THE COBLENTZ SOCIETY
NEWSLETTER

Mailing No. 84 A Society for Applied Spectroscopy Affiliate

October 17, 1980

Chris Brown presents the Lippincott Award to George Pimentel at the FACSS award ceremony.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The education of vibrational spectroscopists has been a part of the mission of the Coblentz Society for many years. It is consistent with our aim of enhancing the quality of the practice of vibrational spectroscopy.

In the past, our educational activities have included short courses, audio tape-slide courses, speakers bureau, and films -- all relating to aspects of infrared and Raman techniques. There is a feeling among some of us now that there are educational needs in vibrational spectroscopy that are not being met by existing materials. The Board solicited the views of a number of vibrational spectroscopists present at the FACSS meeting in Philadelphia, during our joint wine and cheese party with the Computers in Spectroscopy group. Many ideas for educational materials were presented. As a result of this input the Board appointed a small committee, headed by our Education Committee chairperson Jenny Grasselli, to consider how we might respond effectively. I expect that a program will be officially approved at the next Board meeting in Atlantic City. If you have suggestions for topics that should be addressed by slide-tape courses, please send them to Jenny Grasselli at SOHO, Cleveland, Ohio 44128, so that we can consider them.

- Bernard J. Bulkin

BOARD OF MANAGERS HIGHLIGHTS (SEPT. 30, 1980)

• Treasurer Howard Sloane reported a balance in the treasury of approximately $67,000. Some of this money is earmarked to meet the cost of printing new and reprinted special publications.

• The Board authorized bonding of the Treasurer.

President Bulkin reported that arrangements were proceeding well for a Coblentz-sponsored plenary lecture at the 1981 OSU Symposium on Molecular Spectroscopy.

• Peter Griffiths, reporting for the Spectral Evaluation Committee, noted that the specifications for vapor phase spectra above ambient temperature, published in Applied Spectroscopy (Vol. 33 p.543), have been immediately accepted and are being widely used. The next (more difficult) task is to produce acceptable specifications for reference spectra of molecules in the vapor phase (general). A preliminary draft of such specifications was distributed, and comments were requested. Another challenging task for the future is to develop specifications for spectrum subtraction, for both FTIR and grating spectrometers.

• Tomas Hirschfeld was appointed Newsletter Editor, to replace Lee Smith who is resigning at the end of 1980. It was decided to print the Newsletter as a part of Applied Spectroscopy.

• R.N. Jones observed that the Archives Committee is active, but their efforts have taken a somewhat different direction. They seem to operate most effectively as "lobby" to stimulate others to archive their own historically important materials.

• The approach to a Coblentz Membership meeting held jointly with the CVSG wine-and-cheese party was judged very successful.

• An appropriation of $10,000 for compilation of spectra for a new special publication on Regulated Chemicals was approved.

• Possible new projects for the Society were discussed, and a subcommittee consisting of Jenny Grasselli, Dana Mayo, Bob Jacobsen, Chris Brown, and Tom Malloy named to evaluate needs vs resources.

SPECTRA NEEDED FOR "REGULATED CHEMICALS"

If your laboratory has spectra of Priority Pollutants or other regulated chemicals that you can contribute to the Coblentz Society's special publications program, please contact Dr. Clara D. Craver, Spectrum Editor, The Coblentz Society, Inc., P.O. Box 9555, Kirkwood, MO 63122, or call her at (314)962-6704. She can also furnish a list of what's needed. Your help in providing spectra is much appreciated and will be acknowledged in the publication.
With the presidential elections out of the way, we can turn our attention to a less momentous, but nevertheless, important election - that of two new members to the Board of Managers. But in order to have an election, we need nominees, right? And there's where you come in. Please take a minute to drop a line to Abe Savitsky with a suggestion or two for board member(s). His address is: Dr. Abe Savitsky, Perkin-Elmer Corp., MS284, 761 Main Ave. Norwalk, CT 06856. Two new members are to be elected this year, replacing Prof. Dana Mayo and Dr. Abe Savitsky, whose terms expire in 1981.

FIRST COBLENTZ PLENARY LECTURER AT OHIO STATE MEETING SELECTED

A committee of distinguished spectroscopists has selected Dr. Alan Robiette of Reading University in England to present the first plenary lecture sponsored by the Coblentz Society at the 1981 Ohio State Symposium on Molecular Structure and Spectroscopy. Dr. Robiette was cited for his outstanding work on computer fitting of vibrational spectra. His selection was heartily endorsed by the Board at its Fall meeting. The sponsorship of these lectures is part of an effort by the Society to promote increased communication between the high resolution spectroscopy community and the analytical spectroscopists.

NEW FORMAT FOR COBLENTZ NEWSLETTER

Effective in 1981, the Newsletter will have a new Editor and a new format. The new editor is Tomas Hirschfeld, who will bring a fresh perspective and innovative ideas to this publication. Also, the Newsletter will be published as part of Applied Spectroscopy, with a special mailing to those Coblentz Society members who are not members of SAS.

COMPUTERIZED IR WORKSHOP

Another successful workshop on computerized IR, sponsored by the Education Committee (J. Grasselli, Ch.), was held on September 29, at the PACSS meeting in Philadelphia. About 25 attendees heard experts such as Abe Savitsky, Jack Koenig, Mike Coleman, Dana Mayo, Herbert Hoover, Bob Obremski, Chris Brown, and Tomas Hirschfeld expose the secrets of how to make the computer work for you instead of vice-versa.