



THE FILTER PRESS

Newsletter of the Georgia Section of the American Chemical Society

Volume 13, Number 2

February, 2003

Biochemical Role of Cholesterol —Good Guy or Bad Guy?—

Dr. Joe A. Vinson

The association of dietary fats and body cholesterol is a controversial subject under intensive investigation by scientists today. Advances in understanding the transport molecules of cholesterol and lipoproteins have now provided the link between cholesterol and heart disease. The chemical and physical properties of cholesterol will be discussed in order to understand its biochemistry. The biosynthesis of cholesterol and its metabolism will be described. The biology and chemistry of atherosclerosis will be discussed in light of recent discoveries. Risk factors for heart disease will be outlined. Factors affecting body cholesterol including diet, exercise, and drugs will be discussed in order that intelligent decisions can be made to lower the risk of heart disease.

Dr. Joe Vinson was born in Arkansas and grew up in the San Francisco Bay area. He attended college at the University of California at Berkeley, where he received his B.S. in chemistry in 1963. He received a M.S. degree (in physical organic chemistry) at Iowa State University in 1966. He received a research assistantship at the Ames Lab of the Atomic Energy Commission at Iowa State and received a Ph.D. in organic and analytical chemistry in 1967 under the

direction of Dr. James Fritz. After several teaching positions in Pennsylvania and a two-year stint in industry at J. T. Baker Chemical Company, he returned to academe and is now a professor of chemistry at the University of Scranton in Northeastern Pennsylvania. His research interests are wide-ranging and include drug analysis in physiological fluids and the effect of vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants on nutrition and health.

Herty Award Nominations Sought

The Georgia Section of the ACS is soliciting nominations for the 2003 *Charles Holmes Herty* award. This award is presented annually to recognize the work and service of an outstanding chemist from the Southeastern section of our organization. The award recipient is honored at a ceremony in late spring by the Georgia ACS section, and a commemorative gold medal is presented. Nominees may come from academia, government, or industry and must have been doing research in the Southeastern region for more than ten years. The deadline for submission of nominations is March 21, 2003. Please send all nominations with at least two supporting letters to: Dr. Li-hong D'Angelo, Chair of the Herty Award Committee, TEC415, The Coca-Cola Company, P.O. Box 1734, Atlanta, GA, 30301; ldangelo@na.ko.com; (404)676-8920.

Thursday, February 6, 2003, at Drury Inn & Suites, Morrow



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Chemjobs Launches Feb. 10, 2003

Chemical & Engineering News Classifieds & Careers Online (Chemjobs) will launch on February 10, 2003. This new "one-stop career shop" combines the features of Jobspectrum.org—for example, resume posting—with the C&EN online classified ads to provide career resources for both job-seekers and employers. ACS members will be able to view the most recent C&EN classified ads that appeared in the print version of the magazine; non-members will be able to view them after two weeks. Chemjobs will be the prime site for "quality jobs and quality chemists" to find each other. Chemjobs will also have an archive of useful career resource information and articles from C&EN and a direct link to ACS Department of Career Services. Stay tuned and log on Feb. 10: <http://www.cen-chemjobs.org>

Travel Awards for Chemists with Disabilities Announced!

The ACS Committee on Chemists with Disabilities announces a new travel grant program. The program is open for all individuals with disabilities that are graduate, undergraduate students, or postdoctoral researchers who wish to make presentations at scientific meetings. The intent of the grant is to help defray some of the costs associated with travel and lodging. The goal of the program is to promote presentation of scientific research by individuals with disabilities and provide motivated students with opportunities to build professional relationships through networking.

The deadline for applications is March 15, 2003 for meetings scheduled between July 1 and December 31, 2003. For further information, please go to <http://membership.acs.org/C/CWD//travap> or contact Kathleen Thompson 800-227-5558 ext. 8072.

Nominations for Public Outreach Award Sought

The time has arrived to submit nominations for the Helen M. Free Award for Public Outreach. Any ACS member whose efforts have increased the public's awareness and understanding of the importance of chemistry or chemical engineering is eligible for the award. Go to the Committee of Public Relations and Communications web page for all of the details: chemistry.org/committees/cprc.html. Nominations are due March 1, 2003.

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The Filter Press (ISSN 1053-5721) is published monthly (except June, July, August, and December) by the Georgia Section of the American Chemical Society. Periodicals Postage Paid Atlanta GA.

Advertising and Business, Graphics Design, Submission of Materials for Publication: Direct materials for publication to Matthias Pohl, 2216 Brookhaven View, Atlanta, GA 30319, or email to mpohl@tmqservices.com.

Address Changes: ACS members should send address changes to ACS Membership Services, 1155 Sixteenth Street NW, Washington, DC 20036 or call 1-800-227-5558.

Postmaster: Send address changes to Brian Fowler, 3466 Irwin Bridge Rd., Conyers, GA 30012

Fall 2002 Councilor Report

By Don Hicks

All of my time at the Boston ACS meeting was spent attending meetings of the Board and various committees, including an all-day meeting of the Board Council of the Committee on Public Relations and Communications (CPRC). I have served on this committee for several years and currently chair its subcommittee on the Helen Free Public Outreach Award. This committee's *mission* is to promote awareness of the contributions of chemistry to society. This is done through collaborations across ACS, and through interaction with the media and the general public. Activities include (i) advising the ACS Office of Communications (ACS-OC) on policies and methods of outreach, (ii) encouraging ACS divisions, local sections, committees, governance, and members to increase and maintain a high level of public relations activity, and (iii) developing and participating in activities such as workshops, classes, and briefings that inform and appeal to the media. More information on CPRC can be found at <http://chemistry.org/committees/cprc.html>.

A recent electronic poll indicates that 86% of ACS members are concerned about the public image of chemists and chemistry. The ACS has been engaged in public relations for several years now; the CPRC has advocated even broader and bigger public relations efforts. Arguably all good "things" (such as research funding, jobs, pay, recognition, ACS membership, graduate students) come from an appropriately positive perception of our science and its professionals. For example, the ACS Office of Communications prepares and promotes news stories for the media about chemistry and chemical research. This activity is expected to reach a potential audience of 500–700 million in 2003 with generally positive stories about chemistry. Furthermore, the Office of Communications is about to start an email newsletter; interested members should send a subscription request to OCNewsletter@acs.org.

The CPRC presents several annual awards to encourage PR work. Those with a national scope include the Grady-Stack Award given to a media science writer for interpreting chemistry to the public, the

Helen M. Free Award given to an ACS member for outstanding personal PR activities, and five ACS Newsmakers Awards given to members whose research accounts for the most press coverage. Lastly, National Chemistry Week is an outstanding public relations event that originated with CPRC ten years ago.

For several years CPRC has supervised the National Historic Chemical Landmarks program (NHCL). Forty-five landmarks will have been designated by the end of 2002, designed to commemorate important events in the history of chemistry and heighten public awareness of the role of chemistry in world history and the contributions of chemists to society. Please visit the award-winning website on the landmarks at www.chemistry.org.

In recent years, CPRC has experimented with two-day "master classes" or "workshops" for 40 media science reporters. The "Chemistry of Chocolate" workshop treated the writers to fun lectures on chemistry as well as gourmet chocolate foods. We hoped to (i) encourage positive stories with correct words about chemicals, and (ii) to get them (and their associates) to think of ACS as a source of science stories in the future. Many food chemistry stories were generated soon after this, and several months to a year later.

Other notable ACS image activities do not involve CPRC directly. For example, the legislative action network (LAN) of the ACS Office of legislative and Government Affairs (OLGA) promotes chemistry's image to state and federal legislators. Since 1993, the ACS Office of Education has promoted reform in college chemistry teaching through two different textbook and curriculum development programs which will contribute to improving chemistry's image over a longer period of time. This Office has also developed award-winning K-12 materials, plus a website called "WonderNet—Your Science Place in Cyberspace" (with common stuff used in fun and easy experiments). It is found at www.chemistry.org/wondernet. The ACS Office of Industrial Members Programs recently started the national ACS Heroes of Chemistry awards program to honor chemists who developed commercial products that improve our lives. A recent expansion of the program presents Regional Industrial Innovation

Awards at the regional ACS meetings. C & EN periodically prints a feature article called "What's That Stuff?" that explains the chemistry connection to common products like toothpaste and hair coloring. These are very useful to teachers and local PR enthusiasts.

Here are some more random notes from the Boston meeting. Besides a subcommittee report at the CPRC meeting, I made a long range planning proposal for a comprehensive ACS public image program that would include all of the current activities plus a national media advertising campaign once each generation. And more importantly, ideas for how it could be funded. But there was not much time for committee discussion. Chemistry's public image will be the major focus during the 2003 ACS Presidency of Dr. Elsa Reichmanis. Also, two of the three candidates for 2003 President-Elect (Casey and petition candidate Nalley) have made image their top priority. ♦

For your Calendar!

March Meeting

Thursday, March 6, 2003

Victorian House

Conyers, GA

Scheduled Speaker:

Cameron Sullards

Georgia Tech

Mass Spectrometry

Good Chemistry Continues at ACS Regional Meetings!

ACS Regional Meetings bring chemists together in an intimate setting to...

- √ Bring outstanding technical programming to local audiences through symposia, professional development workshops, and poster sessions
- √ Present programs for graduate and undergraduate students
- √ Recognize outstanding achievements by chemists in the local area through presentation of industrial and academic awards
- √ Provide opportunities for networking and meeting colleagues from your area as well as ACS governance and staff
- √ Sponsor programs for high school teachers and students
- √ Help you to reap more benefits from your ACS membership

55th Southeast Regional Meeting
November 20-22
Renaissance Hotel Atlanta, Georgia

February Meeting

Biochemical Role of Cholesterol

Dr. Joe A. Vinson

Drury Inn & Suites Morrow, GA

Date: Thursday, February 6, 2003

Time: 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Arrive
7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Dinner
8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Program

Dinner: Pizza

Location: Drury Inn & Suites
6520 S Lee Street
Morrow, Georgia 30260
(770)960-0500

Directions: The Drury Inn & Suites is conveniently located just off I-75, Exit 233 (Morrow/Jonesboro). From the North, at bottom of off-ramp turn left onto Hwy. 54, Jonesboro Road. Turn right onto Southlake Plaza Dr. Southlake Plaza Dr becomes Adamson Parkway; turn left onto S Lee Street. Coming from the South, at bottom of off-ramp turn left onto Hwy. 54, Jonesboro Road. Turn right onto Southlake Plaza Dr. Southlake Plaza Dr becomes Adamson Parkway; turn left onto S Lee Street.

Cost: \$ 15.00 per person; full-time students with ID and high school teachers, \$15.00. Payment should be made to the **ACS Georgia Section** and will be collected at the door.

RSVP: Joe Stoner, Alcott Chromatography, (770) 248-2172, joe.stoner@juno.com. When making reservations, please state your name, professional affiliation, and telephone number. Reservation deadline is 5:00 PM on Tuesday, February 4, 2003. If you make a dinner reservation but fail to attend, you must still make payment for your meal.

Don't forget that you can advertise in the Filter Press! Advertise employment positions (temporary or permanent), goods, services, etc. Prices for advertisements per issue are:

Full Page	7" x 10"	\$200
Half Page	7" x 5"	\$150
Quarter page	3 1/2" x 5"	\$100
Eighth page	3 1/2" x 2 1/2"	\$50

*There is a 10% discount for 4 or more issues.

For more information, please contact Matthias Pohl, (404)869-6594, mtpohl@tmqservices.com.

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The Right People, The Right Match, The Right Way



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American Chemical Society

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Periodicals Postage
PAID
Atlanta, GA
Publication No. 571-180