

ANNIVERSARIES AND DATES



ANNIVERSARY OF A. SKOROVA

On July 1, 2006 Alla Skorova, managing editor of the international chemical journal "Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds", celebrated a notable birthday.

Alla Skorova (Sokol) was born in Moscow on July 1, 1936. In his youth and student years her father Evalds Svimpuls-Sokol, a native of Latvia, was a revolutionary member of the underground. After arrest in 1921 he was deported from Latvia in an exchange of political prisoners, and he subsequently became a prominent journalist and literary critic.

In 1953 Alla Skorova finished at middle school in Madona, LatvSSR, where she lived from 1945 with her father's parents, and went on to the Chemical Faculty of M. V. Lomonosov Moscow State University. She did her diploma work on the synthesis of thiazolidines under the guidance of heterocyclic chemist Prof. Yu. K. Yur'ev and Candidate of Chemical Sciences E. V. Dyatlovitskaya. In 1958 after finishing at university she was directed to work in Riga at the then new Institute of Organic Synthesis, Academy of Sciences of the Latvian SSR, established under the guidance of Academician S. Hiller.

In 1960 A. Skorova became a graduate student and was assigned to the N. D. Zelinsky Institute of Organic Chemistry, Academy of Sciences of the USSR, where she worked in 1960-1962 under the prominent scientist Ya. L. Gol'dfarb.

On returning to Riga, she worked at the Institute of Organic Synthesis in the laboratories of M. Lidaks and S. Hiller, and from 1969 she became academic secretary of the Scientific Council of the USSR State Committee for Science and Technology "Chemistry and technology of organic sulfur compounds."

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The Council coordinated all the researches conducted in the USSR on the processing of sulfurous and high-sulfur oils, the identification and study of organic compounds of sulfur in fossil fuels, the development of products for medicine and agriculture based on sulfur-containing compounds, the hygienic aspects of the production and application of organic sulfur compounds and sulfurous fuels, and the theoretical and synthetic chemistry of organic compounds of sulfur. As academic secretary, A. Skorova drew up All-Union coordination plans, prepared proposals and other documents for the State Committee for Science and Technology and the government of the USSR. Extensive meetings of the Council, scientific sessions, and conferences, to which A. Skorova also contributed reports and communications, were organized with her active participation. The peak of her activity in this period was the organization of the Ninth International Symposium of IUPAC on the chemistry of the organic compounds of sulfur, which was held in Riga in the summer of 1980 (with more than 600 participants). A collection of the plenary lectures of this delegate symposium was published for IUPAC by Pergamon Press under the editorship of Prof. R. Kh. Freidlina and A. E. Skorova.

For several years A. Skorova was also vice-chairman of the section on "Biological action of organic sulfur compounds" at the scientific council on the "Chemistry and technology of organic sulfur compounds."

Altogether A. Skorova has been the author of more than 70 publications on organic chemistry, the relationship between structure and biological activity, and the history of chemistry. She has presented reports at various conferences in Russia, Latvia, Great Britain, Yugoslavia, Poland, Germany, Austria, Italy, Ukraine, and a number of other countries.

Having finished her work as academic secretary of the Science Council on the organic sulfur compounds from 1986 to 1994 A. Skorova worked at the Institute of Organic Synthesis, participated in the development of expert systems for the SAR investigation of the biologically active organic compounds, and was engaged in the compilation of a data bank on the activity of medicines.

From 1994 to 1997 she worked as a journalist, was a collaborator of the Russian version of the paper "Diena", editor of the newspaper for prisoners "Dveri," collaborated with various publishers as translator and editor, and was admitted as member of the International Union of Journalists.

In 1997 A. Skorova returned to the Institute of Organic Synthesis as managing editor of the journal COHC, and in the light of her journalistic and managerial experience she quickly familiarized herself with the new duties. She has contributed much to the international coordination of the journal's work and the organization of its electronic version.

In 2005 Alla Skorova was accorded the highest award of the Institute of Organic Synthesis - the S. Hiller's medal.

J. Stradins

The editorial team and publisher sincerely congratulate Alla Skorova on her birthday and wish her indefatigable energy, new initiatives, good health, and happiness in her personal life and also total satisfaction of the aims of her work.

SOME SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS OF A. SKOROVA

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L. S. Gitlina, V. E. Golender, A. M. Kofman, S. S. Kukalenko, A. B. Rozenblit, N. G. Rozhkova, A. E. Skorova, R. A. Eikhenberga, G. I. Yakovleva, and E. Lukevics, "Computer search of the link between structure and pesticidal activity among P,S-containing organic compounds from the data bank of the world selection of chemical means for the protection of plants," in: *Chemistry and Application of Organophosphorus Compounds. Proceedings of VIII All-Union Conference on the Chemistry of Organophosphorus Compounds* [in Russian], Nauka, Moscow (1987), pp. 249-253.

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V. Veretennikova, A. Skorova, V. Kudryashova, A. Rozenblit, A. Barkans, Ya. Betinsh, V. Drboglav, L. Gitlina, Ya. Grinfelds, P. Mellis, Dz. Petersons, and V. Shatokhin, "SAR investigation of biologically active compounds using OREX expert system," in: *Quantitative Structure-Activity Relationships in Environmental Sciences. VII. Pensacola Fl, Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, F. Chen and G. Schurmann (Eds.) (1997), pp. 115-131.

A. Skorova, V. Kudryashova, N. Veretennikova, and E. Lukevics, *Heterocycles in Medicinal Chemistry. 17th International Congress of Heterocyclic Chemistry, August 1-6, 199. Book of Abstracts, PO-187.*