



The Chemical Consultant

Association of Consulting Chemists and Chemical Engineers, Inc.

Scientific, Engineering, Business & Management Consultants

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April—June 2020

FUTURE MEETINGS

All members are invited to attend.

July 14—Council Meeting—
7 pm EDT
(all members welcome)

Probable Next Council Meeting
August 11

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.

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

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IN THIS ISSUE

A SPECIAL WISH TO ALL OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS —STAY SAFE AND HEALTHY

This newsletter begins with a letter from our President, David Manuta, which appears on pages 2 and 3.

On page 5 is a letter from our Program Chair, Richard Goodman, on the recent presentation by member David Morse. On page 6 appears a short letter from your editor. On page 8 our latest new consultant member, Art Finkle, is introduced, with a short description of his practice.

I am continuing to request comments and articles from our members. I still hope to bolster the contents of the newsletter in 2020 with interesting items from our members.

Please address all comments to: jvprii@jvporcelli.com.

Joe Porcelli, Editor

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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

Our Association has counted on the volunteer support of now thirty eight (38) of us -- who are kindred spirits in the consulting space. All of us do what we can in a synergistic manner to move the ACC&CE forward. In recent years, the initiative to create the new and improved brochures for the ACC&CE -- plus the marketing materials/promotional artwork for speakers -- was championed by Tom Vichroski.

Mrs. Vichroski sent an email to our website on May 3, 2020 indicating that Tom had passed away on March 28, 2020. The COVID-19 virus that was ravaging metropolitan NYC at that time, claimed Tom's life sooner than any of us could know. It didn't take long for the emails to circulate among many of us on the shock of losing Tom.

I've spoken to Mrs. Vichroski twice since his passing. She went ahead with the orderly accounting in shutting down his consultancy and she inquired about what to do with "his stuff." At some point in the near future, she'll generate an inventory of "his stuff." I'll then check with some of the decision-makers at the Science History Institute (SHI) in Philadelphia on whether there would be any interest.

[The SHI is the repository for the chemistry and chemical engineering professions in the USA. For the past several years I have been honored to be on the Heritage Council (a governing body) and the Instruments and Artifacts Committee at SHI. I'll let everyone know the status of SHI's interest in "his stuff."]

Tom and Marlene Vichroski had lived in the same town on Long Island for many decades. Mrs. Vichroski mused about doing something for a graduating senior with an interest in pursuing a career in science (generally) and chemistry (specifically). After two telephone conversations with her, she has begun the process to determine how the nearby high school handles such matters. It is also generally good to speak with an accountant and an attorney on avoiding the pitfalls in the path when the setting up a suitable memorial.

There was a spirited discussion at our last Council Meeting on how we can express ourselves regarding what Tom had done for the ACC&CE. I'll try to clear time to speak with Mrs. Vichroski in the coming weeks. The understanding is that with "a million things for her to do", a suitable memorial may take some time to materialize.

A legacy of Tom's is found in my storage area. Many of these brochures are stored in the boxes of ACC&CE materials that I keep there (along with artifacts of the ACC&CE contributed by the late Dr. John Bonacci et al.). These brochures were beautifully and professionally created. We have the .pdf documents for the brochures saved, so we can always create more of them for The Chem Show and other like events.

(Continued on next page)

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT (Continued)

While I had known that Tom had been in declining health, his active participation in the ACC&CE to "near the end" belied what was coming. As we all know, COVID-19 is the worst pandemic that we have experienced in a century. I know that more than 115,000 Americans (as of the time of this writing) have perished from the plague. Richard Goodman has beautifully articulated that Tom's passing hits close for many of us. A colleague has been called home, a colleague who won't be forgotten by the ACC&CE.

Be well, stay safe. Thank you for reading.

Sincerely,

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Mission Statement: The application
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to solve problems.

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LETTER FROM THE PROGRAM CHAIR (and Vice President)

Richard M. Goodman (Certificate #747)

On June 2, 2020, one of the newest members of ACC&CE, David Morse made a GTM presentation to the membership. Thirteen members attended: this represents more than one third of our active membership and is largest attendance for a presentation in several years.

His topic was, “Developing A Liquid / Liquid Extraction Column with Reaction”.

His talk covered the chemical research via batch extraction, the piloting on an extraction column, economics of the proposed production solution, and the building/installation of the production column where there is chemical reaction occurring at the same time as phase transfer. He explained why continuous extraction was the ultimate choice compared to batch extraction even though the feedstock was coming from a batch reaction.

Speaker’s Ultra brief Bio: Dave has spent 38 years in the specialty chemicals industry in pilot plants and production since graduating from Bucknell University with a BScHE. It was while working in the Sandoz/Clariant pilot plant that he was tapped to research and develop the process which was the topic of tonight’s talk. (see his profile for a full biography).

The talk was well received as it represented a great tutorial of all the factors that go into industrial chemical engineering projects.

As Program Chair I was glad to have a new member bring such an interesting and relevant topic to the membership as a whole. I hereby solicit, especially from our newer members, a response to likewise present an interesting topic from their own careers that would be of interest to the general membership. Contact me with any ideas you might have. I look forward to another great program.

Richard M. Goodman\Program Chair

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR (and Immediate Past President)

Dr. Joseph V. Porcelli (Certificate #906)

I am writing this on letter on June 25, so that we can publish it “on time” by the end of the month. Since I wrote the last letter, we have seen New York State and New York City skirt disaster (overloaded hospitals, ICUs, medical staffs and others). Our state has had the best recovery of all the US states, and until the last week or two, I thought we were “out of the woods”. We benefited by most New Yorkers taking seriously the strong guidance from our governor, who many people felt was too tough. Unfortunately, since the president left it to the states, many of the other governors were less tough, and a number of them moved what now appears to have been too quickly to “open up”. These last two weeks have seen a majority of the states experiencing their highest infection rate yet, so that the overall US figures are at their highest now, despite very low figures for New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. ,

As I did in April, I hope that all our members and readers continue to follow the practices recommended by the CDC and other medical experts and to stay home if possible and to stay safe! I also wish that the majority of the population would recognize the value of the advice being offered by respected medical personnel and institutions. This isn't over yet!

ACC&CE has continued to function during the pandemic, thanks to having moved the operations on-line a few years ago. Our last monthly council GTM meetings have been growing in attendance, and an excellent GTM presentation by one of our newest members, David Morse, was well-attended and well-received. I urge all our readers to pay attention to the emailed notices of our GTM meetings and other activities. All are welcome.

Please communicate with me at jvpri@jvporcelli.com with your thoughts.

Sincerely

Joe Porcelli, Editor

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NEW MEMBER INFORMATION

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Arthur Finkle

I'm a problem solver and my success has often come from resolving and improving process issues. I've teamed up with some brilliant chemists and the combination of their molecule bending and my manufacturing acumen has made the perfect union to "make chemistry work."

Being a mechanic at heart, I've sold and marketed chemicals for 44 years. I attribute much of my successful career to my ability to learn from one industry and apply it to another where it has "never been done this way before and can't work."

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This newsletter issues three times and for special situations, four times a year, and advertising is sold on an annual basis, with ads appearing in each issue. Advertising is open to all members, and nonmember ads will be considered on a case-by-case basis. The price list for advertising is as follows:

Business Card Size (2.0 x 3.5 inches)	\$50/year
Larger Size (3.0 x 5.0 inches) -	\$90/year
Half-page—	\$250/year
Custom size and features—	pricing upon request

To discuss advertising with us, please contact --

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