



The Chemical Consultant

Association of Consulting Chemists and Chemical Engineers, Inc.

Scientific, Engineering, Business & Management Consultants

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April—June 2019

FUTURE MEETINGS

All members are invited to attend.

GTM Virtual Council Meetings at 7 pm EDT

July 9

August 13—Tentative

The Association of Consulting Chemists & Chemical Engineers (ACC&CE) is a network of senior-level consultants with a broad range of functional expertise and many years of experience in the chemical and allied industries.

The purposes of the organization are:

To offer prospective clients a “clearing house” which they can use to find the most qualified consultants or team of consultants whatever their particular problem may be.

To furnish support to its members as they conduct their consulting practices.

This newsletter is intended to support those purposes as well as to educate prospective new members and prospective client organizations about ACC&CE, and how we can be most helpful to them.

ACC&CE Officers & Leaders

David M. Manuta,
President

dmanuta1@roadrunner.com

VACANT— Vice President

Joseph V. Porcelli,
Secretary, jvpji@jvporcelli.com

J. Stephen Duerr, Treasurer
chemlabconsulting@gmail.com

Joseph V. Porcelli,
Past President
jvpji@jvporcelli.com

Charles Leonard,
Webmaster, charlie@cleonard.net

Richard M. Goodman
Programming
RMGConsulting@msn.com

Richard L. Schauer
Membership
rschauer@schauerassociates.com

The ACC&CE has an interactive website – www.chemconsult.org that allows prospective clients either to input their problem or to search for those consultants most skilled in their area of concern.

IN THIS ISSUE

This newsletter begins with a letter from our President, David Manuta, which appears on page 2. On page 4 is a letter from our Program Chair, Richard Goodman, discussing the two most recent Presentation meetings via GTM.

On page 5 introduces our two newest consultants, with a description of their practices.

Page 8 contains the latest message from your editor.

I am again requesting comments and articles from our members. This has continued to be a very busy season for all of us, and I still hope to bolster the contents of the newsletter in 2019 with interesting items from our members.

Also, I am once again asking for help from any of our members who have experience in posting content and/or managing groups in LinkedIn.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dr. David M. Manuta, (Certificate #882), President of ACC&CE

The Association of Consulting Chemists and Chemical Engineers (ACC&CE) is working on engaging more of our membership in association governance. While Dr. Steve Duerr, who has done a stellar job with the Treasurer position, wishes to stay on as Treasurer and I am interested in continuing as President, the Secretary position will soon be vacated by Dr. Joe Porcelli, and the Vice President position is not presently filled.

The fine work that Joe (Newsletter), Dr. Richard Goodman (Program), Charlie Leonard (Webmaster), and Dr. Dick Schauer (Membership), et al. (especially Tom Vichroski) have been doing is of course, greatly appreciated. As a result, I've been able to maintain some strategic focus on the future of the ACC&CE while continuing to work "the often insane hours" required to maintain a successful consultancy.

These few, plus a number of other Council members have accomplished the rewriting of our old constitution and bylaws, and are now working with me to seek out additional hard working professional colleagues who are willing to be more actively involved in ACC&CE governance. Members who express interest in association governance will not immediately be "thrown to the wolves." Those of us who have been engaged in association governance are always interested in supporting our colleagues in these transitions; in order that the executive positions being filled become truly "their own."

Younger colleagues are encouraged to step forward with your involvement being primarily determined by how much time you are comfortable dedicating to the ACC&CE. Ultimately the baton must be passed to the next group of leaders in all successful organizations. Planning, prior to AN EMERGENCY (a/k/a being proactive, rather than reactive), is key. With communication via the Go To Meeting platform, access to a computer or phone obviates the need for travel to New Jersey; as was the case in association governance up until just a few short years ago. While we still actively participate in the Chem Show (continuing the legacy started by the late Dr. John Bonacci) in NYC, the ACC&CE now spans much of the North American continent with increased interest from overseas colleagues.

The new ideas and the energy of those committed to the ACC&CE's future will ensure that the past success attained over many decades is maintained.

Thank you for reading.

Sincerely,

David M. Manuta, Ph.D., FAIC
President, Manuta Chemical Consulting, Inc.



Dr. David M. Manuta, FAIC, President
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J. Stephen Duerr, Ph.D., P.E., CPC
Consulting Metallurgist/Chemist
chemlabconsulting, LLC
514 Corrigan Way, Cary, NC 27519
908-500-9333

chemlabconsulting@gmail.com
www.chemlabconsulting.com

SCHAUER ASSOCIATES

Dr. Richard L. Schauer
Regulatory Consultant

P.O. Box 398, 1211 Dexter Corner Road
Townsend, DE 19734
Phone: (732) 586-5678
Fax: (302) 449-6012
E-mail: rschauer@schauerassociates.com

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Catherine A. Byrne, Ph.D.
Consulting Polymer Chemist
Belmont Polymer Associates, LLC
10 Homer Road
Belmont, MA 02478-2311
tel (617)484-1797
cbyrne@belmontpolymerassociates.com

Recent Program Committee Presentations via GoToMeeting (GTM)

Richard M. Goodman (Certificate # 747) - Program Chair

The Program Committee was able to arrange two special presentations for the GTM platform in the quarter from April to June 2019. The first presentation was on April 9, 2019. Johnny Serafin, PE, Refinery PL & Models Engineer, Phillips 66 spoke on the subject of “Refinery Modeling Used in economic Optimization.” In this presentation Mr. Serafin discussed the importance of modeling in the refining industry, how linear programming models can be utilized to optimize refinery operations, how these models are maintained and how models are used to make economic decisions. An overview of the refining process, as well as core crude oil properties was given as key background information. The presentation was well received and the attendees considered it a very worthwhile. All learned some interesting facts about the refinery business.

The second presentation was by Dr. Daniel Glavin, Astrobiologist and Associate Director for Science in the Solar System Exploration Division at the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center. His topic on June 11, 2019 was “Searching for life on Mars.” In this talk, Dr. Glavin described the concept of a “habitable environment” and the requirements for life as we know it. Understanding the basic requirements for life and the prebiotic chemistry that led to the emergence of life on Earth helps guide our search for life on Mars. Glavin also gave an overview of NASA's Mars Science Laboratory mission with an update on the progress of the Curiosity rover in Gale Crater and a summary of the results from the SAM instrument, including the detection of methane in the atmosphere and complex organics in an ancient lake mudstone. The discovery of preserved organic matter in Gale Crater is an important milestone in the search for chemical biosignatures on Mars. As with all great mysteries, the outcome is still not clear. We know that there are unique molecules found on Mars but we still don't know if they conclusively prove life ever existed. Future experiments and future missions will hopefully provide data to solve the mystery, “Has life ever existed on Mars?”

Attendance for Dr. Glavin's talk was slightly better than others this year with 4 people attending who had not previously joined the GTM presentations. As with Serafin's talk the consensus was that the Mars talk was most stimulating and well presented.

The program committee will continue to seek interesting talks for the benefit of the membership. But we still want members to indicate what subjects or technical areas they would want to hear about and attend the GTM talk. The GTM platform is excellent, slides are clear on your own computer and audio is also clear. Please let me know what you want to hear.

Richard M. Goodman
Program Chair, ACC&CE

NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

John Francis Miller, PhD (#973)

Enlighten Scientific, LLC

105 Corbin Street, Ste 204

Hillsborough, NC 27278

(919) 719 2800

<https://www.enlightenscientific.com>

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Kokila Doshi (#974)
Koki's Consultancy LLC
174 Via Catalunha
Jupiter, FL 33458

(561) 510-4616

Koki.msa@gmail.com

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- Loss adjustment consultancy for fire and explosion related issues
- Production improvement for forestry products like Gum Rosin

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Dr. Joseph V. Porcelli (Certificate #906)

The process of adopting the revised constitution is complete, and we are working diligently to solve officer succession and broadening the participation of our members in the governance of the organization.

The Constitution requires an election of officers and councilors at the next annual meeting, most likely in October. To this end, we are seeking candidates for the four officer slots, and the six councilor positions. President Manuta and Treasurer Duerr have expressed their interests in continuing their position for at least another year. The Vice President slot is vacant, and that position is expected to move up to President when that office becomes available. I (Porcelli) intend to step down from the Secretary post to make room for “new blood” and to allow me to chair the Nominating Committee which is working on this critical task. Anyone interested in becoming President should run for Vice President, and anyone interested in Secretary or Treasurer should become a candidate for the appropriate spot,.

As for the councilor slots, we will be approaching many of you to consider helping with this important task. As explained last year, we expect that those who will take a one, two or three-year term as councilors will take part in most of our GTM council meetings, and hopefully take a role in the operation of the association to ensure its continuity.

The membership in our LinkedIn ACC&CE Group has grown to 46. We believe that we are not making adequate use of this tool due to our lack of knowledgeable members, and we hope that one of our members can help us increase our group and to allow us to benefit more from what LinkedIn has to offer.

Please communicate with me at jvpjii@jvporcelli.com with your ideas and/or to volunteer.

Sincerely,
Joe Porcelli, Editor

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Fax (631) 271-5195
Email: CRDRConsulting@verizon.net



AM Rossmeisl Consulting

Anne-Marie Rossmeisl
Consulting Chemist
19 Nashua Road
Pelham, New Hampshire 03076
USA

1-603-560-9689 (cell) or 1-603-635-8432 (home)
Twitter: @amrchemconsult
E-mail: amrossmeisl@gmail.com
<http://amrossmeisl.wix.com/amrossmeislconsult>

Edward Richman, Ph.D.
President



RichmanChemical
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Richman Chemical Inc.
768 N. Bethlehem Pike
Lower Gwynedd, PA 19002
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T: (215) 628-2946 x12
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FORRESTAL CONSULTANTS LLC

Princeton Forrestal Village
116 Village Boulevard, Suite 200
Princeton, New Jersey 08540-5799
(609) 951-2285
Facsimile: (609) 371-9247
info@forrestalconsultants.com

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Steve Duerr — chemlabconsulting@gmail.com

Joe Porcelli — jvpil@jvporcelli.com

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c/o J. STEPHEN DUERR, Ph.D., P.E., CPC

ACC&CE Treasurer
514 Corrigan Way, Cary, NC 27519, USA
Phone—(908) 500-9333

accce@chemconsult.org

www.chemconsult.org

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