, 16, 2010

Arjunan Yasothai, see *JALCA* **104**, 405, 2009

Swarna V. Kanth, see *JALCA* **101**, 445, 2006

Jinming Chang, see *JALCA* **112**(1), 2017

Zhou Xu, see *JALCA* **109**, 2014

Gaofu Yang see *JALCA* **112**(1), 2017

Zhonghui Wang, see *JALCA* **112**(1), 2017

Yi Chen, see *JALCA* **104**, 227, 2009

Haojun Fan, see *JALCA* **100**, 29, 2005

Bianca Santinon Scopel – Chemical Engineer (2014 – University of Caxias do Sul, Brazil). M. Sc. in Engineering of Processes and Technology (2016 – University of Caxias do Sul) and PhD student at the Post-Graduation Program in Mining, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering – Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul. She worked with pyrolysis of wastes and effluent gas analysis and treatment. For the past 4 years, Ms Scopel has been working with leather waste treatment through chemical hydrolysis, and with reuse of the protein extracted from leather wastes in polymers production.

Camila Baldasso – Food Engineer (2005 – Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil). M Sc. In Chemical Engineering (2008 - Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul). PhD in Chemical Engineering (2011 - Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul). Camila has worked with separation methods through membranes. Nowadays, Ms Baldasso is professor and researcher at the University of Caxias do Sul, where she conducts researches, among others, on leather waste protein purification through membrane processes.

Aline Dettmer - Chemical Engineer (2006 – Federal University of Santa Maria, Brazil). M Sc. In Chemical Engineering (2008 - Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul). PhD in Chemical Engineering (2012 - Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul). She worked in the leather industry in quality control and product development. Nowadays, Ms Dettmer is a professor and researcher at the University of Passo Fundo, where she conducts researches, among others, on leather waste treatment and reuse.

Ruth Marlene Campomanes Santana – Chemical Engineer (1988 - Universidade Nacional Mayor de San Marcos, Brazil). M. Sc in Chemical Engineering (1995 - University of Campinas). PhD in Chemical Engineering (1999 - University of Campinas). She has worked with polymers processing and biodegradable materials. Nowadays, Ms Santana is a Professor at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, where she conducts, among others, researches on the use of the protein extracted from leather wastes in polymers production.

ALCA 114th Annual Convention

June 19-22, 2018

Eaglewood Resort & Spa, Itasca, IL

Welcome to an exciting venue of events that will be unfolding for us from June 19 to June 22, 2018. We will host the 114th Annual Convention at Eaglewood Resort & Spa in Itasca Illinois. You can learn more about by logging on to their website at eaglewoodresort.com.

All details about the convention can be found on this website as they progress. The convention brochure will be online by the end of March 2018. There is a link to it on the home page at the bottom. Also voting for our Slate of Candidates will be done via email in April. The online convention registration form has been updated and is ready for use or you can print out a form and send it to us. Visit the website for a printable convention registration form. Continue checking this website for new information and announcements about the 114th Annual Convention.

The schedule for 2018 is similar to that of 2016 at Oglebay. Prior to the official opening of the convention, the annual golf tournament will be held at Eaglewood beginning at 12 pm with lunch at the course on Tuesday, June 19. Pre-registration for golfers is a must to facilitate the start of the tournament. Further information on the golf outing can be found under this section as well as our online brochure available in mid-March 2018.

The official opening of the convention will begin with Registration on Tuesday, June 19, from 5 to 7 pm with a cocktail Reception from 6:00 to 7:00 pm at the Prairie River. Again this year, Buckman is sponsoring their golf swing analyzer, Larry Shaver, from 7 to 9 pm A dinner from 7 to 9 pm and conversations with old and new associates of the leather industry will complete the evening.

ALCA President David Peters will open the Technical Program at 9 am on Wednesday, June 20. This year's technical program is again being organized by Vice President Mike Bley and will offer a wide array of leather technologies covering tanning to finishing to environmental issues and can be viewed in the coming months under this section of our website. The 59th John Arthur Wilson Lecture will feature Jonathan (Jon) Clark, CEO of PrimeAsia. The technical sessions will end at 4:45 pm followed by the Fun Run at 5:30 pm. A reception will be held from 6:30 to 7 pm at the Pavilion following by bowling, darts, pool and open bar from 8 to 11 pm at Kegler's.

Technical papers will resume Thursday morning at 9 am with the Annual Business Meeting ending the morning sessions at 11:15 am. At noon everyone is invited to attend the Activities Awards Luncheon in Burnham's where prizes will be awarded for the Fun Run and golf outing. Technical papers will resume in the afternoon at 1:30 to 4:15 pm with the Awards Banquet social hour beginning at 6 pm in Linden Ballroom. Dinner will follow at 7 pm with the awards presentations afterwards. The convention will close out on Friday morning after breakfast from 7 to 10 am.

Please make plans now to join us for a wonderful time at Eaglewood!

Sarah Drayna
2018 Convention Chair

Please make plans now to join us for a wonderful time at Eaglewood!

The 59th John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecture

by
Jonathan (Jon) Clark

Title: Leather: An Honest Material in a Confusing and Changing Environment.

- The industry must push back against inferior substitutes without the appearance of rejecting innovation and at the same time must continue to embrace and evolve to the ever-changing demands of the marketplace.
- The industry must speak truths: transparency is critical to maintain as there are no secrets in the industry that we are concerned about.
- The industry continues to have areas to improve, and sectors which are not compliant, but we know that properly made leather is a sustainable, good material of value.
- Today's processing is safe and environmentally friendly
- Most of the non-finished leather materials (why do we call non-leather making proteins waste?) can be used for other things and we can recycle most of our natural resource.
- Most of the alternates are hidden in bad chemistry, poor origins, high levels of real waste, short usable lives, poor after life options and they are only being sold as “leather” because everything else about them is weak and/or overrated.

The 59th John Arthur Wilson Memorial Lecture will be presented at the Annual Convention by Jon Clark, CEO of PrimeAsia, at 9:00 am on Wednesday, June 19, 2018.

Mr. Clark currently is in his 27th year in the leather industry, starting at Prime Tanning in 1990. He spent his first ten years in the industry learning and working at Prime Tanning in various sales positions. He was appointed as vice president in 1997 and took over the responsibility of expanding and growing Prime Tanning's presence in the global athletic leather market as well as overseeing all sales and service operations in Asia as Prime Tanning expanded manufacturing operations in the region. In 2002 Jon Clark left Prime Tanning and was named president of global marketing for PrimeAsia Leather Company. In November of 2007 he was named CEO of PrimeAsia and is supported by a multi-national senior management team spread throughout the globe.



**2018 John Arthur Wilson
Memorial Lecturer**
Jonathan (Jon) Clark,
CEO PrimeAsia

Obituary

James Varghese

Mr. James “Chackochy” Varghese Chalackal, born on December 18, 1929, in Nedumkunnam, Kerala, India, to the late Aleykutty Varghese and the late Pothan Varghese, passed away at age 88 on February 23, 2018, in Palm Coast, Florida.

James attended N.S.S. High School in Karukachal, Kerala and received his Bachelor’s Degree from St. Joseph’s College, Trichy, India. James came to America in 1970 to pursue higher education. James attended Villanova and Widener for graduate school. He was a Research Chemist in the Leather Tanning industry until retiring in 1996. His career in leather included hair dyeing and leather technical for Joseph H. Lowenstein and Sons. He was an active member of the ALCA from 1988 until 1998 when he became a retired member of the Association.

James was married for 59 years to Teresakutty James. He is survived by his sons, George C. James and Mathew C. James; daughters-in-law, E. Biji M. James and Tracy James, brother, Joy Varghese; sisters, Cicily George and Mary Joseph; and grandchildren, Andrew M. James, Amanda James, and Michael James. He had a passion for tennis, watching sports, and entertaining family and friends.

Donations in James’ name to Stepping Stone School are welcome and appreciated. The school was started by his sister, Cicily George. In lieu of flowers, please make checks out to the Stepping Stone School, a school which helps educate children with serious mental and physical challenges in India. The donation can be sent c/o Reena Francis, 5499 Medinah Drive, Newburg, IN 47630.

A funeral mass, presided by Fr. Sebastian K. George, was held on Wednesday, March 7 at St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church, 4600 Belle Terre Pkwy, Palm Coast, Florida, 32164.

James was an active member of the ALCA from 1988 until 1998 when he became a retired member of the Association.

Few people realize that Leather Making is the world's oldest manufacturing process, thus the world's oldest industry. Tanning—the process of converting hides and skins into leather—is also the world's first science.

Also, because of the pure craftsmanship involved, tanning may well be the world's first art form.

Anyone who doubts that a
sheepskin has up to 30,000
fibers per square inch has
only to count them.

NOTHING TAKES THE
PLACE OF LEATHER

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