



C₃ News

Fall 2006

Volume 32 No. 1

Announcing the New Executive

As of the AGM in Niagara, we have a new executive for the C₃:

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|---------------------------|---------------|
| <i>Past President:</i> | John Olson |
| <i>President:</i> | Bill Blann |
| <i>Treasurer:</i> | Bob Perkins |
| <i>Newsletter Editor:</i> | Jennifer Wolf |
| <i>Conference:</i> | Lamine Diop |
| <i>Webmaster:</i> | Bob Browne |
| <i>Secretary:</i> | vacant |

The Regional Directors:

| | |
|---------------------|--------------|
| <i>Atlantic:</i> | Ian McMaster |
| <i>Quebec:</i> | Shahid Jalil |
| <i>Ontario:</i> | Don Todd |
| <i>Prairies:</i> | Lamine Diop |
| <i>BC/Yukon:</i> | Kim Thompson |
| <i>CSC Liaison:</i> | Bob Perkins |

We are still looking for someone to fill the position of Secretary. If you are interested or know anyone who is, please contact Bill at:

Bill.Blann@keyano.ca

Start thinking about C₃ Conference 2007!!

Next year's conference will be in May, overlapping with the CSC's annual conference in Winnipeg, MB. A call for papers will be coming soon; check our website (<http://www.c3.douglas.bc.ca>) periodically for information and eventually a link to the conference website.

A little chemistry humour

A physicist, biologist and a chemist went to the ocean for the first time. The physicist saw the ocean and was fascinated by the waves. He said he wanted to do some research on the fluid dynamics of the waves and walked into the ocean. He drowned and never returned.

The biologist said he wanted to do research on the underwater flora and fauna and walked into the ocean. He too never returned.

The chemist waited for a long time. Afterwards, he wrote the observation: "The physicist and the biologist are soluble in ocean water".

From:
<http://www.juliantrubin.com/chemistryjokes.html>

Newsletter Submissions

As your new newsletter editor, I welcome submissions for future editions. We will be publishing two more newsletters this year: one in January, and one in April. For the January newsletter, please send submissions by December 31.

Newsletter editor: Jennifer Wolf
jwolf@kwantlen.ca

Report from Niagara

The 33rd C₃ conference was held in Niagara from May 25-27, 2006. The theme was "Falling for Chemistry".

Here are some pictures from the event:



A general view of the banquet, including Cindy Rothwell from NAIT on the left, Suzanne Pearce from Kwantlen University College with her back to us in the forefront, and Jacky...



Joe Schwartz with Alan Davis and his wife. Joe is the Director of the Office for Science and Society at McGill University's and has been a regular, enjoyable presenter at C₃ conferences. After giving a feature lecture on "Eating: Is there a Solution to the Confusion?" we see him here about to put his mouth where his mouth is.



John Olson, Rod Restivo from CEGEP Heritage in Hull, and Barry Benton from Vanier College

Some off-site R&R:



Bob Browne receiving his lifetime membership certificate from Bob Perkins and John Olson.



Jackie and Suzanne at Niagara Falls



Before the Fun Run



Bob Perkins and Suzanne Pearce outside one of the wineries



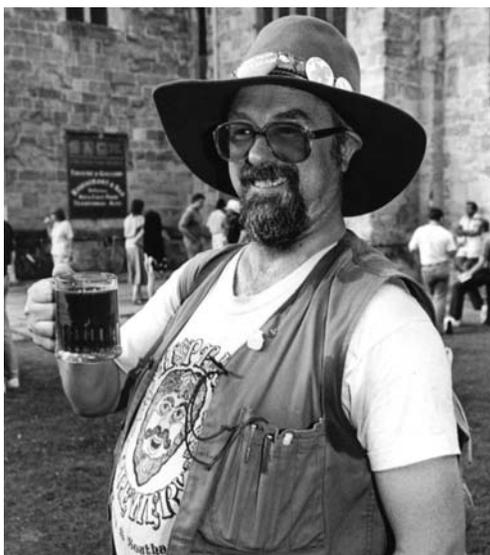
Bill Blann inside one of the wineries



Bob Perkins inside one of the wineries

Meet our President: Bill Blann

He was born in Arundel, Sussex, in the days when the streets were still lit by gaslights, and where being born in the village makes him a “Mullet” (a rare breed, since most people had to go to a nearby town to be born in hospital). He developed a healthy attitude towards education at a very early age, regularly skipping primary school on Mondays in favour of excursions to London with a truck-driving father.



Salisbury (near Stonehenge)

Later on he managed to sneak into the University of Victoria through the back door, by starting the year before its inception when it was still Victoria College. The college saw him coming of course, and realizing he lived practically next door they promptly moved the campus three miles further away. But he persevered and they let him embellish his Chemistry with French and German, Russian and Greek, and even English – most of which he has long since forgotten but they made for an entertaining student career and they may help explain his tendency to stress the importance of literacy in the sciences. After Queen’s, where he studied carbohydrates under J. K. Jones, came studies with Dai Rees in Edinburgh and later with Colin Fyfe at Guelph.

His teaching career began long before any teacher training, in a truly Dickensian prep school run by a latter-day Mr. Creakl. Teacher training was both formal and informal, elementary and secondary. He has taught small children in a parent’s co-op

school in Newfoundland (the absolute antithesis of Creakle’s establishment), and taught undergraduate labs at Guelph for a number of semesters before coming to Keyano to take over the first year Chemistry. He has entertained many a Scottish secondary school class with tales of B. C. geography and northern forests. He delights in telling how he once held a gold rush in a Leicestershire primary school - the kids extracting real gold from the sluice box tailings off an Atlin claim (which inadvertently got several kids in trouble with parents who thought they were lying); or how once on teaching practice in a 3rd year class (grade 8) at the Leithal Academy he watched the little class terrorist teach the big dunce how to use a giant, working slide rule on the wall – the teacher wasn’t there to stop him; the kid didn’t miss a beat.

He came to Keyano with the building in 1982, like being installed with the furniture, and he still finds it fun!

Sports, travel, interests, hobbies? He likes to travel, especially in trains. Flying requires a window seat – or a seat next to the driver: he likes small planes, not the big tin tube. You can get from Spinnakers (Victoria) to the Granite Brewery (Halifax) in much better style on the train. He likes beer, but only good beer that strikes the palate – the stuff with no after taste is not worth drinking. He walks everywhere at a modest cruising speed of 5 mph. He once walked a 500 mile pub crawl – through Britain, where it’s not likely to be 100 miles between pubs. His photographs speak of the New Forest and the Wye Valley, of the Stikine, the Yukon and the Tatshenshini. He has photographed highland cattle on the ocean beach at Calgary, and wild orchids at Fort McMurray, and he is better at setting puzzles than at solving them - although he does play a reasonable game of trivia. His Klepper has carried him thousands of kilometers around the southern lakes and on trips down the Yukon – no engines, please, it’s better to hear the water and the wind in the trees. Travel is something that should be enjoyed.



Guardian reader on the Yukon River near Little Salmon