

# *the Alembic*



## Chair's Corner



Greetings to my fellow chemists as we begin another new year. I am just getting used to writing 2000 or 00 on my checks, but I will from time to time still make a mistake. By the end of the month, I should be perfect.

Let me begin my term as chairman by telling you what a great honor it is for me to serve you as chairperson of the Central Wisconsin American Chemical Society. For those of you who keep track of elections, you will note that there were no elections in 1998. Our past chairperson, Bob St Louis ask me to serve as chairperson-elect. In a moment of weakness, and a sense of honor and duty, I accepted. I hope that when I step down as chairperson, you, as members of this local ACS section, will say this person is the one we would have voted for, had elections been held.

When I accepted the role of vice-chairperson, I immediately set a goal of finding meetings so inviting, that throughout this year, I will have the opportunity to shake the hand of every fellow chemist in central Wisconsin.

Another words, my goal was to have every member of this section attend at least one (and hopefully more) meetings throughout the year 2000. Luckily for me, people did "volunteer" to help with these programs, as I knew the members of this great section do, and I was able to put together eight great programs for the year 2000. Unfortunately for me, my position at Wausau Insurance was eliminated, and I have since moved to Massachusetts to work for Wausau's parent company - Liberty Mutual. And I will most likely not be able to shake anyone's hand, if fact, I may be lucky to attend one meeting this year myself. Therefore, I revised my goal and want to thank everyone for their past work and future efforts for this local section and in the promotion of this profession we love.

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### ACS - CWS Mini-Directory

#### Chair

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#### Councilor

C. Marvin Lang

#### Alternate Councilor

Don Showalter

#### Past Chair

Robert St. Louis

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# "Career Self-Management"

by

MARLOWE C. EMBREE, Ph.D.

Senior Consultant

**Thursday Evening  
24 February 2000  
Wisconsin Rapids**

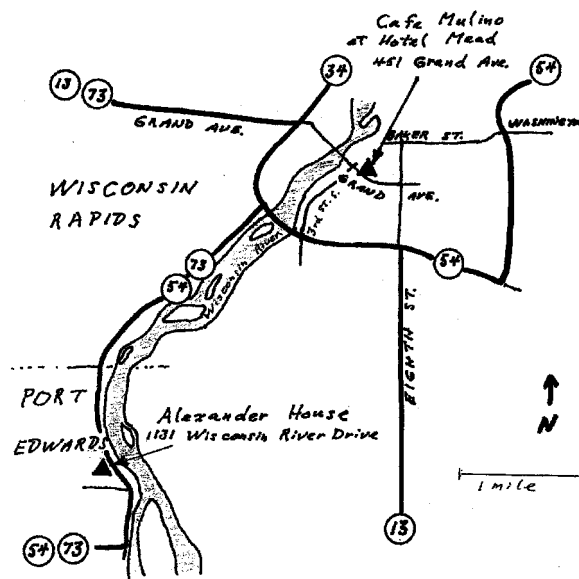
In the brave new world of the 21st century, it has never been more important than it is today to know how to take personal responsibility for your own life and career. The rules have definitely changed! Fifty years ago, a person could rationally expect to stay with one company, in one defined career path, for a lifetime. Today, the average person entering the job market for the first time can expect on average 8 to 12 job changes, including 3 to 5 radical career shifts. This presentation will provide you with practical tools for increasing your effectiveness in planning your career and implementing your plans.

### \*\*\*About the Speaker\*\*\*

Marlowe brings a diverse background to the Career Development Group. He has worked as a project researcher, educator, and career counselor and has seven years' experience in the field of international trade. He holds a B.A. from the University of Denver and a Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in Social Psychology.

Marlowe specializes in outplacement, individual career management, pre-employment and management development assessment, and confidential Employee Assistance program services.

Marlowe is also an author of numerous articles at both the national and local level and writes a monthly column on career management issues published in six area newspapers.



\*\*\*\*\*  
Gather at 5:30, eat at 6:30 at Café Mulino in the Hotel Mead, 451 Grand Avenue in Wisconsin Rapids. Hotel Mead is three blocks east of the Wisconsin River on East Grand Avenue. Please see map. Please call Dave Thiel at (715) 422-2470 (days) or 887-4338 (evenings) before noon on Thursday to make a reservation for dinner.  
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The meeting will begin at 7:30 at the Alexander House, 1131 Wisconsin River Drive in Port Edwards. This is on Highway 54,73 about a mile north of the Georgia-Pacific paper mill. Please see map. The Alexander House is a combination art gallery and historical museum in a stately old colonial home on the Wisconsin River. The facility will open especially for us at 7:00. Galleries will be open for our viewing before and after our meeting. Coffee will be served. No charges. All is courtesy of the Alexander Charitable Foundation.

## Year 2000 ACS Schedule

Month	Date	Speaker	Topic	Location	Host
February 2000	Thursday February 24	Dr. Marlowe Embree	Topic to be centered around careers	Wisconsin Rapids	David Thiel
March 2000	Thursday March 23	James Webb Otis Rothenberger	Is it Chemistry or Magic?	Stevens Point	Tom Zamis
April 2000	Thursday April 27	Sarah Blendermann	Boogie-Boarding the Internet- Getting the Most Chemistry from the WWW	Rothschild	Ilona Lin
May 2000	May 5	Special National Guest Speaker	Salute to Retired Chemists	Stevens Point	Marv Lang
September 2000	Thursday September 14	John Marquart	Caves: Worlds within the World	Eau Claire	Bob St Louis
October 2000	Thursday October 12	Dr Kenneth Abate	Survey of Surfactants	Marshfield	Tom Marty
November 2000	First week	Tip Randall	Patent Systems Updates	Eau Claire	David Lewis
December 2000	First week	Ronald Haas	Tour of Marshfield Clinic Laboratories	Marshfield	Ronald Haas

Chair's Corner (from page 1)

I know thanking people is very dangerous, because I know I will miss somebody (please e-mail me and I will gladly correct this error next month), but let me begin by thanking retiring secretary-treasurer Donald Campbell. Don has effortlessly kept our books and taken meticulous notes at our executive committee meetings and he will be missed. The story I heard is that Don became our secretary-treasurer because the books were left in his office from the previous secretary-treasurer. I don't know if that is true, but I do know we should find another position for Don (you name it Don) on our executive committee. I also thank Don Showalter, who continues to serve our section as alternate councilor, but who is stepping down from the awards committee. Presenting awards are

certainly one of the most important functions in our local section and Don's efforts will be greatly missed by the awards committee and our local section. I greatly thank Marvin Lang, who faithfully serves our section as councilor and because of his stature, helps to give our local section more prominence. By the way, if you have never seen Dr. Lang and Dr. Showalter give their chemistry demonstrations, you should definitely go the very next opportunity you get. Its a great show - good for kids and grownups.

I also thank Laura Cole for her outstanding work with the Chemistry Olympiad. Last year, Laura's work involved eight schools and 123 students and she made it all look easy. Laura also works on the award's committee. I also can't thank our Alembic editor Tom Zamis enough. Tom has a

knack for gathering information and putting together this wonderful voice of our local section. Great Job - Tom!!! Another person to thank is Tom Marty, who heads our awards committee. Tom determines the top college student award, helps to publicize awards night, and also helps to hosts one to two executive committee meetings a year in Marshfield. I also thank Ilona Lin, who was recently elected secretary-treasurer and is working hard to make sure the sections money is working for us. Ilona has faithfully served our section as National Chemistry Week coordinator the past few years. Because of her recent election to secretary-treasurer, Ilona has asked to serve a smaller role in National Chemistry Week, and our section will need a new NCW coordinator. I wonder how will we ever replace Ilona as NCW coordinator? National Chemistry

Week is our section top outreach programs and involves so many of our members. I'm sure this is not everyone who helped in NCW last year, but let me thank Marv Lang, Don Showalter, Gary Shulfer, Sue Hall, Bob St. Louis, Mary and Chuck Daley, Henry Hoftieser, and John Hollis for their much appreciated NCW efforts. I also thank Steve Leiterman, our membership leader, who is an excellent person to bounce ideas off of. I also thank Tom Zamis, Bob St. Louis, Tom Marty, and Ron Haas for hosting meetings this past year. A special thank you to Bob St. Louis, our current past chair, who showed some faith in me to be chairperson, and who will most likely become our sections longest serving past chair. And a final thank you to our last year's chairman Gary McCauley, who served through a difficult time in his life.

Looking ahead to this year, my plans are to serve as chairperson through the middle of this year, then step down in June. Luckily for all of us in the Central Wisconsin section, our chair elect, David Lewis, is a very experienced ACS local section leader. Thank you David, for agreeing to run and serve a longer than normal term as chairperson.

On the agenda for this year are three tour speakers, three local members, a career specialists, and a surprise guest speaker for our May honoring of our retirees. We have tried to schedule meetings in every corner of our section and many are on Thursday night (according to our survey - Thursday was the

favorite night). I hope you find many to your liking.

Our first speaker will be Marlowe Embree, and he will talk about career self management. Marlowe is a friend of my family, and I am sure you will enjoy him. David Thiel has made meal arrangements at the Hotel Mead in Wisconsin Rapids and the programs will be at the Alexander Center for Art and History in Port Edwards. Please enjoy.

*Jim*

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### ACS-CWS Web Page

<http://chemdept.uwsp.edu/acscws/> or you can link there from the American Chemical Society home page - Local Sections. Contains the most up-to-date information about section activities.



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### Members' Update

by Jim Waelchli

Last year, the job situation was a little bleak for some of us, and I am happy to report much success in that area. Chad Felch, a former UW-SP graduate and Wausau Insurance employee has found employment with US Filter

and can be reached at [cfelch@usfilter.com](mailto:cfelch@usfilter.com). Brian Peterson, also a former UW-SP graduate and Wausau Insurance employee has found employment with Heatbath - a company that sells plating chemicals, and can be reached at [bpeters@aol.com](mailto:bpeters@aol.com). Brian just recently announced his engagement, and I wish him the best. Mary Schaefer, a former Wausau Insurance laboratory employee, has found work with Liberty Mutual in a non-lab position. Darlene Boehm, a former UW-EC graduate and ACS secretary-treasurer, who worked in the Wausau Insurance laboratory for many years and then moved into the systems area, continues in the Wausau Insurance Benefits systems area. She survived the recent layoffs despite 40 percent of her co-workers being released. Joe Henry, a former chemist with Wausau Insurance is now a business analysts with Liberty Mutual (he is still located in Wausau). Gary McCauley, our past chairperson from last year, is adjusting to life in Austin Texas. He recently bought a home and can be reached at [gmccauley@hadco.com](mailto:gmccauley@hadco.com). As for myself, I am working in the industrial hygiene laboratory at Liberty Mutual in Hopkinton, Massachusetts. I have a concern about my situation, as my family continues to live in Wisconsin, while we search for affordable housing in Massachusetts.

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## CHEMISTRY or MAGIC?



Start making plans to attend the first Spring meeting of the ACS-CWS to be held on Thursday night, March 23 in Stevens Point. Jim Webb and Otis Rothenberger from Illinois State University will be bringing their own brand of chemical demonstrations to Central Wisconsin. They have been doing outreach programs for over 12 years and their presentation is aimed at anyone interested in developing a chemical outreach program - from high school teachers to chemistry students and chemistry faculty. Watch for details in the next issue of the *A lembic*.



### 1999 Local Section Election Results

#### For Chair Elect 2000:

David Lewis 14 votes  
Robert St. Louis 1 vote

#### For Secretary Treasurer 2000:

Iona Lin 15 votes

#### For Councilor (2000 - 2002):

C. Marvin Lang 15 votes

#### For Alternate Councilor (2000 - 2002):

Donald L. Showalter 15 votes

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### Your *A lembic* Editor

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## Conversion Perversion

Ratio of an igloo's circumference to its diameter: Eskimo Pi

2.4 statute miles of intravenous surgical tubing at Yale University Hospital: 1 I.V. League

Time it takes to sail 220 yards at 1 nautical mile per hour:  
Knot-furlong

365 days of drinking low-calorie beer because it's less filling:  
1 lite year

Weight an evangelist carries with God: 1 billigram

Basic unit of laryngitis:  
1 hoarsepower

Shortest distance between two jokes: A straight line

Time between slipping on a peel and smacking the pavement:  
bananosecond

1 kilogram of falling figs:  
1 Fig Newton

1000 grams of wet socks:  
1 literhosen

1 trillion pins: 1 terrapin

10 monologs: 5 dialogs

5 dialogs: 1 decalog

2 monograms: 1 diagram

8 nickels: 2 paradigms

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## National Elections President

**Attila E. Pavlath, Ph.D.**, a chemist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Albany, Calif., has been named president-elect of the world's largest scientific society, the American Chemical Society. He was elected by a ballot vote of the Society's membership and will assume office on Jan. 1, 2000. Pavlath will automatically become president of the Society in 2001 and serve as a member of the ACS Board of Directors from 2000-2002. An accomplished researcher and long-time advocate for the chemical community, Pavlath plans to improve ACS by focusing on member concerns. "Our goal must be to address the challenges facing our profession and to make ACS a home equally attractive to chemical professionals from the youngest member to the most respected Nobel Laureate," he says. Among his major initiatives, Pavlath pledges to improve chemistry education by strengthening the relationship between academe and industry, bring younger members into positions of leadership in ACS, and increase interaction with foreign chemical societies.

### Board of Directors

**Glenn A. Crosby, Ph.D.**, a chemistry professor, with Washington State U.

**C. Gordon McCarty, Ph.D.**, former manager with Bayer Corp. in Pittsburgh, Pa

**Maureen G. Chan**, a polymer chemist formerly with Bell Laboratories in Murray Hill, N.J

**James D. Burke, Ph.D.**, with Rohm and Haas Co. in Spring House, Pa

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