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Also, in December-January, 1980-81, we took a tour of Spain and Portugal for 12 weeks. Alumni and friends are always welcome. Only a few of the tour members are currently enrolled students, and many are repeaters on the tours. I share my students' view that this is a real fun course, and they are surprised at much they learn in the process."

The Editors Award for *Sharpest-eyed Graduate* goes to Ara Yeremyan, MS '69, based upon the report in the *C&ENews*, p. 92 April 21, 1980 (reprinted by permission).

PISTACHIO STALLS TEXAS CAR

Ara Yeremyan of Philadelphia passed along a story he saw in *Modern Paint and Coatings*, which had found it in *Automotive Engineering*. It seems that a lady in Texas complained to her automobile dealer that her car wouldn't start when she bought pistachio ice cream. On hot summer days she would buy ice cream at a local shop to take home to her family. When she bought chocolate, vanilla, or strawberry the car started right up, but when she bought pistachio it always stalled.

The automobile dealer found this unconvincing. The fault, he figured, was not in the car but in the pistachio. The lady was persistent, and she turned out to be right. Investigation disclosed that chocolate, vanilla, and strawberry were repackaged in creams, so take-out orders could be dispensed rapidly. Pistachio, on the other hand, had to be hand-packed, which allowed just the extra time needed for the lady's car to develop a vapor lock in the hot Texas sun.

★ STAFF TWITTER

by Reva Walker

KERWIN BENNETT - Is a husband, father of 2 and **DIRECTOR OF LABORATORIES**. He is pursuing a M.S. in Biochemistry at CSULB and still manages to be on the soccer field both with the big boys and little boys. Wife Margaret competes by playing on the women's team in soccer at CSULB.

BOB CLARK - Our "glassblower" resides with lovely wife Sharon and laughter in Lakewood. They came to us from the paradise city of Santa Barbara. Bob also worked at Alfred Univ. in NY. Bob has secret talents, his oil painting and sketches reflect his artistic abilities which will be enriched by a trip to Costa Rica this summer.

HONORS TO CURRENT STUDENTS AND NEW GRADS

Kenneth Branam

Distinguished Service by Undergraduate in the School of Natural Sciences, 1979-80

The CSULB *Gold Nugget* Award, 1980

Who's Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges, 1979-80

Mike Briggs

Natural Science Dean's Student Service Award

Kathleen Cannon
Ralph Hall

Rhache Laboratories
Summer Research Fellowships

Betty Chang
Bruce Imai

Rachelle Awards (Outstanding
Chemistry Graduate Students)

Betty Chang
Gary Tietavainen

Union Oil
Summer Research Fellowships

Diana Delatore
Mark Phillips

Merck Awards in Organic Chemistry

Kathryn Dennis
Tina Kishishita
Joseph M. Molina
Kirk Morgan

Phi Beta Kappa

Alan Galuska

Chemistry Department Analytical Award
American Institute of Chemists Award
Don Rhodes Memorial Award

Thomas Harman
Charlene Taylor

California Heart Association
Summer Research Fellowships

Jack E. Long

National Cancer Institute
Summer Research Fellowship

Patrick McKay (1979)
Frank Norton (1980)

California Foundation for Biochemistry Research
Summer Research Fellowships

John Platt
Jeff Shimoyama

Chemical Rubber Publishing Company
Awards to the Outstanding Freshman
Chemistry Students

Dean Sequera

Toni Horvath Memorial Award

Steve Souza

Graduate Dean's List

STEVE HEADRICK - Received his BA degree in Chemistry and is continuing his studies toward his MS. He has assumed duties as Stockroom Keeper of SC2, along with Larry Herold. Steve and wife Denise have one little boy, and expect another little Headrick this summer.

LARRY HEROLD - Our SC2 Stockroom supervisor in chemicals and bottles, etc. Larry's outside interests include soccer and hopefully a trip into the Sierra.

BOB SOUKUP - Our Equip. Tech. and main fixer upper, has completed, almost single handedly, a home in Idyrwild, she shed the snow, pounded the nails and laid the floors: it is a beauty! All it needs is the female touch.

Four Chemistry students were elected to Phi Beta Kappa out of a total for the entire University of 36 students elected many times the statistical expectation.

Editor's Note: Because Bob Andrews' article from the Long Beach Independent/Press Telegram caught the flavor of Prof. H.C. Brown's Commencement speech so well, we will share it with you. (Reprinted by permission.)

WIFE'S GIFT GAVE IDEA TO NOBELIST

Dr. Herbert Brown, a Nobel laureate in chemistry who gave the commencement address Friday to the School of Natural Sciences graduates of California State University Long Beach, owed his success to his wife and a graduation present.

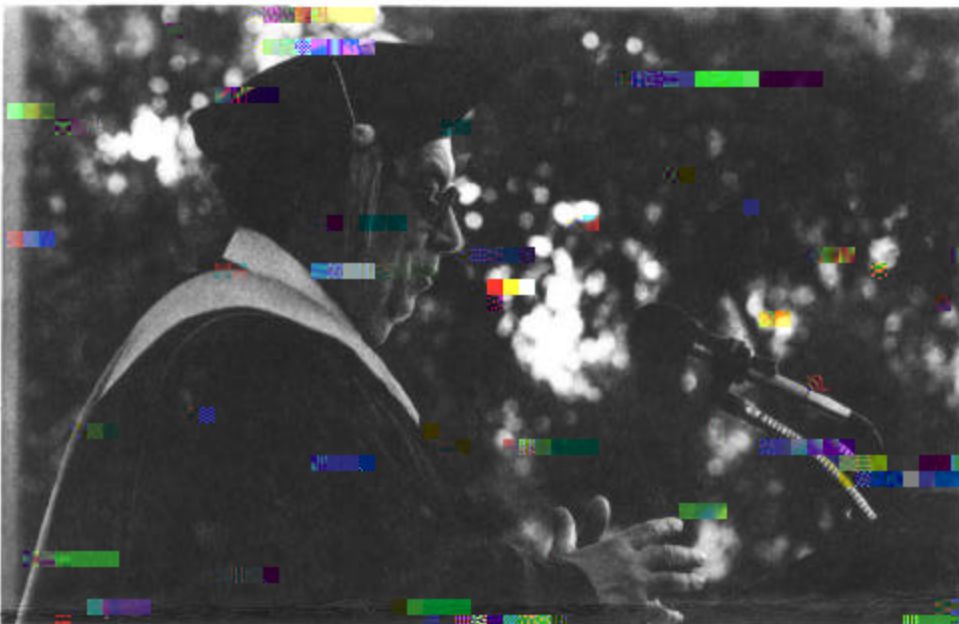
His shot for the Nobel Prize began when she inscribed one of his college annuals "To the future Nobel laureate." She situated the idea with the gift she gave him when he graduated from the University of Chicago, a chemistry book on hydrides of boron.

The subject was obscure enough that at \$2 — in that Depression year of 1936 — it was the cheapest chemistry book in the bookstore.

"In her defense," he added, "she had to say that it cost her her lunch money for two weeks." The book was fascinating, he said, to the point that boron compounds became the subject of his doctoral research.

Brown himself provided the final ingredient in his formula for winning the Nobel Gold Medal and the \$100,000 check that accompanies it — the type of temperament that kept him mulling that doctoral dissertation for 44 years after it had been presented. Since then he has presented more than 800 scientific papers reporting his research.

Thus his advice for the graduates was to find plenty of chemistry to read, select a fascinating subject and stick with it for the rest of their lives. But the majority of his speech did not deal with



their goals for the future, but rather with the experiences — especially the humorous ones — of having won the Nobel Prize.

He related how he first learned of it and the two-hour lunch that followed — with 10 minutes between bites of a very small sandwich as newsmen from around the nation called for interviews. Each interviewer asked the same three questions:

1. How did you feel about winning?
2. Can you explain your research in simple terms?
3. What are you going to do with that \$100,000?

"I felt flattered, as any sane person would," he confided, "and the last question was easy. My wife is also a chemist, and when we were married we agreed that I would handle the chemistry and she would take care of everything else. . . . The money, he said, fell into her area of responsibility.

Brown attempted to describe — in terms that must have been hilarious to the budding scientists in their caps and gowns — the simplicity of the language to which he was reduced in explaining to reporters the periodic table, the chemist's Rosetta Stone, by which he translates into human comprehension the building blocks of the universe.

"The central element in the periodic table is carbon, a common element, which is represented in equations by the letter 'C' . . ." By the time he had added H for hydrogen, N for nitrogen and B for boron, Brown was ready to explain in greater depth.

You can combine one carbon atom with four hydrogens to get CH₄ — methane or natural gas — a common substance; you can combine three hydrogens with one nitrogen to get NH₃ — ammonia — another common gas. He discovered an easier method to combine a single boron atom with three hydrogen to get BH₃ — borane, a compound so rare that when he began his research only two chemical laboratories in the world were capable of producing it.

Brown didn't bother to tell the non-chemists in the audience that borane, a reducing agent, is useful for making rocket fuel.

His research has made BH₃ and the other hydrogen boron compounds a little less rare and a lot more useful, and expanded chemical knowledge to the point that he compared it to "a vast continent."



FROM THE ALUMNI REPRESENTATIVE

From the conversations I have had with Dr. Marsi over the past couple of years, it has become apparent that many chemistry graduates have lost touch with the University. It is important for the Chemistry Department to know where you are and what you are doing. If you know the whereabouts of any other alumni, please inform the department. With this information the department can better assess the job it is doing in filling the needs of the scientific community. A personal note will be what Dr. Marsi will remember you, and I can assure you that he will appreciate hearing from you and will respond to any cards or letters which he may receive.

Dr. Marsi and his staff undertake worthy projects that are not funded by the University, and for these endeavors they must rely on outside financial support. Examples of these undertakings are: Project Seed (a program sponsored by the American Chemical Society with matching funds), the seminar program and student awards and scholarships. CSULB does not enjoy the broad support base large universities such as USC, Cal Tech, and UCLA have. To help Dr. Marsi and his staff continue and expand in these areas, I urge you to make a contribution (it's tax deductible) to the University and direct it to the Chemistry Department. If your company matches your contribution, be sure to include the proper forms.

I would be happy to correspond with any alumni about ideas for improving the solidarity of the Chemistry Alumni - attendance at athletic events as a group, an annual dinner, etc.

Technical Staff Your fellow alumnus,
Aerospace Corp.

ANCEL RAY CULLOWAY

Alumni Representative

FUTURE PLANS OF SOME OF OUR GRADUATES

(This is a partial list summarizing information available to date. We apologize for any oversights and we will include more data in the next edition. Editor.)

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|-------------------------------|--|
| Bannon, Steven BS '79 | Baptist Theological Seminary |
| Cachia, Victor BA '80 | Getty |
| Callinan, Kathy MS '80 | Free-lance Technical Writer |
| Carey, Anne T. BS '80 | Rachelle Laboratories, Long Beach |
| Carr, Michael BA '79 | General Dynamics |
| Castellino, Stephen BA '79 | UC Riverside PhD program |
| Chernik, David A. BS '79 | CSULB MS program |
| Coffman, Fritz MS '80 | UC PhD program (Biochemistry) |
| Crnkovich, Michael T. BA '80 | Hughes Aircraft technical representative aboard the USS Midway |
| Downs, Gregory J. BA '80 | Medical School |
| Doyle, Gayle Withers BS '79 | Aerospace Corporation |
| Dubow, Brian C. BS '80 | General Dynamics |
| Eliades, George N. BA '80 | Emory University Dental School |
| Gluska, Alan A. BS '80 | Cornell University PhD program |
| Henderson, Leslie BS '80 | Louisiana State University PhD program |
| Holzner, Michael MS '80 | California Air Resources Board |
| Hopkin, Donald H. BA '80 | USC Pharmacy School |
| Imai, Brian S. MS '80 | UCD PhD program (Biochemistry) |
| Jones, Nikola K. MS '80 | Beckman Instruments |
| Jones, Stephen MS '79 | UC Riverside PhD program |
| Jordan, Paul MS '80 | Chicago Medical School MD program |
| Kishishita, Tina M. BA '80 | UCSF Pharmacy School |
| Klenck, Robert C. BA '80 | University of Arizona MS program |
| Le, Loc P. BS '80 | CSULB MS program |
| Leung, Kenneth S. BA '80 | San Diego State University MS program |
| Madden, Robert P. MS '79 | West Coast Technical Services, Cerritos, CA |
| McKay, Patrick A. MS '79 | Genentech Inc., San Francisco, CA |
| Molina, Joseph M. BA '80 | USC Medical School |
| Morgan, Kirk M. BA '80 | Case Western University Medical School |
| Nasser-moaddebi, Sara BS '80 | CSULB MS program |
| Nghiem, Ba Tu BS '80 | Kansas U PhD program (Medicinal Chemistry) |
| Norton, Frank BS '80 | UCD PhD program (Immunology) |
| Schneider, Terrence L. MS '80 | Rockwell International |
| Scott, Richard A. BA '79 | Arizona State U MS program, toxicology |
| Sequera, Dean E. BA '80 | Sanitation District |
| Smith, Juane R. BA '79 | CSULB MS program |
| Stephanos, Stephen J. BS '79 | CSULB MS program |
| Woo, Fern H. MS '79 | Aminoil USA Inc., Huntington Beach, CA |
| Wuhrman, William B. MS '80 | Hughes Aircraft |
| Yamaguchi, Kenneth BS '80 | CSULB MS program |
| Yeager, Elizabeth MS '80 | Beckman Instruments |

CSULB CHEMISTRY DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

An occasional publication of the Chemistry Department for past, present and future students, faculty and friends.

News items are welcomed - even solicited - and may be sent to:

Newsletter
Department of Chemistry
California State University,
Long Beach
Long Beach, CA 90840

Editor-this issue - Robert B. Henderson

course work and is concentrating on her research in organometallic chemistry under Dr. John Glad. Her husband, Lewis, is also a PhD candidate working with Prof. Chris Foote. Marianne plays the cello in an all-chemistry chamber music group.

PRITSOS, CHRIS A. '78 reports that his PhD work goes well at the U. of Nevada, Reno. He has passed his written work and presented a paper at the FASEB meeting in Anaheim in April: *Chloronaphthoquinone Induced Mitochondrial Swelling: Role of Superoxide*; Pritsos, Burkhardt, and Pardi.

ROGERS, PAT BS '78 is in her second year of graduate work at UCI and involved in a PhD thesis project with Dr. F.S. "Sherry" Rowland.

SCHROEDER, MARTIN MS '79 is now Research Biochemist with Bio-Rad Laboratories in Richmond, CA.

SHELLEY, GREN BS '78 is a doctoral candidate in chemistry at UC Irvine doing solid state chemistry with Dr. John C. Hemminger.

SWEENEY, CRAIG BA '78 is attending the Northwestern University Dental School in Chicago, Ill. Last July he married Yanae Igawa, a Marine Biology student at CSULB.

VALFRE, ERNIE BA '78 has a son, Ethan Jay, born June 12, 1979.

VAN ANDLER, THERESA BA '78 recently transferred from the Anaheim Office of the South Coast Air Quality Management District to the Carson Office, where she is responsible for surveying divers in industrial plants. She hopes to further her education in Environmental Engineering.

WUENSCHILL, GERALD E. BS '78 began study for the PhD in Chemistry at UCI last Fall. On May 26, 1979, he and Carol L. Wilde, daughter of Prof. Richard H. Wilde of the CSULB Chemistry Department, were married. Carol is working for the PhD at UCLA in Biology.

1979

BARKER, SCOTT BS '79 left West Coast Technical Services for Perkin-Elmer, where he is in sales.

BUUS, DAVID BA '79 is a Medical School student at UCLA, Class of '83.

FRITZ, STEPHEN MS '79 is working at the Long Beach Police Crime Laboratory.

HAGENAH, JEFFREY BS '79 is completing his first year as a PhD candidate in organic chemistry at UCLA as a member of Dr. Mike Jung's research group.

JONES, STEVE MS '79 is in the PhD program at UC Riverside. His research, under the direction of Prof. Donald Sawyer, is on the electrochemistry of biological manganese complexes. Steve and Jane Anderson were married May 3, 1980.

MAHONEY, ROBERT MS '79 works at West Coast Technical Services mainly with high performance liquid chromatography and gas chromatography but fills in as glassblower.

MCKAY, PAT MS '79 has just accepted a position with Genetech in South San Francisco doing research in genetic engineering -- currently working on things going into industry.

MCKIBBEN, FRED MS '79 writes that he has passed his Spanish exam at the University of Guadalajara, Mexico. The "OBLIGS" come next; exams on Mexican law, history and geography. Then he can register for Medical School.

MCLAUGHLIN, TONY BA '79 started Dental School at the U. of Washington and his wife is working as a Technical Assistant at Boeing.

OLIVER, DAVID MS '79 is a full-time faculty -- the only one in chemistry -- at Oxnard Community College, which is still under construction. David and his wife enjoy the area and have purchased a home in Oxnard.

RITLAND, CHRIS BA '79 is working as a Chemist for the Hunter Mining Laboratories, Inc. in Sparks, Nevada.

WINTERS, CURTIS BS '79 will begin his second year as a medical student at USC. His studies have temporarily interfered with his recreational sailing -- he participated in the TRANSPAC race in the summer of 1979 along with Fred McKibben MS '79.