



## EDITORIAL

A long time has elapsed since the last issue of the newsletter. We apologize for this delay, which is mainly due to administrative changes in Lausanne, where the Institute of Analytical and Inorganic Chemistry has been transferred from the University to the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology with a concomitant name change to Institute of Molecular and Biological Chemistry. As a result, the URL of the web site of our society has also changed, see next story. In addition, the editor is actively involved in the organization of the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on f-Elements (ICFE'5), to be held during the last week of August 2003 (24-29) in Geneva (Switzerland).

Changes have also taken place in United States of America, where the renown Rare Earth Information Center in Ames has unfortunately closed due to lack of financial support (see story below).

## NEW WEB SITE FOR ERES

<http://ereswww.epfl.ch>

As mentioned above, ERES has a new URL. This web site is also the website of ICFE'5. It is presently being updated and contains several interesting links for rare-earthers. Have a look at it!

## RARE EARTHS' 2001 Brazil September 22-26 2001

This event has been perfectly organized by Professors Geraldo Vicentini (Chair) and Léa Barbieri Zinner (Program Chair) in Campos do Jordão, a charming ski resort (elevation: 1700 m) 184 km north of São Paulo. Having taken place a few days after 9-11 events, the conference suffered somewhat from the

international situation. However, 80% of the announced program could be completed and the 200 attendees came from 29 different countries. The scientific part covered all aspects of rare-earth sciences and was highlighted by 7 plenary lectures (K. A. Gschneidner Jr., H. Schumann, C.F.G.C. Geraldès, G. R. Choppin, G. Bombieri, J.-C. G. Bünzli, and P. S. Santos) and 17 invited lectures. In addition, 160 contributed communications were presented.

The participants were located in an excellent hotel, the Grande Hotel Campos do Jordão, which is home to a hotelkeeper and restaurant school. No need to say that service and food were up to a four-star hotel. The conference ended "Brazilian-style" by a gorgeous banquet followed by wild Samba dances.

## 23<sup>rd</sup> RARE EARTH RESEARCH CONFERENCE, Davis

The sunny Davis campus of the University of California hosted the 23<sup>rd</sup> Rare Earth Research Conference, organized by Professors Suzan Kauzlarich (Chair) and Peter Dorhout (Program Chair). Professor Lynda Soderholm chaired the Spedding award Committee who awarded the prize to Professor Lynn A. Boatner, from the Solid State Division, Oak Ridge National Laboratory for his work on rare-earth orthophosphates.

The conference was attended by about 200 scientists, representing all fields of rare-earth and actinide research. It featured 5 plenary lectures (L. A. Boatner, N. Edelstein, M. Greenblatt, A. Meijerink, and W. J. Evans), 69 oral (invited) lectures and about 200 contributed (poster) presentations. Interaction between the participants was optimum and the social program included a trip to

Napa Valley, a wine-tasting exercise and an outdoor "Victorian-style" banquet. This event was certainly one of the most successful American rare-earth conference to date, which was made possible by the skill and kindness of the organizers.

The 24<sup>th</sup> RERC will be held at Fort Collins, Colorado, in 2005 and the 25<sup>th</sup> in Edmonton, Canada, in 2008.

## ICFE'5 Geneva (Switzerland) August 24-29 2003

The organization of the conference is progressing well, with all the plenary lecturers and the session chairs secured. Plenary lectures will be given by K. A. Müller (Univ. Zürich, Nobel prize in physics, 1987) K. N. Raymond (UC Berkeley), C. Luchinat (Univ. Firenze), C. Ceintrey (Rhodia). Among others, J.-M. Lehn (Nobel prize in chemistry, 1987) has accepted to be a member of the International Advisory Board.

More information can be found in the accompanying leaflet and on the website of the conference, which provides a link for pre-registration.

<http://ereswww.epfl.ch>

Sessions will include chemistry and physics of solid state compounds, chemistry and physics of the actinides, industrial applications, organic synthesis and catalysis, organometallics and clusters, supramolecular and coordination chemistry, molecular magnetism, modeling and extraction processes, environmental aspects, the COST D18 workshop and a tribute to C. K. Jørgensen (spectroscopy).



**Nomination for the ERES Junior Award 2003**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> ERES Junior award will be presented at ICFE'5. The award is intended to distinguish a young scientist (ideally not older than 35 years) who has made an innovative contribution to the basic science and/or technology of the f-elements. Nominations are now sought and should be sent to Professor J.-C.G. Bünzli so that they are received by **December 1<sup>st</sup> 2002** at his address: Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Lausanne, ICMB, BCH 1402 CH-1015 Lausanne, Switzerland.

**Nomination for the P.E. LeCoq de Boisbaudran Senior Award 2003**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Paul-Émile LeCoq de Boisbaudran award, sponsored by Rhodia, will be presented at the ICFE'5. This award is given in recognition of distinguished contributions to the basic science and/or technology of the f-elements. Nominations are now sought from the world-wide f-element community and should be sent to Professor J.-C. Bünzli by **December 1<sup>st</sup> 2002** (address above). Seconding letters are encouraged, especially if they cover information complementary to the nominating letter.

**RIC CLOSURE**

We have received the following sad information at the beginning of July, unveiling the closure of the Rare Earth Information Center (RIC) in Ames. In addition to keeping a large database on rare earths and providing search services, the center published two newsletters, the quarterly RIC News (circulation well over 10'000) and the monthly RIC Insight (since 1987). The Center was founded in 1966. We regret this closure which certainly impoverishes the rare earth community. During the 23<sup>rd</sup> RERC conference held in Davis, California (see story above), K. A. Gschneidner Jr. who has been the di-

rector of the center and the editor of the RIC News until February 1<sup>st</sup> 1996, reported that some efforts are currently being made to restore part of the activities of RIC. Starting February 1, 1996, R. William McCallum took over the directorship and editorship; he had replaced the popular Jennings "Cap" Capellen as a RIC News staff writer in 1990, who himself succeeded to Bernie Evans in 1982. Here is the message we got.

"The Rare-earth Information Center (RIC) has been providing scientific and technical information concerning the rare earths to industry, government, universities, and individuals for more than thirty-six years. Support for the RIC has come from the Institute for Physical Research and Technology (IPRT), Ames Laboratory and contributions from industrial, academic and individual financial sponsors. In recent years, the number of external financial supporters has declined drastically due to both economic conditions and consolidation in the rare earth and magnet industries. As a result an increasing fraction of the RIC budget has come from the State of Iowa through IPRT. Unfortunately economic conditions in Iowa have resulted in drastic cuts in the state budget. As a result, IPRT is no longer able to financially support the RIC. Therefore, the decision was made to close the RIC on July 1, 2002.

The closing of the RIC does not effect the operations of the Materials Preparation Center at Ames Laboratory, which will continue to supply high purity materials to researchers worldwide. In addition, while we will no longer be publishing newsletters or maintaining the database, as a researcher at Ames Laboratory, I will be happy to try and answer questions which you may have about rare-earth materials."

(Signed): R. William McCallum, [Mccallum@ameslab.gov](mailto:Mccallum@ameslab.gov).

**INDUSTRY**

**Tianjiao International Trading Co. (USA), Inc.**

Tianjiao International Trading Co. is the wholly owned US subsidiary and exclusive agent of Baotou Iron & Steel Company "Baogang", which ranks as the 24<sup>th</sup> largest enterprise in PR China based on sales scale and is the largest Rare Earth Company in China. Baogang owns the world famous Baiyunebo Mine, which accounts for 77% of rare earth deposit in the world and has rare earth factories that can produce a wealth of rare-earth concentrates, chlorides, oxides, metals, phosphors, polishing powders and other products.

Baogang owns a rare earth research institute (Baotou Research Institute of Rare Earth), which is the largest comprehensive rare earth research institute in PR China specializing in the rare earth scientific research and technological development. Further, in 1991, Baogang incorporated Baotou Steel & Rare Earth Enterprises Group which includes most RE factories in China. During past years, we have established a long term relationship with many Rare Earth customers based upon the business philosophy of "Quality First and Credit First." We are always ready to offer excellent products and services to our customers.

We would invite you to also visit our company's website at [www.baotou.com](http://www.baotou.com) to further get acquainted with us.

Weiji Cui, executive vice-president, TIT Co. (USA), Inc., 1818 Gilbreth Road, Suite 223, Burlingame, CA 94010, USA.

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thematic issue will stimulate research in all of these areas, where we can expect many more exciting discoveries.

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Chiral Lanthanide Complexes: Coordination Chemistry and Applications by H. C. Aspinall.

Synthesis and Structural Chemistry of Non-Cyclopentadienyl Organolanthanide Complexes by F. T. Edelmann, D. M. M. Freckmann, and H. Schumann.

Lanthanide-Containing Molecular and Supramolecular Polymetallic Functional Assemblies by J.-C. G. Bünzli and C. Piguet.

Rare-Earth Transition-Metal Chalcogenides by K. Mitchell and J. A. Ibers.

Mono(cyclopentadienyl) Complexes of the Rare-Earth Metals by S. Arndt and J. Okuda.

Being Excited by Lanthanide Coordination Complexes: Aqua Species, Chirality, Excited-State Chemistry, and Exchange Dynamics by D. Parker, R. S. Dickins, H. Puschmann, C. Crossland, and J. A. K. Howard.

Inorganic Lanthanide Compounds with Complex Anions by M. S. Wickleder.

Synthesis, Arrangement, and Reactivity of Arene-Lanthanide Compounds by M. N. Bochkarev.

Chemistry of Tris(pentamethylcyclopentadienyl) f-Element Complexes, (C<sub>5</sub>Me<sub>5</sub>)<sub>3</sub>M by W. J. Evans and B. L. Davis.

Chemistry of the Lanthanides Using Pyrazolylborate Ligands by N. Marques, A. Sella, and J. Takats.

Lanthanocene Catalysts in Selective Organic Synthesis by G. A. Molander and J. A. C. Romero.

Lanthanide Complexes in Multifunctional Asymmetric Catalysis by M. Shibasaki and N. Yoshikawa.

Asymmetric Catalysis and Amplification with Chiral Lanthanide Complexes by J. Inanaga, H. Furuno, and T. Hayano.

Rare-Earth Metal Triflates in Or-

ganic Synthesis by S. Kobayashi, M. Sugiura, H. Kitagawa, and W. W.-L. Lam.

Lanthanide-Containing Liquid Crystals and Surfactants by K. Binne-mans and C. Görrler-Walrand.

Plastic Optical Fiber Lasers and Amplifiers Containing Lanthanide Complexes by K. Kuriki, Y. Koike, and Y. Okamoto.

Organo Lanthanide Metal Complexes for Electroluminescent Materials by J. Kido and Y. Okamoto.

Magnetism of Lanthanides in Molecular Materials with Transition-Metal Ions and Organic Radicals by C. Benelli and D. Gatteschi.

Lanthanide Complexes in Molecular Recognition and Chirality Sensing of Biological Substrates by H. Tsukube and S. Shinoda.

Ionic Conducting Lanthanide Oxides by G.-ya Adachi, N. Imanaka, and S. Tamura.

Periodic Properties of Force Constants of Small Transition-Metal and Lanthanide Clusters by J. R. Lombardi and B. Davis.

Lanthanides in Non-Oxide Glasses by J.-L. Adam.

#### Ordering information

A special ACS member rate of only \$30 applies (nonmembers \$40).

<http://pubs.acs.org/journals/chrea/y/thematic/02/lanthanide.html>

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#### ERES SPONSORS

**RHODIA Rare Earths**  
**KU Leuven**  
**ICMB Lausanne**

ERES Newsletter is your newsletter. Please send articles on any topic of interest to the f-element community.

**Next deadline: Sept. 30, 2002**

#### AGENDA

##### MAJOR CONFERENCES

#### ICFE'5 August 25-29, 2003

Profs. J.-C. Bünzli and C. Piguet  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Lausanne and University of Geneva

#### SYMPORG SA

7, Av. Krieg, CH 1208 Geneva  
(Switzerland)

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e-mail: [info@symporg.ch](mailto:info@symporg.ch)

<http://ereswww.epfl.ch>

#### RARE EARTHS' 04

**7-12 November 2004**

*Twenty-fourth Rare Earth Research Conference Inc.*  
Nara, Japan

Prof. Gin-Ya Adachi

<http://kidorui.chem.eng.osaka-u.ac.jp/RE2004.html>

#### 24<sup>TH</sup> RERC June 26-30, 2005

*Twenty-fourth Rare Earth Research Conference Inc.*  
Fort Collins, Colorado, USA

Prof. Peter Dorhout  
Colorado State University  
Department of Chemistry  
FORT COLLINS, CO 80523

☎ (+1 970) 491 0624 Fax 941-1801

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#### OTHER EVENTS

#### ICMM 2002 Oct. 5-10, 2002

8<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Molecule-based Magnets  
Valencia, Spain

[http://www.uv.es/~uimm/icmm\\_2002](http://www.uv.es/~uimm/icmm_2002)

#### 15<sup>TH</sup> WORKSHOP ON RARE EARTH ELEMENTS OCTOBER 10-12, 2002

Mainz, Germany  
Prof. Jun Okuda

<http://www.uni-mainz.de/FB/Chemie/AK-Okuda>

#### SCANDIUM Aug. 16-22, 2003

International Symposium on Mineralogy and Geochemistry of Sc  
Oslo, Norway

<http://www.nhm.uio.no/geomus/scsymp>