# **AIChExtra**

## Student Activities at Annual

As an undergraduate, I enjoyed attending the student conferences. This year on Nov. 11-13, AIChE's National Student Conference will take place in San Francisco. I'll be attending as a graduate student from the University of Colorado, and as one of the Young Professionals planning social events. Saturday, November 11th, is Casino Night the undergraduate student bash where there will be plenty of food and fun. Your conference badge will serve as your ID.

In addition, be sure to attend the following events:

• Student Welcome Ceremony: Saturday, Nov. 11 at 10:30- 11:30 AM

• Chem-E-Car Competition Safety Training:

Saturday, Nov. 11 at 1:00-5:00 PM • Conference Bash

**Saturday**, Nov. 11 at 6:00-9:00 PM in the Hilton Continental Ballroom

• Graduate School Fair & "Meet the Sponsors"

**Sunday,** Nov. 12 at 8:00-10:15 AM and 12:15-3:00 PM

Chem-E-Car Competition Posters
Sunday, Nov. 12 at 8:00-10:15 AM
Student Awards Brunch

Sunday, Nov. 12 at 10:15 AM – Noon • Chem-E-Car Competition

Sunday, Nov. 12 at 1:00-3:00 PM

• National Student Paper Competition Monday, Nov. 13 at 8:00-10:30 AM

• National Student Design Competition Monday, Nov. 13 at 8:00-10:30 PM

• Student Poster Competition Monday, Nov.12 at 12:30-3:00 PM

• Young Professionals Advisory Board Presentations

**Saturday**, Nov. 11 at 1:30-2:30 PM and 4:00-5:00 PM.

Also, Saturday is jam packed full of workshops. In the morning, attend the Student Chapter Workshops and in the afternoon, attend the Career Workshops. I look forward to seeing you there.

Boonsri Dickinson, Graduate Student Univ. of Colorado at Boulderr

#### Air & Waste Management Association Seeking Nominations for Technological Achievement Award

Do you know of a company or individual that deserves recognition for the development of new technologies in air pollution control or waste management? If so, nominate them for the 2007 J. Deane Sensenbaugh Environmental Technology Award, presented annually by the Air & Waste Management Association (A&WMA).

The Association is accepting nominations for the award until December 15, 2006. Recipients will be recognized at the Association's 100th Annual Conference & Exhibition, June 26-29, 2007, in Pittsburgh, PA. Award recipients also receive a feature article in the Association's EM magazine and their choice of a complimentary booth at next year's Annual Conference & Exhibition or an ad in an EM issue of their choosing.

The J. Deane Sensenbaugh Award, instituted in 1986, is presented annually to companies or individuals in recognition of outstanding achievements in the field of air pollution control or waste management.

• Air pollution technical achievements worthy of consideration include, but are not limited to, specific processes which minimize or more effectively control air pollution, new air pollution equipment, and improved management practices which reduce air pollution or examine its impacts (such as sophisticated models).

• Material/waste engineering projects worthy of consideration include, but are not limited to, production process changes that minimize by-product formation, processes for recycling/reuse of by-products/wastes, applied novel techniques for destroying wastes and overall improved systems for waste disposal.

The recipient shall be a company or individual whose contribution to the state-of-the-art technology has been recognized and accepted in commercial status within the ten-year period prior to the request for nominations.

The award was established to honor J. Deane Sensenbaugh, an environmental engineer who was a member of the Association's Board of Directors. He completed one term as Association Vice President before his death in 1982.

For more information or to download a nomination form, visit www.awma.org/about/awards <file://www.awma.org/about/awards> .

#### Adieu, Anette — Welcome, Simon

Simon Spitalny has assumed the role of Anette Ngijol as Volunteer and Membership Activities Professional. Prior to this position, he worked in customer service and service and marketing departments at AIChE. Previous to this Simon graduated from Clark University in May of 2006. Simon can be reached at (212) 591-7478 simos@aiche.org

#### Harry H. West 1943-2006

Dr. Harry H. West, PE, 63, formerly of Plymouth and Sweet Valley, PA passed away suddenly at his residence in Houston, TX.

Dr. West was the son of Harry H. West, Sr, Lake Township and the late Jane M. West. He was the grandson of the late Thompson and Elizabeth Maggs and the late Joseph and Edith West, all from Plymouth. He was a 1961 graduate from Plymouth High School, attended Wilkes College and completed his bachelor of science degree in chemical engineering summa cum laude from Bucknell University. He earned his doctorate from the University of Oklahoma.

Dr. West was a faculty member at the University of Pittsburgh, University of Oklahoma, University of Texas, and Texas A & M University. Last month, he was a guest lecturer at Texas A&M campus, in Qatar. As a registered professional engineer in Pennsylvania and Texas, Dr. West was world-renowned and had more than 35 years experience in the areas of chemical process/safety analysis, environment assessment, and regulatory compliance for the petroleum, natural gas, chemical, and water industries. He participated in several hundred forensic assignments and provided expert testimony in various cases ranging from civil litigation and international arbitration to regulatory compliance hearings. In Washington DC, he spoke on behalf of a current energy bill. Dr. West was a consultant to OSHA for the U.S. Coast Guard. He worked on patents regarding environment safety and disposal.

Dr. West was founder and president of Shawnee Engineers. He was the former president and technical director of EDG Engineering with offices in Houston, Tulsa, London, Cairo, and Abu Dhabi (ranked among the top 100 design companies in the world), a cofounder of Energy Analysts, member of the founding group of ChemShare Corporation, a senior staff member of University Engineers, and research assistant in the Flame Dynamics Laboratory. He was an author of more than 80 technical papers on systems safety analysis, hazards assessment, process safety management, and process safety automation. Dr. West coauthored the AIChE-sponsored text, "Guidelines for Safe Process Operations and Maintenance."

He is survived by his wife, Georgell Bencho West; daughter, Deborah West, Boulder, CO; son, Donald West, Taipei, Taiwan; granddaughter, Coral Hackler, Durango, CO; step-daughter, Shawna Bauman, Houston, TX; brother, Robert West and his wife, Maureen, Bowie, MD; sister, Nancy West Walters and her husband, Gary, Shavertown, PA; aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins and his loyal canine companions, Rascal and Scooter.

### AIChE's Centennial Corner: Lost in History by Barry Tarmy (bltarmy@comcast.net)

With our Centennial fast approaching in 2008, we are reflecting on who we are and what it has meant and will mean to be or to have been a chemical engineer. We seek personal experiences and reminiscences, serious or ironic, clear or confusing, poignant or mysterious in let's say 500 to 700 words (give or take a few hundred) that you would be willing to share in *CEP's EXTRA*.

We are looking for the varied perceptions of the chemical engineering experience from early, mid and late career, and not as printed in technical publications or management digests. We will also be looking for feedback in response to their publication.

How are your investigative skills? Hone them by helping us solve these chemical engineering mysteries.

1. **A plaque**, commemorating the June 22, 1908 founding of the AICHE and ceremoniously placed at the entranceway of "Philadelphia's stately Engineer's Club" on January 29, 1958. Neither the plaque nor the Engineers Club is now there. The plaque moved to the Philadelphia Historical Society, then the Atwater Kent Museum and then to parts unknown. We know of the plaque's existence because its picture was published that year in CEP, but it is now lost to history. Do you know its whereabouts? Write to bltarmy@comcast.net.

2. **Penicillin**, blood plasma and OJ. Charles Drew set up the first blood bank in 1939 at the Columbia Medical Center after discovering that liquid blood plasma (90% water content) could replace whole blood, which would deteriorate in a few days of storage. Roughly 10,500 units were shipped to London from mid-1940 to February 1941. But, dry plasma powder was what was really needed for the war effort. In 1942-1943, technology for preserving penicillin by freeze-drying was extended to drying blood plasma. Chemical engineers were involved in this effort. MIT chemical engineers developed sufficient information to build the first plants. We know have no information on who they were.

There's more to the story. Early in World War II, the National Research Corporation (NRC), with experience with penicillin, streptomycin, and blood plasma worked for three years on freeze-drying orange juice. The U.S. Army, its sponsor, got sludge, instead of a dried powder. After the war, the sludge was introduced to the public by the Florida Foods Corporation and popularized as Minute Maid Orange Juice.

We know John M. Fox was the head of what became Minute Maid. But lacking is any mention of the technical faced in producing and distributing the product and the people (most likely chemical engineers) who solved the problems. Minute Maid has no existing records on this subject. There is hearsay that Arthur D. Little Company was involved with the development and technical transfer, but no information was forthcoming from them. There supposedly was information developed by the Harvard Business Review on Arthur D. Little's role, but we haven't seen it. Does anyone know something about who they were and what they did?