

LIFELINES

Leon Krings studied Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at the Eindhoven University of Technology from where he received his Masters degree in Polymer Chemistry in 1989. He started his career at the Research lab of Philips Electronics in Eindhoven. After 8 years of fundamental research he moved around within Philips and worked in various R&D related management positions. The topics ranged from TV tubes, lamps, CDs & DVDs to domestic appliances like steam irons and coffee makers. The link between the various topics was always coatings, thin films and materials.

In October 2009 he made an interesting move from the Electronics industry to the leather finishing business when he joined Stahl Holdings in Waalwijk, Netherlands. Within Stahl he is now working as Technical Manager Automotive Leather Finish and in this position he is responsible for the product and project portfolio of the Automotive Leather Finish Division.

Mario Jiménez studied Technical Chemical Engineering at the Polytechnical University of Catalonia. He obtained his degree as a Technical Chemical Engineer in 1992.

He joined Stahl in 1992 and started to work in the area of waterborne acrylic resins, solvent polyurethanes, waterborne polyurethanes and acrylic-urethane hybrids.

From 1993 to 1995 he worked on a special project for acrylic polymers in collaboration with the university as a Technical Project. From 1995 onwards, he focused on acrylic-urethane hybrids to be able to give full support to the increasing demand for this kind of polymers in the leather finish market. In 1999, he developed a special technique for obtaining tertiary amine-free hybrids which has been patented. He is currently working on hybrid polymers for other applications in the Permuthane and Picassian businesses and gives support to projects related to solvent borne and high-solids polyurethanes.

Montse Oliveras studied Chemistry at the Universidad Autonoma de Barcelona from 1992 to 1997. She started her career at the Research lab in Stahl. She joined Stahl 12 years

ago. She started in the R&D department in the area of Colours & Tanning Products (C&TP), specifically in the area of tanning products. The first 7 years she developed new products: aqueous and solvent acrylic products. In 2004 she started to work with hybrids and since two years ago she also got involved in the development of solvent urethanes.

Besides development of new products and improvement of existing products she also provides support to the production plant. Finally improvement of analysis techniques like HPLC and GPC has also been part of the responsibilities.

Josep M. Pont Pi is Master in Project Management by PMI and he got the degree in Chemistry at the University of Barcelona in 1999. In the same year he started to work for Pielcolor as R+D technician responsible of Acrylic polymers development for leather coating and wood coatings. These are the main commercial activities of Pielcolor and Picassian, which is the other commercial brand of the Chemical group. In 2004 Pielcolor was merged with STAHL Holdings. Within Stahl Holdings he has been moving to several management positions related to R+D. His current position is R+D Manager of Stahl Iberica.

R. M. Cuadros, see *JALCA* **97**, 277, 2002

J. M. Font, see *JALCA* **97**, 277, 2002

M. Reyes, see *JALCA* **97**, 57, 2002

Ll. Olle, see *JALCA* **97**, 57, 2002

A. Marsal, see *JALCA* **95**, 30, 2000

K. Sreeram see *JALCA* **95**, 324, 2000

R. Aravindhan, see *JALCA* **99**, 110, 2004

J. Raghava Rao, see *JALCA* **93**, 156, 1998

Balachandran Unni Nair, see *JALCA* **93**, 156, 1998

OBITUARIES

WILLIAM J. HOPKINS

William J. Hopkins, 83, of Wyndmoor, Pa., a research scientist who worked for the United States Department of Agriculture for over 30 years, died of complications as a result of Parkinson's disease on Wednesday, September 1, 2010. Mr. Hopkins was responsible for authoring at least five patents, as well as many research papers, relating to the study and improvement of agriculture, leather and hides. He also held a leadership position with the local chapter of the American Institute of Chemists for several years. Born in Plymouth, Mr. Hopkins graduated from Plymouth High School and served as a signalman aboard the destroyer the USS Brush in the U.S. Navy before receiving his bachelor of science in Chemistry from Wilkes College. He went on to marry Esther Peters, of Kingston, in 1955. Bill and Esther would have celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on September 24, 2010. The couple met at a dance at Harvey's Lake, and their love of dancing continued throughout their marriage. Additionally, Bill was an avid outdoorsman and enjoyed fishing, hunting for wild mushrooms and berries, and vacationing in a mountain cabin in Sweet Valley. Mr. Hopkins was also involved in Little League baseball, coaching his son's team, JBI, for many years, winning the championship four years in a row. He is survived by his beloved wife, Esther, his loving children, William Jr., Susan Rodzewich (Carl), and Dianne Failing (Craig), eight grandchildren; and a brother, Jacob. Memorial contributions may be made to the National Parkinson Foundation, Gift Processing Center, P.O. Box 5018, Hagerstown, MD 21741.

JAN STIENSTRA

Jan Stienstra was born in Argentina on 27th July 1925. He was first generation Argentine of Dutch parents. His schooling was at a British bilingual school. After school, and having completed a year of Military Service, (compulsory at that time), he left Argentina and went to the U.K. to enter the Leather Department at Leeds University, graduating from there in June 1949. He then spent a year at the Leather Sellers College in London, and later returned to Argentina to join a Tannery called Hispano Argentino. Wanting to gain some foreign experience in tanneries, after his marriage in October 1953, he joined the Eisendrath Tannery in Racine, Wisconsin, returning to Argentina in April 1955, and rejoining the Hispano Argentino Tannery as chief leather chemist. After some years he joined Hollander Co. as a quality controller for the export of leather to Europe, but his heart was more as a leather chemist, so he joined Cueros Argentinos Tannery, where he remained until his retirement in April 1996. He was a member of the American Leather Chemists Association since 1948, having obtained life status with the Association in

1988. Ill health started dogging him around 2007, he developed Alzheimer's, and his final years were hard for him. He passed away peacefully on 20th May 2010. His wife, two sons and five grandchildren survive him.

MODESTO ALBAREZ

Modesto "Al" Albarez, age 78, passed away on Thursday, October 21, 2010 at home with his loving family was at his bedside. His death came after a courageous battle with cancer. He was born in Bronx, New York and he lived his childhood years in Newark, NJ. He received his formal education at Ann Street Grammar School and then at Eastside High School in Newark where he was active in Track and Football teams graduating with the Class of 1950. Al enrolled at the Newark College of Engineering that is known today as The New Jersey Institute of Technology. He graduated with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Chemical Engineering in 1957. His first work experience was at Newark Leather Company and later as a leather finishing engineer for Seton Leather Company. He retired in 1997. Surviving are his wife of 45 years, MaryAnn (nee Mrocka) Albarez; two daughters Marianne Albarez-Hester and her husband Brian of Wayne, Lauren Rodriguez and her husband Alex of Doylestown, Pennsylvania; one son Richard Albarez and his wife Jacqueline of Short Hills; six wonderful grandchildren Matthew and Alicia Hester, Michael and Anna Rodriguez, Izzy and Mark Albarez; one brother Manny Albarez and his wife Mary of Spring Lake Heights, brother in law Frank Mrocka and his wife Debbie. Funeral services were held on October 23, 2010. Expression of sympathy in "Al's" memory can be sent to the Hospice of New Jersey, 400 Broad Acres Dr., 4th Floor, Bloomfield, NJ 07003 or The Alzheimer's Association, 400 Morris Avenue, Suite 251, Denville, NJ 07834.

DONALD F. HOLLOWAY, PhD

It is with great regret and sadness that I inform you that Donald Holloway passed away on October 16, 2010, at the age of 94. He died peacefully at Riderwood Village in Silver Spring, Maryland, where he had resided for two years. A graduate of Boston English High School, he received his BS and Ph.D. degrees in 1938 and 1941 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Don (he never seemed to feel the need to be called "Doctor"), began his career at Swift and Company in Chicago. From there he took positions at A. C. Lawrence, R& M Laboratories, Rohm and Hass, Fred Rueping Leather Company and Midwest Tanning Company. After retiring from Midwest in 1984, he did consulting work as well as volunteer work for the USAID Senior Executive Service, advising and

teaching in South America, China and Central Asia. He was a Life member of the ALCA. Don had an insatiable curiosity about and interest in the world around him. He was an avid gardener, life-long tennis player, music and nature lover, reader, volunteer, keen student of politics and could converse easily with anyone on any subject. I had the great opportunity to work with Don while he was at Midwest Tanning. He was gentle and witty, a highly intelligent man who never stopped learning. And he never stopped teaching, either, giving of those things he had learned, and always with modesty and sensitivity.

Don was born in Brooklyn, New York on August 22, 1916, the son of the late Ethel L. Hagerstrom and Francis J. Holloway. His wife of 67 years, Jean Curry Holloway predeceased him in 2008.

— *by Al Glubka*

STEPHEN A. J. SHIVAS

Stephen Alexander James Shivas of Highland Place, Kitchener, Canada, passed away at the Grand River Hospital in March 2009, in his 90th year. In 1943 he graduated with a

B.S.A. in chemistry from the University of Guelph and began his career as a chemist in the wartime rubber industry in Toronto, then was the chief leather chemist and later manager of several Ontario Tanneries, living in Kitchener, Cobourg, Oshawa and Barrie. Over the years, Stephen wrote up his scientific experiments and experiences in the Journal of the American Leather Chemists Association, World Leather (even a feature on his own leather heart valve), and The Leather Manufacturer. The ALCA honored him with the “Dr. Fred O’Flaherty Award” for outstanding service (1977) and the “Alsop Award” for scientific achievement (1980). Following retirement, he shared his knowledge the world over through the Canadian Executive Services Organization (CESO), traveling many times to Chile, Bolivia, Costa Rica, Indonesia, the Philippines and Baffin Island. An active member of the ALCA since 1950, he served as a member of the ALCA Editorial Board from 1959 to 1997) and almost continually serves served on many ALCA committees. He was awarded life status in the Association on June, 1990.

2011 CALL FOR PAPERS
FOR THE 107TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE
AMERICAN LEATHER CHEMISTS ASSOCIATION
RED WING, MINNESOTA
JUNE 9–12, 2011

If you have recently completed or will shortly be completing research studies relevant to hide preservation, hide and leather defects, leather manufacturing technology, new product development, tannery equipment development, leather properties and specifications, tannery environmental management, or other related subjects, you are encouraged to present the results of this research at the next annual convention of the Association to be held at Treasure Island Resort, Red Wing, MN, June 9–12, 2011.

Abstracts are preferred via email and must be submitted by **January 31, 2011** to the Chair of the Technical Program:

Mr. Andreas Rhein
S.B. Foot Tanning Company
805 Bench Street
Red Wing, MN 55066-9550
USA
Phone: (651) 388-4731
Email: andy.rhein@sbfoot.com

Each abstract should begin with the title in capital letters, followed by the authors' names. The name of the speaker should be denoted by an asterisk, and contact information

should be provided that includes an email address. The abstract should be no longer than 300 English words and in the Microsoft Word format. Manuscripts based on the presentation, **in publication-ready form**, are to be sent to the editor in electronic format as an e-mail attachment by **May 15, 2011** (see revised Publication Policy on our website: leatherchemists.org).

Robert F. White, *Journal* Editor
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Presentations at the convention will be limited to 25 minutes. In accordance with the Association Bylaws, papers covering such presentations are to be submitted to the *Journal of the American Leather Chemists Association* for publication consideration. Those papers are not to be published elsewhere, other than in abstract form, without permission of the *Journal* Editor, Robert F. White.

NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear ALCA Member, Subscriber and interested readers,

I want to thank all of our contributing authors for their support and patience during the year 2010. The quality of initial manuscript submissions continued to improve as more were formatting according to our 2009 revised Journal Publication Policy (JPP) guidelines (see our website; leaatherchemists.org). Because we can only publish about 45 manuscripts per year, we have the difficult task of having to make choices. Our Editorial Board is very involved in these selections; which are largely based on compliance with JPP, interest to our global readership and balance (variety) of subject matter throughout the year. This means that we are, unfortunately, not able to publish all of the interesting and well-presented manuscripts we receive.

Dr. Nick Cory, Dr. Anton Ela'mma and Prasad V. Inaganti joined our Editorial Board this year, further strengthening our

roster reviewers' that are well qualified in the many technology disciplines embraced by *JALCA*.

We have, by now, had several months of experience with an electronic version of the *Journal* presented in an ezine format. This on-line "page-turner" replica of our print *Journal* has been under evaluation by ALCA members. On January 1, 2011, our *e-Journal* will be more broadly available to ALCA Members who have responded to our office with their specific options for ezine and/or print.

We encourage your comments and suggestions about how we can make *JALCA* of greater value to you.

Have a very joyful and prosperous new year.

Robert F. White

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