

NEW AND/OR INTERESTING IN MICROSCOPY

☺ A topical conference "Microscopy & Microanalysis Resources on the World Wide Web" will be held in conjunction with Microscopy & Microanalysis '96, the MSA-MAS-MSC/SMC Annual Meeting and Conference, on Saturday, 10 August 1996 in Minneapolis, MN. Sponsored by the Microbeam Analysis Society, the topical conference is being organized by John Mansfield (Univ. of Michigan).

Information concerning registration may be found on page 26 of this issue.

Editor's Note: John held a short form version of this conference at last year's MAS Conference. It was very interesting and very well attended. Your early registration is therefore suggested.

☺ *The Microscope* is an international, peer-reviewed journal started by Arthur Barron in 1937 and is dedicated to the advancement of all forms of microscopy for the biologist, mineralogist, metallographer or chemist. *The Microscope* emphasizes new advances in microscope design, new accessories, new techniques, and unique applications to the study of particles, films, or surfaces of any material.

The Microscope is published quarterly by the McCrone Research Institute with David A. Stoney as Editor.

Subscription information may be obtained from Lori Krummick, Microscope Publications at (312)842-7100, Fax: (312)842-1078.

☺ Greg Erdos, University of Florida, has been archiving information relating to biological microscopy from the Microscopy Listserv and other sources. There are now more than 45 topics available. In addition to hoping that others can make good use of this information, he invites contributions, as well as comments. To access, go to:

<http://www.biotech.ufl.edu/emcl>

And then click the Wizard on the Tips and Tricks block.

☺ **Birth Dates Compared With Academic Success!**

According to a recent report, a Takanari Gotoda at Hammersmith Hospital, London, has compared month of birth with academic success for 2,525 people who graduated from the University of Tokyo's medical school during the past 25 years.

His "bottom line" is that groups born during summer and winter differ significantly, being highest in summer (July) and lowest in winter (February). A possible reason, he suggests, is that babies born in the summer spend their first couple of months relatively free of restraint by heavy clothes, are less likely to be ill, and have the opportunity to stay outdoors.

Should it not follow, here in the U.S., that scientists born in the winter in the North are significantly dumber than those born in the winter from the South?

☺ The course "Fundamentals and Applications of Light Microscopy" will be offered on June 16-21, 1996 in Burlington, Vermont.

Experienced microscopy problem-solvers will teach a 5-day practical course on how to get maximum information from light microscopy. This hands-on course will provide a full range of reflected and transmitted light microscopes, as well as contrast equipment, for use by the students. Students are encouraged to bring their own samples.

The course will be applicable to all disciplines using light microscopy. Although ideal for beginners, it is designed as an advanced workshop, with the opportunity to concentrate on light microscopy in a relaxed environment.

The instructors are: Philip Robinson, ret., Staffordshire University, U.K.; Mary McCann, ret., Polaroid; Robert Hoffman, inventor of the Hoffman Modulation Contrast System; Bob James, Metropolitan (London) Forensic Science Laboratory, and Dennis O'Leary, MicroOptical Methods.

For further information or to receive a course brochure, contact Mary McCann, tel.: (617)484-7865, fax: (617)484-2490, eMail: mccanns@tiac.net

☺ *Just a little note from the bureaucratic world of industry. I ordered and received a copy of the software "Electron Flight Simulator" from Small World, for my EDS system. Today, my supervisor informed me that Accounts Payable kicked it back and that the company "will not sanction the purchase of computer games" . . . enjoy!*

Bob Citron

Chiron Vision Corp., Claremont, CA

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