

## NEWSLETTER

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A Society for Applied Spectroscopy Affiliate  
Editor: K. S. Kalasinsky

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## EDITOR'S COMMENTS

The Coblentz Society continues to grow and expand. This newsletter is your link with the rest of the society. You are welcome to contribute articles and comments for those items or events that you wish to broadcast. The next due date for newsletter submissions is May 1st for the August issue. Regardless of the number of contributions, we will always be printing the events and progress of the Society so that you can keep in touch with the Board members and Officers. Newsletter requests can be mailed directly to the newsletter editor as noted in the officer section at the end. Be sure to look for the Coblentz Society Newsletter in every February and August issue of *Applied Spectroscopy*.

KATHY KALASINSKY

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As I begin these two years in this society office, I am mindful of those ideals that The Coblentz Society has come to represent. It is *THE* professional society dedicated solely to the promotion and application of vibrational spectroscopy. Created in 1954, the Society stands as one of the oldest American spectroscopic organizations and operates exclusively with voluntary participation of its membership. If this sounds elitist, it's meant so. Through the actions of its membership over these many years, the Society has become the standard bearer for the practice of vibrational spectroscopy. As such, I believe membership in this Society yields many benefits.

Under the guidance of its past presidents, its officers, and the Board of Managers, the Society has gained strength these past few years. Within the past two years alone, our membership has increased nearly fifty percent and stands currently at 721 members. With contributions from members and through proper management, the Society's endowment fund has maintained its resources to generate income for programs important to its membership and to keep membership fees modest. The Society expanded its presence through its participation in conferences and symposia but most recently, through its provisional sponsorship in EAS conferences. The goal for the Society now is to build upon this strength to achieve greater value for its members and further enhance its stat-



Out With The Old—In With The New; Dave Haaland, out-going Coblentz Society President (L), gives hints to John Hellgeth, incoming Coblentz Society President (R), at the FACSS conference in Detroit this past October. (Please note that John is wearing one of the famous Coblentz Society T-shirts.)

ure. This can be attained through enhancements of the Society's awards of recognition, improvements in communication among its membership, sponsorship of venues for presentation and discussion of research, the cre-



Jim Rydzak, Coblenz Board member (L), and Dave Haaland, past Coblenz Society President (second from L), welcome Coblenz Society members, both old and new, at the Coblenz Society booth at the FACSS Conference in Detroit this past October.

ation and distribution of products important to practitioners of vibrational spectroscopy, and, of course, expansion of Society membership.

The field of vibrational spectroscopy changes and grows constantly. The Society seeks to evolve to meet the changing needs of its membership. Presently, we have undertaken the task of reviewing our mission, its statement, and operational plans. To this end, a survey of our membership and the vibrational spectroscopic community at-large is being conducted to determine needs and provide guidance. This survey was distributed in the recent mailing to Society members of record in 2001 and is also posted at our website. We look forward to hearing from each member on issues they hold important as professional spectroscopists.

The Coblenz Society is approaching an important anniversary, its Fiftieth Year! And for any institution, this gives cause to reflect on and to celebrate many successes. And the Society shall celebrate! I have received many suggestions and heartily invite all members to participate in the creation of such plans. The real organization of this celebration begins at PittCon 2002. Work with us to make 2004 a year of Coblenz celebration!

Chief among the Society's priorities is to bestow recognition upon professionals and students for excellence in the advancement of vibrational spectroscopy. Presently, there are four awards given yearly to professional spectroscopists: The Williams–Wright Award, The Bomem–Michelson Award (administration for ABB Bomem), The Coblenz Award, and The Lippincott Award (in conjunction with SAS and OSA) and several student awards. With recent proposals, the Society is investigating ways to expand and enhance these programs and bring greater benefit to our members.

The winner of the **2001 Lippincott Award** is a former Coblenz Award recipient, Prof. Lester Andrews of the University of Virginia. This award was presented at FACSS 2001 by the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. The **2002 Williams–Wright Award** is being presented to Isao Noda of the Procter and Gamble Company for his pioneering efforts in Dynamic Dichroism and 2D IR Spectroscopy. The **2002 Bomem–Michelson Award** will

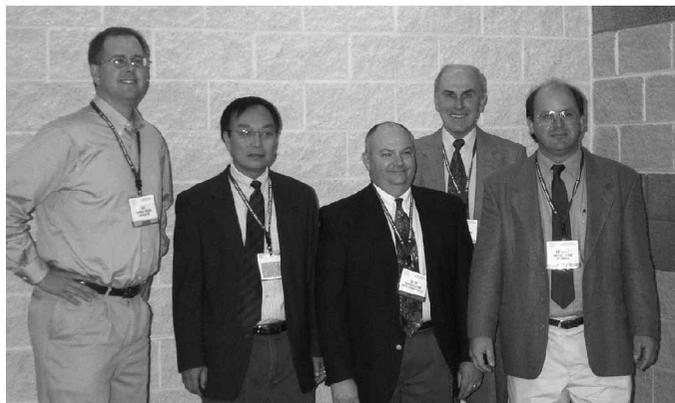
be presented to Prof. Dan Neumark of the University of California, Berkeley, for his efforts in the advancement of vibrational spectroscopy to gain a greater understanding of reaction dynamics and transition state spectroscopy. Both awards will be presented at PittCon 2002 with symposia in honor of the respective recipients. The recipient of the **2002 Coblenz Award** is Prof. Andrei Tokmakoff of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology for his work in the development and use of time-resolved vibrational spectroscopies to study ultra-fast molecular dynamics in condensed phases. The award will be presented with a plenary lecture at the 2002 Molecular Spectroscopy Symposium (MSS) held at Ohio State University this June. This year, the Coblenz Society administers the selection of the **2002 Lippincott Award** and it will be presented at the 2002 FACSS Conference this fall in Providence, Rhode Island.

The Coblenz Society also congratulates its 2001 Student Award recipients for their efforts in the continuing advancement of vibrational spectroscopy. These recipients are **Christopher Endicott, James Tsay, Tony Masiello, Nathan Wells, Zane Arr, Julie Tinklenberg, Sarah Sebastian, and Louise Bodack**. Requests for nominations for the 2002 Student Awards were sent with the December 2001 membership renewal letters. Please consider nominating students deserving recognition of their efforts by sending nomination letters to Bob Messerschmidt, chair of the Student Awards Committee.

A key activity that has enhanced membership value is the Coblenz website ([www.Coblenz.org](http://www.Coblenz.org)). The website is rapidly becoming one of the most important functions and information vehicles of the Society. The Society seeks to expand its site not only to provide information about its activities but also to provide an Internet gateway to sources of information on vibrational spectroscopy and to allow its members to communicate rapidly with its officers, board members, and committees. The website committee, chaired by David Haaland, oversees the site's development and, with our webmaster, Michelle Sharron of ThermoGalactic, has recently completed several updates of the site's content. The website and its development committee offer a great opportunity to participate with members of the Society. Your comments and suggestions for content and development, as well as active involvement, will help improve the site and create a tool that all members can use. Please visit the site regularly, as we intend to update it continuously.

As in the past, the Society continues to be strongly involved in conferences and symposia. The primary Coblenz venues are PittCon, MSS at Ohio-State, FACSS, and EAS. The Society wishes to recognize the important efforts of its conference representatives: John Jackovitz (PittCon), Rod McDowell and Terry Miller (MSS), Barry Streusand, and Jim Rydzak (FACSS and EAS). Their efforts lead to the continuing success of the Society's presence at each conference.

In 2001, the Society completed its second year as a provisional sponsor of EAS with responsibility for hosting two well-attended sessions: *New Directions in Vibrational Spectroscopic Imaging*, organized and chaired by David Schiering, and *Vibrational Spectroscopy in the Pharmaceutical Lab*, arranged by Jim Rydzak and Dave Schiering. In 2002, the Society continues its active con-



At the EAS conference, the Coblenz-sponsored "New Directions in Vibrational Spectroscopy Imaging" morning symposium featured (from L to R) Pat Treado, Chieu D. Tran, Dave Schiering (organizer and session chair), Richard Spragg, and Anthony Shaw.

ference participation with numerous chaired sessions. At PittCon 2002, Coblenz has organized two Award Symposia: The Williams–Wright on Tuesday afternoon and the Bomem–Michelson on Wednesday. The Society's annual membership meeting will be held immediately after the Williams–Wright Symposium with the Wine and Cheese Reception to follow after that. At this annual meeting, the Society will recognize the continued service of three of its members, Bruce Chase, Kathy Kalasinsky, and Dave Schiering. At MSS in June, both the 2001 and 2002 Coblenz Award recipients, Profs. Stacy Bent of Stanford University and Andrei Tokmakoff of MIT, will give plenary lectures. In addition, the Society will host its annual 'beer bash' prior to the Symposium's picnic dinner. At FACSS 2002 in Providence, Rhode Island, the Society will sponsor several sessions, including the Lippincott Award Symposium and one that is intended to formalize the Coblenz Student Awards through presentation of awards and student research efforts. At the EAS 2002 in Somerset, New Jersey, the Coblenz Society continues its sponsorship, organizing several sessions highlighting NIR.

A prominent feature at each of these conferences is the Coblenz Society booth. It's a great place to meet fellow vibrational spectroscopists informally and conduct Coblenz business. If you're at one of these meetings and have some spare time, please visit the booth and volunteer for a brief stretch of booth duty with a peer! The Society appreciates greatly the service given by booth volunteers this past year. In particular, I wish to recognize the untiring efforts of Barry Streusand and to congratulate Christine Wehlberg. At the recent FACSS Conference, Christine signed on seven new members and sold several T-shirts, ALL WITHIN ONE HOUR!

Products for vibrational spectroscopists are of prime importance to the Society's mission. We continue to work towards our goal of offering an affordable library of infrared spectra. The NIST/Coblenz Cooperative Research and Development Agreement (CRADA) underwent review by the U.S. Inspector General and was allowed to continue with some stipulations. The Society received its contribution of 10 500 spectra in a digitized format. At PittCon 2001, Roy Cain agreed to review these digitized spectra for accuracy and quality. At the FACSS 2001

Coblenz board meeting, Roy presented his findings along with copies of the database on CD. At this meeting, it was decided to go forward with beta testing of this database with the potential for releasing the database as a Coblenz Society product at PittCon 2002.

The complete Coblenz IR Deskbook series is now text searchable as a PDF file. This past summer, the Society began marketing both Deskbook and the CD compilation under special pricing (contact: Clara Craver). The compilation contains a wealth of insightful information and at a great value! The Society appreciates greatly the efforts of both Clara Craver of Craver Chemical Consultants and Neil Lewis of Spectral Dimensions in bringing this project to completion.

The membership of the Society continues to expand! However, the larger the membership of the Society grows, so grows the success we will have in promoting the field of vibrational spectroscopy. The Society continues to find ways to attract new members. But the best way to gain new members is through the membership itself. Please join with Richard Larsen, the Membership Chair, and extend our invitation to participate in the Society. With well over 28 000 spectrometers out there, each of us knows a vibrational spectroscopist who is not a member. Invite them to join and we could easily double our membership.

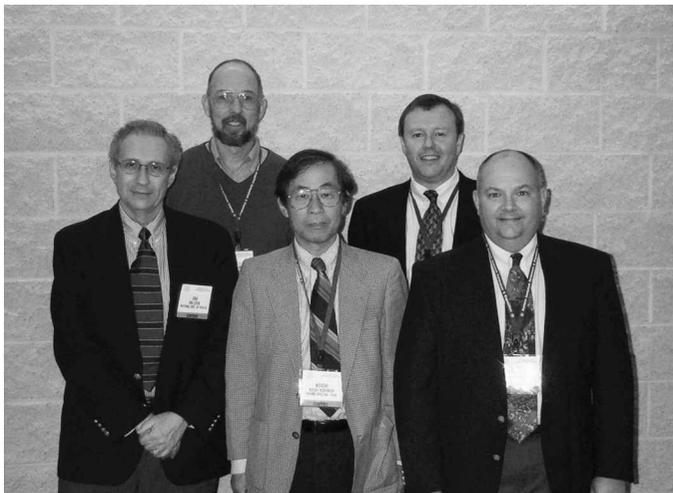
The Coblenz Society functions on 100% volunteer effort! It's a point of pride. Yet many members do not recognize one of the Society's best benefits, the benefit of working with your peers to build an organization that supports the very science we practice. The Society could not function without the volunteer service of our officers, Board of Managers, Committee Chairs, and committee members. For the Society and myself, personally, I wish to thank those who have donated their time and efforts in service to the Society and I welcome those members who now choose to serve.

JOHN HELLGETH

## COBLENZ DATABASES NOW AVAILABLE ON CD

The Coblenz Society has scanned all of its spectral collections in hardbound books onto CDs. The spectral collections include the *Desk Book (CSC-1)*, *Halogenated Hydrocarbons (CSC-2)*, *Plasticizers & Other Additives (CSC-3)*, *Gases & Vapors (CSC-4)*, and *Regulated & Major Industrial Chemicals (CSC-5)*. More information about the content of each of these spectral collections can be found on the website [www.coblenz.org](http://www.coblenz.org). These CDs are currently available from The Coblenz Society, c/o Craver Chemical Consultants, P.O. Box 265, French Village, MO 63036, Tel/Fax: (573)358-2589.

The price of these spectral collections on CDs is the same as the original book prices for Coblenz members (CSC-1, \$130; CSC-2, \$90; CSC-3, \$100; CSC-4, \$90; CSC-5, \$170) and for nonmembers the price is the original book fee plus \$25. All five of the books on CD can be purchased for a reduced bulk rate for the spectral collections combined for \$464 (4/5 the total of the individual fees) for Coblenz members and for nonmembers the same bulk rate plus \$25 (\$489). The five combined spectral collections contain over 2300 very useful spectra. If



At the EAS conference, the Coblenz-sponsored "New Directions in Vibrational Spectroscopy Imaging" afternoon symposium featured (from L to R) Ira Levin, Andy Sommers, Koichi Nishikita, Neil Lewis, and Dave Schiering (organizer and session chair).

you have recently purchased the latest edition of one or more of the spectral collections in hardbound book, please contact the Coblenz Society as noted above and the CD(s) can be obtained for a reduction of the price listed here.

The Coblenz Society has also recently digitized its ten volume set of over 10 000 spectra, and this searchable, highly evaluated database will be available in early 2002. Look for pricing and availability announcements soon. The Coblenz Society is also working with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to combine the Coblenz digitized data with the current NIST digital infrared database.

### EASTERN ANALYTICAL SYMPOSIUM OCTOBER, 2001

The 40th EAS was held October 1–4, 2001, in the modern Atlantic City convention center. The technical program featured more than 60 invited sessions, including over 300 recognized experts from across the field of analytical chemistry among the speakers. The Coblenz Society sponsored two symposia at the 40th EAS. On Tuesday of the conference David Schering organized a full day symposium entitled *New Directions in Vibrational Spectroscopic Imaging*. This was one of the most attended sessions at the conference. On Thursday morning, David Schering and Jim Rydzak organized a half-day session entitled *Vibrational Spectroscopy in the Pharmaceutical Industry* (see associated pictures). This was also well attended. In addition to these symposia, other members of the Coblenz Society have organized sessions on *Raman Spectroscopy* (Fran Adar), *Advances in Vibrational Spectroscopy* (Jerry Workman), *IR Industrial Problem Solving* (Clara Craver), *Infrared Spectroscopic Imaging* (Norman Wright), and *Validation of NIR Methods* (John Hellgeth). There is also an award session honoring Dr. J. W. Tukey that was chaired by John Ferraro. It was generally agreed that all the spectroscopy sessions were a big plus to the EAS program.

I would like to thank those who helped out at the Cob-

lenz booth. The Coblenz booth remains a place to meet your spectroscopy friends, old and new. We had a lot of fun meeting with people, signing them up for Coblenz membership, and selling our awesome Coblenz T-shirts!

We will be sponsoring several sessions at the 41st EAS, to be held in Somerset, New Jersey, November 18–21, 2002. So make your plans to attend. Let us know if you would like to participate at the booth or with organizing sessions or other functions. We'll have some surprises that we will talk about in the next Coblenz newsletter.

Stop and see us at our booth at PITTCON 2002!

JIM RYDZAK

### CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE COBLENZ SOCIETY'S AWARDS

The Coblenz Society requests nominations for the prestigious awards it supports:

**Coblenz Award.** The Coblenz Award is presented annually to an outstanding young molecular spectroscopist under the age of 36. The candidate must be under the age of 36 on January 1 of the year of the award. Previous recipients of this award are: John Overend (1964), William Fateley/Robert Snyder (1965), Edwin Becker (1966), Peter Krueger (1967), Jon Hougen (1968), James Durig (1969), Guiseppi Zerbi (1970), Clive Perry (1971), George Leroi (1972), C. Bradley Moore (1973), C.K.N. Patel (1974), Bernard J. Bulkin (1975), Geoffrey Ozin/George Thomas, Jr. (1976), Peter Griffiths (1977), Lester Andrews (1978), Lionel Carreira (1979), Richard Van Duyne (1980), Laurence Nafie (1981), Christopher Patterson (1982), Dave Cameron (1983), Steve Leone (1984), John Rabolt/Graham Fleming (1985), Joel Harris (1986), Alan Champion (1987), Keith Nelson (1988), Geri Richmond (1989), Hai-Lung Dai (1990), Paul Bohn (1991), Tom Rizzo (1992), Peter Felker (1993), Paul Alivisatos (1994), David J. Rakestraw (1995), Xiaoliang Sunney Xie (1996), Mounqi Bawendi (1997), Pat Treado (1998), Brooks Pate (1999), Martin Gruebele (2000), Stacey Bent (2001), and Andrei Tokmakoff (2002).

The award carries with it a \$2,000 prize plus a \$500 travel allowance. Files of candidates will be kept active until the date of age eligibility is exceeded. Annual updates of files of candidates are encouraged.

Nominations, which should include a detailed description of the nominee's accomplishments, a curriculum vitae, and as many supporting letters as possible, must be submitted to the award chairman, (Dr. Pat Treado, ChemIcon, Inc., 7301 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15208; phone: (412)241-7335; fax: (412)241-7311; e-mail: treado@chemimage.com) on or before July 1st.

**Williams–Wright Award.** This award is presented annually at the Pittsburgh Conference to an industrial spectroscopist who has made significant contributions to vibrational spectroscopy while working in industry. The work may include infrared and/or Raman spectroscopy and instrumental development, as well as theory and applications of vibrational spectroscopy. Government labs are not considered industry in this definition. No restrictions are placed on the selection of the Awardee because of age, sex, or nationality, but the Awardee must still be



At the EAS conference, the Coblenz-sponsored "Vibrational Spectroscopy in the Pharmaceutical Lab" symposium featured (from L to R) Pingyun Chen, Don Pivonka, Doug Minick, Dave Bugay, and Jim Rydzak (organizer and session chair).

working at the time the award is presented. The nominating document should clearly state the significance of the contribution made by the nominee, e.g., the introduction of novel methods, techniques, or theories; innovative work in the field of vibrational spectroscopy; significant improvement on existing methods, theory, or techniques; or important impact on the field of vibrational spectroscopy arising from the volume of contributions in a specific area. The nomination should include a resume of the nominee's career and highlight accomplishments and any publications and talks. Seconding letters to the nomination are useful, but not necessary. Files on nominees will be kept active for three years, after which the candidate must either be renominated with an updated file, or the file will be closed.

Previous recipients of the Williams–Wright Award are: Norman Wright (1978), Norman Colthup (1979), Jeanette Grasselli (1980), Paul Wilks/James Harrick (1981), Robert Hannah (1982), Harry Willis (1983), Robert Jakobsen (1984), Clara D. Craver/Richard A. Nyquist (1985), Abe Savitzky/Joseph J. Barret (1986), A. Lee Smith (1987), Darwin L. Wood (1988), D. Bruce Chase (1989), John F. Rabolt (1990), Robert J. Obremski (1991), Timothy Harris (1992), Curtis Marcott (1993), John M. Chalmers (1994), Michael R. Philpott (1995), Bob Messerschmidt (1996), Michael J. Pelletier (1997), Henry Buijs (1998), Don Kuehl (1999), John Reffner (2000), Raul Curbelo (2001), and Isao Noda (2002).

This award includes a \$2,000 cash prize plus \$500 toward travel expenses to the Pittsburgh Conference. Nominations should be sent to the Chairman of the Williams–Wright Award Selection Committee (Dr. Hector Casal, DHC Analysis, Inc., 3645 Warrensville Center Rd., #325, Cleveland, OH 44122; phone: (216)295-0755; fax: (216)295-1887; e-mail: [casal@dhcanalysis.com](mailto:casal@dhcanalysis.com)) before February 1st.

**Bomem–Michelson Award.** This award is dedicated to the memory of Professor A. E. Michelson, developer of the Michelson interferometer. Bomem, Hartman & Braun sponsors the award to honor scientists who have advanced the technique(s) of vibrational, molecular, Raman, or electronic spectroscopy. Contributions may be

theoretical or experimental, or both. The recipient must be actively working and may be associated with the academic, industrial, government, or private sector. The Awardee must be 37 years of age or older. The award consists of a crystal symbol of the Bomem–Michelson award and an honorarium. In order to ensure that the award is based on an independent evaluation of the candidate's achievements, the selection is made by a committee chosen by the Coblenz Society. The presentation will be made at the Pittsburgh Conference.

Previous recipients of the Bomem–Michelson Award are: Thomas G. Spiro (1987), Carl Linberger (1988), Richard J. Saykally (1989), William Klemperer (1990), Alan Pine (1991), Jyrki Kauppinen (1992), Jack L. Koenig (1993), Herbert L. Strauss (1994), Terry Miller (1995), Ira Levin (1996), William H. Woodruff (1997), D. Bruce Chase (1998), Sandy Asher (1999), John F. Rabolt (2000), Larry Nafie (2001), and Dan Neumark (2002).

The nomination should include a resume of the candidate's career as well as the special research achievements that make the candidate an eligible nominee for the Bomem–Michelson Award. Files on nominees will be kept active for three years, after which the candidate must either be renominated with an updated file, or the file will be closed. The nominating letter and supporting letters should be sent to: Dr. Tom Niemczyk, Department of Chemistry, University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM 87131; phone: (505)277-5319, and fax: (505)277-2609. Nominations will close March 31st.

**Ellis R. Lippincott Award.** The purpose of the Ellis R. Lippincott Award is to honor Dr. Lippincott's memory by the recognition of significant contributions and notable achievements in the field of vibrational spectroscopy. The medal is sponsored jointly by the Coblenz Society, the Optical Society of America, and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy. It is awarded annually at an appropriate scientific meeting. The award consists of the medal and travel allowances to the meeting. The awardee will present an address related to contributions for which he/she is being honored. In addition, there may be a symposium of talks by invited speakers.

Recipients of the medal must have made significant contributions to vibrational spectroscopy as judged by their influence on other scientists. Because innovation was a hallmark of the work of Ellis R. Lippincott, this quality in the contributions of the candidates will be carefully appraised. The contributions may be theoretical or experimental, or both, and may have been made in the course of applied as well as basic research.

No restriction is placed on the citizenship or national origin of candidates. A candidate need not be a member of any of the sponsoring societies. The award will not be made posthumously unless an awardee should die after the procedure of selection has been completed.

Previous recipients include: Richard G. Lord (1976), Lionel Bellamy (1977), Bryce Crawford, Jr. (1978), E. Bright Wilson (1979), George C. Pimentel (1980), Ian Mills (1981), Michel Delhaye (1982), John Overend (1983), Jon T. Hougen (1984), Ira W. Levin (1985), Wolfgang Kaiser (1986), C. Bradley Moore (1987), Andreas C. Albrecht (1988), Marilyn E. Jacox (1989), Robert W. Fields (1990), Richard J. Saykally (1992), John F. Rabolt (1993), Herbert L. Strauss (1994), Giacinto Scoles

(1995), Giuseppe Zerbi (1996), Robin Hochstrasser (1997), Takeshi Oka (1998), Mitsuo Tasumi (1999), Donald Levy (2000), and Lester Andrews (2001).

Nominations should contain the name and affiliation of the nominee and sufficient background information to justify the nomination. A nominator is expected to believe sufficiently strongly in the quality of the work of his or her candidate to provide evidence for that belief. No restriction is placed on who may nominate, and all nominations received by the committee prior to October 1st in any given year will be considered for the award to be presented in the following year. Files on nominees are kept active for three years, after which the candidate must be renominated with an updated file, or the file will be closed. Nominations should be submitted to: Chairman, Lippincott Award Selection Committee, c/o Optical Society of America, 2010 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036; phone: (202)416-1420; fax: (202)416-6134.

### SOCIETY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Membership.** Anyone wishing to join the Society may do so by sending \$10 to Richard Larsen, Coblenz Society Membership Chairman, 3 Waterview Drive, Lakewood, NJ 08701.

**Board Meeting.** The Coblenz Society Board will hold its semi-annual meeting Monday evening, March 18th, at the Pittsburgh Conference in New Orleans, LA. Any article of business that you want the Board members to consider needs to be sent in writing to Dr. John Hellgeth, Coblenz Society President, (see address at end of newsletter), prior to the conference.

**Annual Meeting.** The annual meeting of the Coblenz membership will be held prior to the Williams–Wright Symposium on Tuesday at the Pittsburgh Conference. Be sure to attend, because the general business of the Society will be conducted.

**Wine & Cheese.** The Coblenz Society wine and cheese reception will be held immediately following the Williams–Wright Symposium on Tuesday at the Pittsburgh Conference in New Orleans (in the symposium lecture room).

### COBLENTZ SOCIETY BOARD

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Telephone</u>
John Hellgeth The SRN Company, LLC. 1330 Zephyr Court Cumming, GA 30133	2002	(770)205-0607
Richard McCreery Ohio State University 100 West 18th Ave. Columbus, OH 43210	2002	(614)292-2021
Robert Messerschmidt Spectrum Scientifics 611 Lead Ave. SW Unit 603 Albuquerque, NM 87102	2003	(505)243-8806

Andy Sommer 2003 (513)529-2874  
Miami University  
Molecular Microspectroscopy Laboratory  
Oxford, OH 45056

Neil Lewis 2004 (301)260-0290  
Spectral Dimensions, Inc.  
3403 Olandwood Court,  
Suite 102  
Olney, MD 20832

Mike Pellitier 2004 (734)665-8083  
Kaiser Optical Systems,  
Inc.  
P.O. Box 983  
Ann Arbor, MI 48106

Becky Dittmar 2005 (651)737-7701  
3M Company  
3M Center  
Bldg 201-BS-05  
Maplewood, MN 55144

Jim Rydzak 2005 (610)270-5242  
Glaxo SmithKline  
709 Swedeland Road  
MailStop UW2940  
King of Prussia, PA 10406

### COBLENTZ SOCIETY OFFICERS

President:	John Hellgeth The SRN Company, LLC. 1330 Zephyr Court Cumming, GA 30041	(770)205-0607
Secretary:	David Schiering SensIR Technologies 15 Great Pasture Rd Danbury, CT 06810	(203)207-9724
Treasurer:	D. Bruce Chase CR&D 328/131A Experimental Station E. I. du Pont Wilmington, DE 19898-0328	(302)695-4434
Past-President:	David M. Haaland Sandia National Laboratories MS 0886 Albuquerque, NM 87185-0886	(505)844-5292
Newsletter Editor:	Kathryn S. Kalasinsky Armed Forces Institute of Pathology Division of Forensic Toxicology 1413 Research Blvd., Bldg. 102 Rockville, MD 20850	(301)319-0055