

person, known variously as "the person in charge," "the secretary," or "presidente de los presidentes." Who is that person? Currently, it is Cavanagh.

"Chuck Hoerr told me years ago that how anyone ascends to be in charge of past presidents' meetings is a mystery," Cavanagh says. "Chuck performed this function and he asked me to temporarily take it over, which I did in 1975. If anyone is now in charge, I still am."

As such, Cavanagh sends out information to the past presidents concerning the annual dinner and coordinates the Christmas newsletter to which past presidents submit summaries of their activities for the past year.

The tradition of the past presidents' Christmas letter as it now exists was established by T. H. Hopper (1956 president). Others who have kept it going have included Bob Bates (1960 president), Chuck Hoerr and now Cavanagh. "It it were not for these yearly Past Presidents' letters, I would feel that I once *was* a member; but these letters

give me the feeling that I *am* a member," King wrote in the 1977 Christmas letter.

If you've never seen a copy of these Christmas letters, that's not surprising. They're only sent to past presidents—a practice that's in keeping with the association's aura of secrecy.

This brief lifting of the veil of secrecy could cost Cavanagh his hard-won formal acceptance, Cavanagh said. It is relatively safe, however, to say that Ginny Cavanagh's status is not in jeopardy. Past presidents are traditionally kinder to spouses than to each other. Actually, when a president completes his term, he still faces four additional years on the AOCS Governing Board. Which means, including one year as vice president, each person elected as president of AOCS spends at least six consecutive years of volunteer work at the society's highest level. That's a commitment that deserves the bantering camaraderie provided once a year by the past presidents' group.

AOCS charter members

The original 20 charter members of the Society of Cotton Products Analysts (later to become the American Oil Chemists' Society) were G. Worthen Agee, E. R. Barrow, H. B. Battle, G. G. Fox, R. B. Hulme, Edwin Lehman Johnson, W. J. Kallaher, Thomas C. Law, E. A. McDonald, W. H. Marquess, Landon C. Moore, Felix Paquin, R. W. Perry, J. B. Pratt, E. Scherubel, David Schwartz, F. N. Smalley, P. S. Tilson, R. C. Warren and David Wesson.

G. WORTHEN AGEE (1882-1955): Agee, a chemist, accepted a position in 1903 in Memphis with Felix Paquin who at that time was developing a consulting and analytical laboratory serving the cottonseed oil industry. In 1905, Paquin and Agee became partners. In 1909, Paquin left Memphis, selling his interest to Agee who continued the laboratory business in his own name. In 1917, E. R. Barrow, who had been a friendly competitor, joined Agee to form Barrow-Agee Laboratories Inc. Agee and Barrow drew up the first constitution and by-laws for the society. Agee served as secretary and treasurer until May 1912. He was elected vice president in 1913 and president in 1914. He was the first editor of the Chemists' Section, from 1917-1920, published in the *Cotton Oil Press*.

E. R. BARROW (1878-1956): Edward Robertson Barrow, a licensed engineer, designed and operated a cotton mill laboratory, then established the Barrow Laboratory in 1905 as an independent commercial laboratory serving cottonseed oil mills in the Memphis territory. In 1917, he and Agee consolidated laboratories. In

addition to helping draw up the society's first constitution and by-laws, Barrow served as the third president of the society and was a member of the first Uniform Methods Committee. He also chaired the first Refining Test Committee, appointed in 1916, and served on that committee for 30 years, until 1946. He served on the Soapstock and Journal committees, and was a member of the first Governing Committee.

H. B. BATTLE (1864-1929): Herbert B. Battle earned his doctorate degree in 1887. He first served as director of the North Carolina Agricultural Experiment Station for ten years. In 1903, he moved to Montgomery, Alabama, where three years later he founded the Battle Laboratory. He was president of that firm until his death. At the 1918 AOCS meeting, Battle, head of the Extraction Committee, made a report which became the basis for AOCS oil extraction methods for cottonseed, soybeans and peanuts. He served as AOCS president in 1923. One of his other outside activities was to found the Alabama Anthropological Society.

G. G. FOX (died 1949): G. G. Fox was vice president of Armour and Company's Refineries Division in Chicago, Illinois. His early professional career began in chemical laboratory work at Armour, which he joined in 1901, but soon expanded into refinery operations, sales and administration. He was the president of the society in 1915. In 1924, he resigned his membership in the society due to a job change.

R. B. HULME (died 1927): Robert B. Hulme, an oil chemist, began his career in the laboratories

of the American Cotton Oil Company, then joined the Kentucky Refining Company at Louisville as chemist in charge of refinery. He rose to the position of vice-president there. For a brief time, he was an official chemist of the New York Produce Exchange. He went on to design and build Phoenix Cotton Oil Company's refinery and shortening plant in Memphis. About 1913 he developed a new refining process which was tried out on a large scale by the Southern Cotton Oil Company at its Augusta refinery. Leaving Memphis in 1918, he acquired a controlling interest in the California Products Co. by building a gin and oil mill at Fresno. He served with James Boyce and David Wesson on the Interstate Cotton Seed Crushers' Association's first committee to formulate a refining test procedure. Hulme was a member of AOCS's first Governing Committee.

EDWIN LEHMAN JOHNSON (1862-1929): Edwin Lehman Johnson of Memphis, Tennessee, was an oil mill chemist and engineer. His father was a pioneer cottonseed crusher and operated the Hope Oil Mill in Memphis. He was associated with his father at Hope Oil Mill. Then, during the period of intense development of oil milling processes and the use of cottonseed products, he established the Johnson Commercial Laboratories and served the industry as a chemist and operating specialist. He died in an automobile accident in 1929.

W. J. KALLAHER: The meager information in AOCS records shows W. J. Kallaher was associated with Union Seed and Fertilizer Company and with the Tennessee Cotton Oil Company, both in Memphis, Tennessee. Also, although he was a charter member, his membership had lapsed by 1918 but he was reinstated in 1919.

THOMAS C. LAW (1880-1962): Thomas C. Law organized one of the first industrial laboratories in the South, in Atlanta, Georgia, called Law and Company, to serve manufacturers, industries and agriculture. In 1947 he merged with Barrow-Agee Laboratories to become Law-Barrow-Agee Laboratories Inc. It was later renamed Law Engineering Testing Company in 1958. He was the society's president in 1916 and was recognized for his contributions to the industry and society by being named an honorary member of AOCS in 1959 (see article on honorary members).

E. A. MCDONALD: E. A. McDonald of Houston, Texas, was a member of the first Governing Committee. He was associated with Fidelity Cotton Oil and Fertilizer Co. of Houston. In 1944, he was vice president of the Interstate Cotton Oil Company in Los Angeles, California.

WILLIAM HOGE MARQUESS JR.: W. H. Marquess Jr. of Memphis, Tennessee was associated with Barrow Laboratory Company. According to a letter written by Horace W. Phillips in 1944 to then AOCS president Lamar Kishlar,

Marquess, known affectionately as "Fats" due to his stoutness, was working for Equitable Life Assurance Society in Atlanta, Georgia.

LANDON C. MOORE: Landon C. Moore had his own laboratory in Dallas, Texas. Although not too much is known about him, the proceedings of the May 1918 annual meeting, published July 1918 in the "Chemists' Section," reported that Landon C. Moore had been reinstated as a member after apologizing for a 1913 letter and a statement made in Corpus Christi in 1915. Moore presented a written apology and retraction at a special governing committee meeting in August 1917. The committee voted to give him another chance as a member.

FELIX PAQUIN (1865-1951): Felix Paquin served as AOCS president for the first two years of the society's existence. In 1900 he started a private practice in Memphis that concentrated chiefly on cottonseed products. Later, in 1909, he sold his interest in that laboratory to fellow AOCS charter member G. Worthen Agee and moved to Galveston, Texas, where he purchased an established laboratory and continued general analytical chemical work. He was named an honorary member of AOCS in 1947.

REX W. PERRY (died in 1959): Rex W. Perry served as AOCS president in 1919. Perry, of New Orleans, first did laboratory work with the Kentucky Refinery Company. In 1911, he joined the staff of Gunn's Ltd., Toronto, as a chemist in charge of refinery and provisions. Later he was named general manager. In 1931, he transferred to the William Davies Company, Union Stock Yards, Chicago, as general manager. He resigned from AOCS in 1936 because he was no longer associated with the oils and fats industry. In 1941, he organized Perry Food Products Company, in Chicago, to can meats for the government, and later joined Arbogast and Bastion Inc. in Pennsylvania. In 1944, he became an AOCS member again while manager of Perry Food. In 1951, he was given emeritus status in AOCS.

J. B. PRATT (1883-1933): James Booth Pratt was connected with the Southern Cotton Oil Company for 28 years. During World War I, he enlisted and obtained the rank of captain in the Chemical Division of the Army. He served as district chemist for Southern Cotton Oil Company in Charlotte, North Carolina, until 1921, then went to Columbia, South Carolina, when the company established a laboratory there.

EDWIN F. SCHERUBEL (1879-1951): Edwin F. Scherubel in 1903 was a member of Swift and Company's chemical laboratory. Later, he became assistant chief chemist and moved up to the plant operating division. He worked in soaps, fats and oils and served as an abstractor and editor in those fields for Chemical Abstracts, American Chemical Society. He retired from Swift and

Company, Chicago, in 1944. He was killed in a car accident in 1951. Scherubel was a college classmate of J. J. Vollertsen, one of AOCS' honorary members.

DAVID SCHWARTZ (1876-1926): David Schwartz of New Orleans was a member of AOCS' first governing committee. He worked for Southern Cotton Oil Company where he started as assistant to the head chemist. Later he was chief refiner and chemist at the company's New Orleans refinery. In 1917, he was made general superintendent of refineries of the Southern Cotton Oil Company. When the company was reorganized in 1924, he became vice president and general manager of the South Texas Cotton Oil Company at Houston.

F. N. SMALLEY (1874-1921): Frank N. Smalley was chief chemist for the Southern Cotton Oil Company in Savannah, Georgia. He served as president of the society in 1913. Smalley devoted most of his scientific career to the vegetable oil industry. He was regarded as an authority on analysis of fats and oils, oilseeds and derivative products. Perhaps his greatest contribution was his cooperative analytical work which was adopted by the society and later became the Smalley Program. Smalley developed the Smalley Soxhlet extraction tube and devised a method for analyzing cottonseed known as Smalley-Copes method.

P. S. TILSON (1867-1926): Phineas S. Tilson of Texas was society president in 1918. In 1904 he established the Houston Laboratories, the first commercial laboratory in Texas. He was a collaborating chemist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture Food and Drug Administration and

later, an associate state chemist for Texas. He chaired the AOCS Moisture Committee and was a member of the basic research committee. He was president of Houston Laboratories at the time of his death.

R. C. WARREN: R. C. Warren was associated with the Arkansas Cotton Oil Company in Little Rock, Arkansas. He was a member of the society's first uniform methods committee.

DAVID WESSON (1861-1934): David Wesson of New York City was AOCS' second president. In 1884 he went to work for N. K. Fairbanks Company. There, he devoted his attention to soap, lard oils, cottonseed oil and other fats. In 1887, he organized and operated the first analytical laboratory for systematic analysis of cottonseed oil mill products. When the New York office of W. J. Wilcox Lard and Refining Company absorbed Fairbanks in 1890, Dr. Wesson was sent to its Gutenberg, New Jersey, plant as chief chemist. He left there in 1895 to start a bicycle factory and a research laboratory. In 1900 he developed a process for making edible cottonseed oil by refining and deodorizing the oil. The Wesson Process Company was organized to handle this development. About this time, he became manager of the technical department for Southern Cotton Oil Company, a position he held until 1920, when he became technical adviser for the company. In later years, he worked on developing human food from cottonseed meal. Wesson served as associate editor of the society's journal. His name is the most widely recognized of AOCS' founders because of its continued use in the sale of Wesson Oil, now made from soybean oil.

Profile: Lois Crauer

Lois Crauer, first woman to serve on the AOCS Governing Board, had planned to become a doctor, not a fats and oils chemist. But marriage and a family changed those plans.

Mrs. Crauer, born Lois Swart, grew up thinking she'd like to follow in the tracks of a great-grandfather who had been a surgeon in the Mohawk Valley in upstate New York during the early days of our nation. As a youngster, she enjoyed thumbing through her great-grandfather's old medical books, which date back to Revolutionary War days. "They're fascinating," she says, adding that the books still are treasured by her family.

As a step toward that goal, she majored in physiology and nutrition, and minored in chemistry at the University of Rochester, from which she received her degree in 1939. Soon after, she

married Gordon Crauer.

In 1944, she accepted a position as chemist with DeLaval Separator Company in Poughkeepsie, New York. By then, she and her husband, who was in the insurance field, had two children, son Dudley and daughter Ann. "I brought up children and had a career, too," she says, explaining that her mother-in-law helped make this possible by sharing in the care of Ann and Dudley.

While working at DeLaval (now Alfa-Laval) in its Industrial Engineering and Chemical Laboratory in the early 1950s, she was asked to join a new division then being formed. Her assignment would be process chemist in the company's new Process Engineering Division.

"At that time, the food industry was moving from batch operations into continuous processing