

Newsletter #13

September 30, 2011

From the President's Office

What would you say? By Bego Gerber

So there you are standing in this elevator at a conference, and who comes on but Bill Gates. He sees "Chemists Without Borders" on your conference badge and says, "So what do you folks do?" What is your reply? [Psst! You have fewer than 10 seconds.]

"Thanks for asking, Mr. Gates. We solve humanitarian problems by mobilizing the resources and expertise of the global chemistry community and its network," you respond smoothly. [Bravo! Practice, practice, practice, until it flows "trippingly off the tongue".] [KISS, keep it short, soldier.]

He says, "Tell me more - I have a minute." SO, you say enthusiastically, "Well, water, of course, arsenic now, to be specific, Bangladesh first, working with Grainger Challenge Prize winners. Then there are medicines and vaccines - but you know, so many of the issues are about replication and distribution, don't you think? Someone has a solution over here, but it's not being used over there to address a quite similar problem. We're focused on duplicating proven solutions first, innovation second. We're also growing our organization so that our own processes and procedures can be easily duplicated by others."

"And we're not a charity. We're building entrepreneurship into our programs so that those we help can become more prosperous and help others to do the same, teaching people how to become more valuable in the marketplace. Oh, and then there's the disaster response network we're building, and ?... WELL, I could go on for hours. Tell me, please, would you like to learn more about what we are doing?" [Good job, under 60 seconds!]

"How long have you been in operation?" "We're just getting started." [We're going to be around for decades to come, so this will be true for quite some time yet.]

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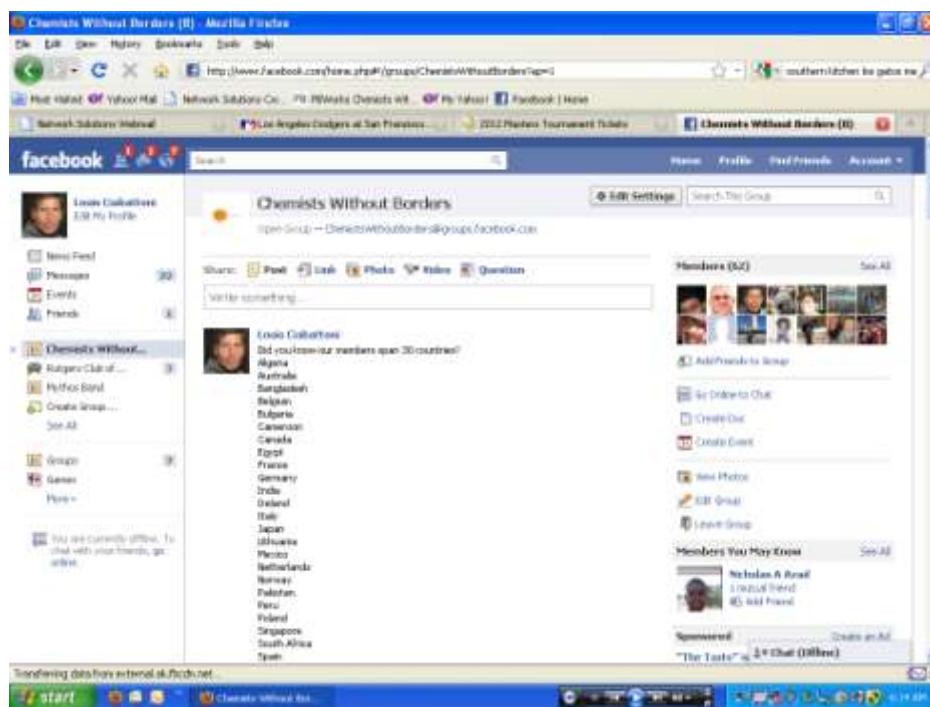
Chapter/Regional News

Communication

You can participate in our brainstorming sessions that happen at our twice-monthly [Thursday Conference Calls](#) at 9 AM Pacific time on the first Thursday of every month and 12 noon on the third Thursday.

When you filled out your subscription request, we found a breadth of experience and passion that is truly inspiring. As Chemists Without Borders is developing initiatives in Arsenic Remediation, in Green Chemistry Education, and in Disaster Relief, we are also asking for your assistance. As we perform our due diligence in our projects and operations, we need your insight and expertise. [See below for ideas.](#)

While the Internet joins us all, face-to-face networking is also important because developing personal relationships builds stronger communities. Can you host a meeting in your region? To start a Chemists Without Borders Member Meeting in your area or country, contact [Lou Ciabattoni](#) to find out how many members are in your state, in your region, or at your university. Our Regional Member Meeting kits will give you the tools and ideas to have a successful Chemists Without Borders gathering.



Chemists Without Borders Facebook Group (60+ members) – [Join Today!](#)

BAMM

Keep your eyes open for the Bay Area Members Meeting in October, 2011.

The Fall 2011 Bay Area Membership Meeting (BAMM in Northern California) is being planned. Chemists Without Borders is looking for a corporate or university facility to hold BAMM.

Our current plans are to have a 3 hour meeting with networking (including beverages and appetizers) and speakers. Bego Gerber, President of Chemists Without Borders, will discuss our vision and mission; Louis Ciabattoni will explain Member Activities and invite you to get involved. Ronelly bem Taborite will explain the progress we've made in enhancing access to clean water for rural Bangladeshis. We will post the BAMM proceedings on our website, so you can watch BAMM online.

Keep an eye on our [Facebook page](#) or contact [Lou Ciabattoni](#) for more information.

Partner News

AIDSfreeAFRICA

Full Scale Drug Production in Cameroon!

A year ago [Rolande Hodel](#) wrote in the [AIDSfreeAFRICA blog](#) that drug production was still to come. It has! Since January 2011 Cinpharm has been running full scale production. The factory is set up to produce large amounts of tablets and IV fluids producing diverse types of drugs including antibiotics, antifungals, pain killers, to name a few.

A 24 million dollar company, built in an infrastructure-poor setting faces many challenges. Right now the quality control department is in need of HPLC (High Pressure Liquid Chromatography) donations. AIDSfreeAFRICA is seeking three **Agilent 1260 Series HPLCs** or similar instruments manufactured by Waters Corporation. Cinpharm currently owns and operates two Agilent 1260 Series machines. AIDSfreeAFRICA will gladly accept a tax deductible donation of the instruments. AIDSfreeAFRICA has experience in container shipping and customs.

AIDSfreeAFRICA is also looking for senior management personnel who speak at least some French and who would love a challenge volunteering (for cost of living pay) for a year to run one of the production, quality control, or packaging departments.

Please, if anyone reading this can help AIDSfreeAFRICA achieve these goals, contact Rolande Hodel at RRHodel@aol.com for more information.

Member News

Lou Ciabattoni, Membership Manager

Lou Ciabattoni is responsible for managing over 450 members in 30 countries. Lou obtained his BA from Rutgers University in New Brunswick, NJ and moved to the Bay Area in 1988. After starting his career as a biochemist in the Toxicology division of Mobil Oil, Lou has spent most of his career designing scientific software applications, such as SQL*LIMS. Lou is helping Chemists Without Borders better manage, communicate, and interact with our members, chapters, and partners.



Corporate Officers and Directors

President [Bego Gerber](#)
Vice-President [Steve Chambreau](#)
Secretary [Lois Ongley](#)

Directors: Bego Gerber, Steve Chambreau,
Rolande Hodel (AIDSfreeAfrica)

Open Positions

[Click here to see the job descriptions.](#)

What can I do?

Did you know that you are one of more than 450 volunteers across 30 countries that make up Chemists Without Borders? With all that is going on in the world, it is comforting to know that we all care enough to donate our time. What can you do? Take a look at the list below and find something that fits your time and expertise. **We need your help** for a few hours a week or for many hours. Even if you yourself are unavailable, perhaps you know someone who knows someone who is available. The Power is in the Network.

Organization Staff

Membership

Chapter Development (University, Regional)
Partner Relations (Red Cross, Hands On Network, other humanitarian orgs)
Social Networks Supporter (Facebook, Linked In, Google+, ACS Network, etc.)

Fundraising Team

Development Officer
Researchers

Marketing Team

Social Media
Stock Photographs Acquisitions

Information Technology

Social Media
Technology Evaluator
IT Assistant

Operations Team

Executive Director
Chief Operating Officer
Corporate Historian
Corporate Librarian

Initiative Teams

Clean Water

Arsenic Remediation Team (working to enhance the distribution of a CIM arsenic filter)

Advisory Committee Lead - 1 person
Advisory Committee Members (4 persons with expertise in cultural/country analysis, geology, chemistry, water)
Partnership Development Manager - 1 person
Project Lead – Manufacturing - 1 person
Project Lead - Documentation and Standardization - 1 person
Project Lead – Training - 1 person
Project Lead - Country Replication - 1 person

Disaster Services

Project Manager

Affordable Medicines & Vaccines

Project Manager

Education Team

Curriculum Development (Environmental Management and Science BSc degrees)

Assistants in course description

Green Chemistry Education

Project Manager

Special Thanks

Nina Paquette and Dhruti Shah worked intensely on developing donor-friendly mission and vision statements. Their efforts are much appreciated.

Lou Ciabattoni has also put the “active” in active volunteer. Most of you have been the recipient of his efforts to forge strong inter-member relationships.

Ronelly bem Taborite has undertaken the leadership role in the “arsenic” project and is looking forward to the growth of our Clean Water activities.

Funding

Chemists Without Borders is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization incorporated in the State of California. It is funded by donations and grants. You may help us in our efforts as there are several ways to donate to Chemists Without Borders. Please donate via [Paypal](#) or send a check directly to Bego Gerber, President, Chemists Without Borders, 745 S. Bernardo Avenue #A121, Sunnyvale, CA 94087. In addition, should you have contacts at foundations or other institutions that might be interested in supporting Chemists Without Borders, please send us a contact name and phone number. We encourage you to promote Chemists Without Borders to your friends and colleagues, as we need a broad spectrum of expertise – not just chemistry – to meet our goals. The Power is in the Network.



Chemists Without Borders is a public benefit, non-profit, international humanitarian organization designed to alleviate human suffering through the use of proven chemical technologies and related skills.

Our primary goals include, but are not limited to, providing affordable medicines and vaccines to those who need them most, supplying clean water in developing countries, facilitating sustainable energy technologies, supporting green chemistry education, and providing emergency disaster relief.

Chemists Without Borders alleviates human suffering in developing countries by:

Mobilizing global resources and expertise, knowledge and creativity

Developing self-reliance operating models

Organizing around sharable processes and activities

Partnering through social entrepreneurs and humanitarian organizations