
Profile

R.G. KRISHNAMURTHY



R.G. Krishnamurthy was among the first group of AOCS Honored Students in 1963 and he has been among the active members of the Society ever since.

Krish has served a term as a member of the Governing Board, has received the Award of Merit, served in several posts—including president—of the North Central Section, is executive chairman for the national Local Section committee, and was technical program chairman for the 1976 Fall Meeting in Chicago. That program drew praise from many persons and Krish received one letter from a veteran AOCS member saying it was the best technical program he could recall in the past 10 or 12 years.

Even so, Krish characteristically was not completely satisfied. He had outlines for several other symposia he wanted to present, but could not find an organizer to follow through. Krish emphasized that he discussed quite precise outlines with each chairman as to what should and shouldn't be covered in each symposium.

During the Chicago meeting, Krish seemed to be everywhere simultaneously. Part of the rushing, he explains, was because materials he had hoped would be left in place overnight often were carted away by maintenance workers and he would have to scurry each morning to assure everything was back in place.

Krish's drive to excel has been part of him for as long as he can remember, he says.

Krish was born and reared in a rural community in southern India near Mysore. His father, who died this past winter, was a school teacher. Krish's three brothers (two older, one younger) and three sisters live in India.

"I'm the most competitive one in the family," Krish says smiling. "I guess I've been that way since I was three years old or so." He is now 45.

With initial aspirations of becoming a physicist, Krish enrolled at the University of Mysore, receiving his bachelor's degree in 1951 in sciences—physics, chemistry and math. He joined the government-supported Council of Scientific and Industrial Research and worked for a few years on electrometallurgy projects. Then in 1954, he became involved in the processing of different types of vegetable oils. That same year he received the Jaipuria Gold Medal of All India Oil Technologists' Association, an award comparable to the AOCS Bond Award, Krish explained.

Within a few years, however, Krish discovered he was being passed over for promotions because he did not have a master's degree. "I would tell them that they knew I could get a master's degree or even a doctorate and that I would do a good job if promoted," Krish says. But the promotions went to people with advanced degrees, not to Krish.

In 1961, a friend told Krish that Dr. Steve Chang of Rutgers University in the United States was looking for researchers in flavors, something Krish had worked with tangentially as part of his processing studies.

Krish applied for the post and when the offer came, Krish accepted intending to make the move to the United States a permanent one. "It really wasn't too difficult," he says. "If I was going to move, there was not much difference between moving to New Delhi or to New Jersey."

When the day to leave did come, however, Krish and his wife, Vimala, also had a three-day-old daughter to care for. Vijaya is now a high school sophomore in Glenview, IL, and has a younger brother, Vittal, 9, and a younger sister, Veena, 6. Krish joined AOCS in 1961 while a student at Rutgers. Krish said he was eager to become a member of the AOCS and strove hard to get on committees once he was a member. Looking back over 16 years of work in the Society, he feels the effort has been worthwhile and says, "I feel proud that I have contributed something worthwhile."

Krish received his master's degree at Rutgers in 1964 and his doctorate in 1965. He worked during 1966 as an assistant research professor at Rutgers and then in 1967 joined Best Foods as a research chemist, working for Dr. C.M. Gooding who received the Bailey Award in 1973.

In 1967, he joined Kraft Inc., then known as National Dairy Corp., and is now a group leader at the Research and Development Center in Glenview, a northwest suburb of Chicago.

Krish's four-member team is involved primarily with oils and shortenings research. Their work generally is applied toward institutional and large-scale use, and very little toward products a shopper finds on local grocery shelves. At any given moment, Krish says, there may be one to six different projects underway in the lab. A top-level management team approves all proposed projects and reviews results of each.

When he isn't working at the modern lab, Krish says, his primary activity is AOCS. This past year he also taught a course on food science instrumentation at the Illinois Institute of Technology on Chicago's South Side, a course supported by the Institute of Food Technologists. This coming fall he hopes to teach a course at IIT on the chemistry and technology of oils and fats. He's also writing three chapters for a new edition of *Bailey's Industrial Oils and Fats Products* ("The new edition should be published by next year," Krish says).

Krish firmly believes that local section activities will be more important to the AOCS now that there will be but one national meeting each year. He says the National Program and Planning Committee needs to take a more active role in coordinating national meeting programs and technical programs of local sections. Local sections should be fiscally independent of the national association, Krish says.

Krish helped revive one-day technical programs sponsored by the North Central Section several years ago and the programs have never failed to recover all costs plus providing some funds to make-up losses at the other meetings of the Section, he says. Local Section technical programs can be fiscally independent and, with national program planning committee's help can be technically attractive, he believes.

Top quality technical programs—nationally and locally—are of critical importance to the AOCS, Krish stresses. It is also important for the AOCS members to take advantage of such programs, he believes, and speaks with dismay about

poorly attended sessions on the final half-day of national meetings when well-know experts from outside AOCS, who have paid their own expenses, often have found themselves talking to an audience of about two dozen.

Krish is a strict vegetarian. He eats no eggs, no meat, no fish or dairy products—except for maybe coffee cream. “This is my second cup of coffee this year,” he said gesturing toward his plastic cup in the Kraft cafeteria. He is a nonsmoker.

While Krish is a vegetarian, his children are not. They are typical American kids, he notes, even to eating hamburgers and hot dogs. They do not eat as much meat at home as their classmates probably do. “We never have steak,” Krish says.

If there is another difference, it would be that his children pray each morning before going to school and again at night. Krish is trying to instill in them the importance of religion being more than a Sunday social gathering that is laid aside the rest of the week.

“I tend to follow the philosophy, ‘If you can’t be first, you are nothing,’” Krish says. The drive and pace that such a conviction produces are evident in each task Krish undertakes. ●

‘Renewable resources’ subject of report

The National Research Council has published a report on “Renewable Resources for Industrial Materials” listing potential uses for forest and agricultural raw materials as substitutes for dwindling coal and petroleum resources. Copies of the report are available from the Printing and Publishing Office, National Academy of Sciences, 2101 Constitution Avenue N.W., Washington, DC, at \$8.25 a copy. AOCS member Dr. Everett H. Pryde of the USDA’s Northern Regional Research Center served on the panel for “Extractives as a Resource for Industrial Materials.” Most of the report deals with forestry products. ●

Bond Award to Donald Hopkins

Douglas S. Hopkins has been named winner of the AOCS Bond Gold Medal Award for presentation of “Rapeseed preparation” during a symposium on oilseed processing at the 1976 Fall Meeting in Chicago.

Hopkins is with CSP Food Ltd. of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada. Presentation of the award is scheduled for the 68th Annual Meeting in New York during May. The award recognizes excellence of delivery and content of papers presented at AOCS national meetings. Session chairmen and the audience rate the talks on the basis of organization, clarity, delivery, visual aids (if any), timing, and technical quality.

Receiving second place and honorable mention certificates for the Chicago meeting will be Thomas E. Furia and Nicolo Bellanca, both of Dynapol, Palo Alto, CA, for their talk on “The Performance of Nonabsorbable Polymeric Antioxidants in Foods.” Furia presented the talk during a symposium on antioxidants.

Third place honorable mention certificates will go to P.E. Pfeffer and F.E. Luddy of the USDA Eastern Regional Research Center in Philadelphia, and J.N. Shoolery of Varian Instrument Division, Palo Alto, CA. Pfeffer presented the trio’s paper, “Analytical ¹³C Nuclear Magnetic Resonance: A Rapid, Nondestructive Method for Determining the *cis-trans* ratio of Complex Unsaturated Lipid Mixtures.” ●

TBHQ, for short, is official

Eastman Chemical Products, Inc., has issued a reminder that the Food and Drug Administration has recognized TBHQ as the “common or usual name” for tertiary butylhydroquinone, an antioxidant used as a food additive. TBHQ may be combined with butylated hydroxyanisole (BHA) and butylated hydroxytoluene (BHT) to stabilize oils, fats and fat-containing foods. The FDA action was effective Dec. 10, 1976, Eastman noted. ●

**We can solve
your Wear-Part
problems**

- 1** We manufacture an extensive range of wear resistant parts for all makes of Expeller/Screw Presses used in the Animal Fats and Vegetable Oil Processing Industries.
- 2** We guarantee quick and reliable deliveries. In addition, we hold stock on many standard items.
- 3** Our products are of the highest quality ensuring excellent product lifetime and maximum cost effectiveness.
- 4** Our agencies are situated world-wide and our technical staff are always available to discuss your problems on site.



Egon Keller OHG
P.O. Box 140150 · D-5630 Remscheid 14 · W-Germany
Telephone (02191) 80319 · Telex 8513473 · Telegrams kellerkek



Carl Aug. Picard
P.O. Box 140304 · D-5630 Remscheid 14 · W-Germany
Telephone (02191) 8531 · Telex 8513809 · Telegrams picardi