

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR QUALITY CONTROL

FOOD, DRUG AND COSMETIC DIVISION



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--NEWSLETTER--

March 31, 1975

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER

Only three months remain in the current 1974-75 Society year and it has been most unfortunate that we have not been successful in publishing a single copy of our new Division Newsletter. The Division Officers are in the midst of making plans to correct this deficiency and it is hoped that this present format will at least serve to bring the members up-to-date on your Division activities this year.

This is the second year since the merger of the previously known Food and Allied Industries Division and the former Drug and Cosmetic Technical Committee. The transition has been unbelievably smooth since the consolidation of the two units in July of 1973. The initial year's activities under the Chairmanship of Charlie Beazley established an excellent precedent and it has been my pleasure as current Chairman to be associated with a most enthusiastic group of individuals in realizing a very successful and active program. A summary of these activities follows.

EDUCATIONAL COURSES

To date we have had two successful courses, one in Atlanta, Georgia in November of 1974 and a more recent one in conjunction with the Chicago Section of ASQC earlier this month. Lloyd Provost, Harry Hehner and Bill Hepburn keyed the Atlanta course and Bill Lieberman and Mae Tarver handled the Chicago undertaking.

On May 15 through 17, Lloyd and Harry will conduct another course in cooperation with the Quality Assurance Division of the Institute of Food Technologists at the St. Louis Hilton Inn in St. Louis, Missouri.

Plans are now under discussion to continue each of these courses on an annual basis.

SEMINARS

In March the Seventh Annual FDA/Industry Seminar was held in Clifton, New Jersey, before the largest attendance ever. Earlier in the month, our first FDA/Industry Seminar for the West Coast was held in San Francisco and was most successful, with a turnout of nearly 100 registrants. Ed Santogrossi of Stuart Pharmaceuticals organized and arranged this West Coast venture almost single-handedly and the Division extends its deepest appreciation to him.

In November of last year we held a Seminar in Chicago covering the quality problems associated with the Universal Product Code. This event was also an outstanding success. Tom LeMay of Continental Can is the individual who was personally responsible for the success of this undertaking.

We fully expect to not only continue the East and West Coast FDA Seminars each year, but already have many inquiries as to expanding this event to the Midwest area. The Division Officers are actively pursuing this possibility.

DIVISION OFFICERS' MEETINGS

The Division Officers have been meeting quite regularly on pretty much a monthly basis. These meetings have been held at the Chemists Club in New York, which serves as a convenient focal point for those involved. As Chairman, I feel it is most appropriate to tell you that your Officers are a most dedicated group of individuals and, as planned at the time of the merger, they represent a good cross-section of the three industries which our Division serves.

ANNUAL TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

The 29th Annual Technical Conference will be held in San Diego, California, May 12 through 14. Under the able guidance of Sid Pearce of Carnation Company, an excellent program representing all segments of our Division has been finalized.

On Monday evening from 5:30 until 7:00, the Division will hold its Annual Council Meeting. This meeting will take place in the Council Room of the Town and Country Hotel. The past few years have shown increasing attendance at this event. We would certainly hope that this year will yield the largest turnout ever. The agenda for the meeting is currently being prepared.

The Division will also have a hospitality suite at the Town and Country Hotel, and we would hope that all those attending would take advantage of this opportunity to meet our fellow members and any guests who drop in from time to time. The hospitality suite in Boston last May was a rousing success.

The Division will also have an exhibitors' table in San Diego this year, where we will proudly display our new Division Banner which incidentally had its inauguration at the recent FDA Seminar in Clifton, New Jersey.

GENERAL TECHNICAL COUNCIL (GTC)

As you are no doubt aware, the General Technical Council of the Society underwent a restructuring in the past two years and the Division has been represented at each of the periodic meetings of this most important function of your Society. Our Division, together with the Biomedical Division and the Environmental Control Technical Committee, make up the Food and Health Group ably chaired by Larry Swaton of Abbott Laboratories.

1975-76 BALLOTS

Enclosed with this Newsletter is the official Division ballot for next year's officers. Much time and effort go into this mailing and over the years the returns of those voting have been frankly quite disappointing. Won't you make it a point to complete your ballot and return it by the April 30 deadline this year? As the old saying goes, "If you don't take an interest in your Division, then you certainly don't deserve to criticize any shortcomings it may have."

DIVISION MEMBERSHIP

The Division membership has shown an excellent growth over the past two years, and in a recent summary from the Society Headquarters our Division was one of only two that showed greater than a 100 percent membership level against last year's reference base. There

is still an ongoing need to increase the membership of the Division, particularly in the area of allied industries, such as packaging manufacturers, with whom each segment of our industry deals. If each of you would take the time to recommend to the Division Officers one potential new member, FD&C would rapidly become one of the largest memberships of the Society.

DIVISION TREASURY

Although I do not have the benefit of exact figures at this time, I can report that the Division funds are in excellent shape. Even though our educational courses and seminars are primarily conducted to serve the needs of the membership, we have been most fortunate in realizing a profit on each and every event undertaken this year. John Runnels, our very capable Division Treasurer from Johnson and Johnson Baby Products, will, of course, furnish a detailed report at the Annual Council Meeting on May 12.

DIVISION BROCHURES

Enclosed herewith is a copy of the new Division brochure which has been available for the past six months or so. We have made good use of these brochures at our various meetings and through separate mailings when requested. They will also be on display at our Division exhibitors' booth in San Diego.

FUTURE PLANS

The wealth of potential activities for the Division remains relatively untapped in spite of our very active current year. A new handbook is being developed for the specific industries which our Division serves as it relates to the Society certification programs for both quality technicians and quality engineers. With the Society now having assumed the ANSI Secretariat, the Division can anticipate requests for many contributions in this area of international standards. A commitment has been made to participate in the Midwest Conference in October of 1976.

The Division Officers are actively looking into more meaningful roles for the Regional Councillors for next year and we are making considerable strides in the very desirable arena of inter-Society activities such as IFT, the Proprietary Association, etc.

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Of course, probably most important of all is the urgent need to revive our Division publication to the extent where it is issued at least quarterly and is informative to all of our Division members. We are hoping to update you further on our progress in this area at the Council Meeting in San Diego on May 12.

Please feel free to contact any of the Division Officers, whose addresses and phone numbers are indicated on this letterhead, on any matter of concern as it pertains to our present or planned activities for the future. In spite of the current economic climate, the vital need for the Division's activities has been repeatedly acknowledged throughout this current year. From my vantage point, the opportunities that lie ahead will be many and of the most rewarding nature.

We hope to see as many of you as possible at the Annual Technical Conference in San Diego in May. We have, unquestionably, a very vital role to play in the Society's affairs. With your support, that role can be enacted most effectively.

Cordially,



Robert N. Reece
Chairman