



NYMS NEWS

NEW YORK MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY
15 West 77th Street, New York, N.Y. 10024

(212) 932-3156 phone/fax

Vol. 12, No. 1

September 1995

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

Identification of Organic Particles by Microchemical Analysis: Chemical Methods and Modern Possibilities

Skip Palenik
Microtrace, Elgin, Illinois

Thursday, September 28, 1995 - 8:00 p.m.
at NYMS's supplemental facility
1244 McBride Avenue, West Paterson, New Jersey
(201) 812-8377

The identification of organic compounds can be a taxing problem, even when large quantities of the unknown are available for analysis. The problems are compounded several-fold when only minute quantities or specks are available for study. This talk will focus on classical as well as modern methods available for conducting microchemical qualitative analyses of organic particles. A method of detecting hetero-elements in single particles of organic substances, without the aid of instruments, will be shown in a videotaped demonstration. Specific examples of real life problems solved by microchemical analysis will be presented to illustrate these techniques.

Skip Palenik tumbled into the microworld at age eight, with the gift of a microscope and a chance reading about how to be a "vacuum cleaner detective". Since then, he has looked at the contents of many other surprising receptacles to find tiny, revealing clues everywhere he turns. His natural ability to solve puzzles by examining trace evidence was enhanced with an education in classical analytical chemistry at the University of Illinois. During the twenty years he was associated with the company founded by Dr. Walter McCrone, Mr. Palenik became an internationally recognized expert microanalyst in his own right. He formed his own company, Microtrace, in 1992.

PLEASE NOTE! The location of the Sept. 28 and Oct. 12 meetings is at the NYMS supplementary site in West Paterson, New Jersey. Plenty of free parking is available.
See inside for travel directions by car and New Jersey Transit bus. *Coffee on hand!*

See inside for the **OCTOBER 12 MEETING** announcement.

NYMS Meetings are free and open to all. Bring a friend.

Next meeting: Thursday, October 12 - Len Lessin on Fritz Goro

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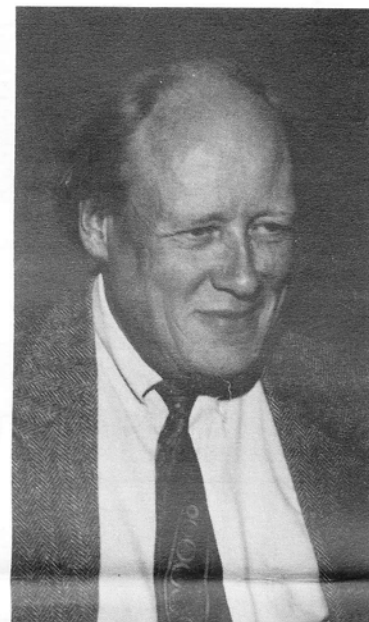
NEWS FROM THE BOARD

Workshops

The Society's 118th year has brought a renewed emphasis on workshops. They are being held at a supplemental facility in West Paterson, New Jersey, as the Museum is still in the throes of its major renovation. By all accounts, the workshops held this summer have been a great success. A four-Saturday introductory series held in the spring, **The Use of the Microscope**, was well attended despite the short notice, and participants easily found their way to the West Paterson location from various directions. Two attendees traveled all the way from Albany. They were heard to comment very favorably about the high quality of the instruction and signed up promptly for this month's four-Saturday workshop on **Polarized Light Microscopy**. This series is intended for people who have used microscopes before, and the instructors are four highly-skilled microscopists with teaching experience. As this newsletter goes to press, there were still a few openings. Quickly, call **Don O'Leary** (at 201-812-8377) if you would like to register for the remaining sessions.

Two one-day workshops, **Cleaning and Maintenance of Microscopes** (August 21), and **Small Wonders for Small People**, (August 27), were also popular. The children's workshop was taught by **Marie Keyes**, with assistance from **Eugena Ordonez** and **Don O'Leary**.

The announcement of the next offering, a two-Saturday (October 21 & 28) workshop on **Photomicrography**, is included with this newsletter. Prompt response is recommended for those with a keen interest in this topic, since registration will be limited to the first 15 people who send in their checks. The instructor, **Alfred Lammé**, is a medical photographer at Columbia University.



JAN HINSCH RECEIVES THE ASHBY AWARD

At the Spring Banquet, May 21, 1995, the highest award for service to the Society was bestowed on **Jan Hinsch** by then-president **Margaret Walsh**. Her comments about Mr. Hinsch's dedicated services to the Society over many years, often performed quietly and in the background, were countered with his protestations that he was unworthy of this honor. Not so, said she. According to Marge Walsh, too often it is the quiet person who does not get honored; she wanted to be sure that he would be. Jan Hinsch's *beautifully illustrated lectures are a model of clarity*, including on the occasions when he has graciously substituted for a suddenly unavailable speaker. He has also amiably and professionally performed many workshop and committee duties for NYMS. It was a neat trick, though, for the Board of Managers to surprise Dr. Hinsch with the Ashby Award when he is currently the chair of the Awards Committee. A bit of persuasion from his wife was needed to assure his attendance at this banquet, which occurred the day after his return from a business trip overseas.

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**THE NEW YORK MICROSCOPICAL SOCIETY'S
SUPPLEMENTAL FACILITY**

1244 McBride Avenue
West Paterson, New Jersey

Our logo is on the door, walk one flight up.
Our telephone is (201) 812-8377.

In addition to the workshops and occasional other scheduled events we will hold at this location, Don O'Leary has announced that he will make the site available for members to use on **Thursday evenings**, from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. Call Don (at 201-797-8849) to arrange visits at other times, such as on a weekend. He is eager to rally members and encourages people to come for informal chats, to use some of the Society's microscopes and its "branch library" books, and to plan Society activities.

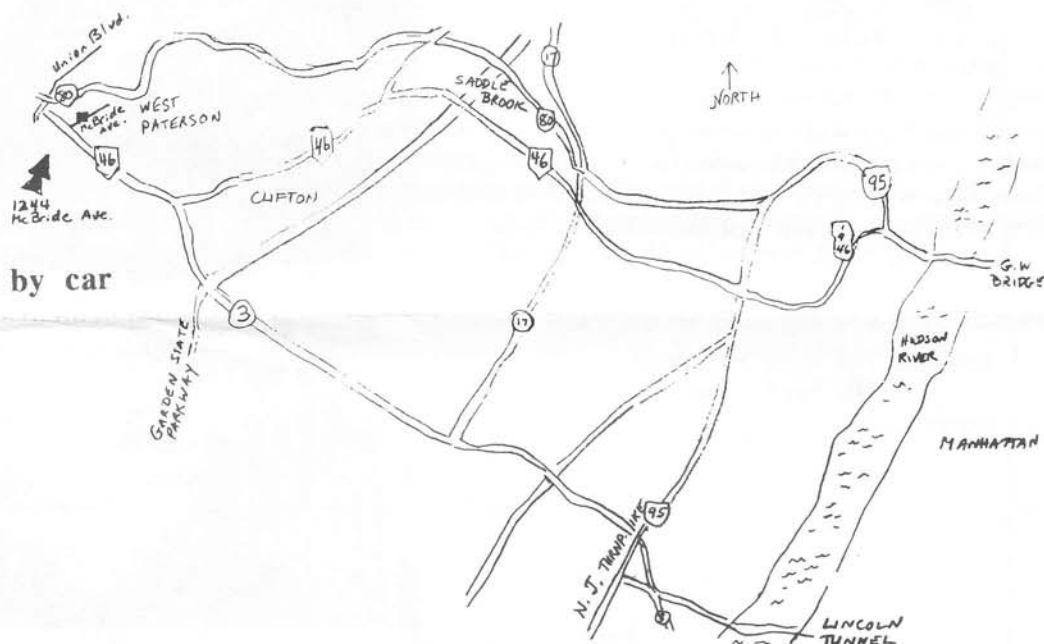
ACCESS BY CAR

From the Lincoln Tunnel (allow about 20 minutes), take Route 3, which ends in Clifton and merges with Route 46. McBride Ave. is about one mile past the merge.

McBride Ave. passes under Route 46. To get to McBride, take the ramp on the right after passing the shopping center with Pathmark and Caldor stores. There is a Pizza Hut just before the exit. The Jersey-Metro Federal Credit Union building, 1244 McBride Ave., is one block north of U.S. Route 46 and just past the traffic light. The building has ample adjacent parking space.

From the George Washington Bridge (allow about 20 minutes), take Route I-95 South to I-80 West; from I-80 take the Union Boulevard Exit (Exit 55A), follow the ramp marked Little Falls and go to the first light and turn left on Lackawanna Ave. Proceed through the blinking light over the bridge and turn left at the light (McBride Ave.). Ours is the second building on the left.

Car-pooling coordinator is Don O'Leary, phone (201) 797-8849



ACCESS BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

From Port Authority Bus Terminal, by New Jersey Transit Bus: Take one of the buses to Willowbrook Mall in Wayne; there transfer to the # 704 Bus to Paterson and get off at the corner of McBride and Lackawanna Avenues.

NJ Transit Information: (201) 762-5100 - Port Authority Information: (212) 564-8484

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1995-96 MEETING CALENDAR

The preliminary calendar listings given below are for the first four months of this season's meetings, which will take place in two NYMS locations. We are taking advantage of having two available sites to schedule more meetings than usual. Mark your calendars now!

IMPORTANT

Meetings listed in plain type will take place in Room 319 of the
American Museum of Natural History
79th Street & Central Park West, New York, New York.

*Meetings listed in italics will take place at NYMS's supplementary facility at
1244 McBride Ave., West Paterson, New Jersey.*

All meetings will begin at 8:00 p.m., unless otherwise noted.

Sept. 28 (Thurs) in NJ: Skip Palenik, on chemical microscopy

Oct. 12 (Thurs) in NJ: Len Lessin, on the work of Fritz Goro

Oct. 26 (Thurs) in NYC: (to be announced)

Nov. 9 (Thurs) in NJ: Jan Hinsch, on measurement of objective NA

Nov. 29 (Wed) in NYC: Cheryl LaRoche, on microscopy to identify archaeological finds.

Added attraction! Don O'Leary will open the West Paterson "branch library" every Thursday evening, from 7 to 10, to provide a place for members to gather informally. It is best to call Don at home (201-797-8849) by 4:00 to be sure of finding someone there to open the door. Don will be on vacation the first two Thursdays in October.

Don O'Leary at the West Paterson NYMS site. Note the bank of lockers to hold materials for workshop students.



LOOK FOR MORE CALENDAR LISTINGS IN OCTOBER NEWSLETTER!