

# OPTICAL SOCIETY

ROCHESTER SECTION

## ROSA News

July 2011

### ROSA 2011-2012 Council Members

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Mari de Wit

Joe Vornehm

Cisca Sugiro

### Mark your calendars...

Our program co-chairs have been hard at work putting together speakers and topics for the 2011-2012 program. Our first talk of the year will be on Tuesday September 13th. Dan Harris from NAVAIR will speak on the "History of MRF." The rest of the program will be available soon! If you have any ideas for great talks or interesting subjects please send your suggestions to [program@osarochester.org](mailto:program@osarochester.org).

### In the news...

Earlier this month Citizens Bank announced the establishment of a Citizens Bank Future Optics Scholarship to highlight careers in the optics industry and raise awareness about the growing number of employment opportunities in the local optics industry. "The bank is providing a \$40,000 grant toward a workforce development program. The Citizens Bank Future Optics Scholarship will support Monroe Community College students in optics or electrical engineering technology programs. Its public awareness campaign will include outreach to middle and high school students and to current job seekers." For more information please see <http://www.rbj.net/article.asp?aID=188054>.

### Did you know...

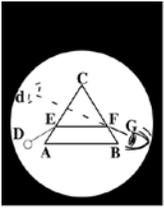
Were you aware that we are approaching our 100th anniversary in as little as 4 years? In honor of our upcoming anniversary we will be including a short biography section highlighting one of our past presidents each month. This month's spotlight is on our first president: Perley Gilman Nutting. Perley Gilman Nutting (1873–1949) was the founder of the Optical Society of America and served as its first president from 1916-1917.

It was November 18, 1915 when nine Rochester scientists met at the University of Rochester: four from Eastman Kodak Co., four from Bausch & Lomb, and one from the University. They met again a week later, and again on December 7th, when they formed an Optical Society and named it "The Rochester Association for Advancement of Applied Optics." On January 4, 1916, they held their first meeting.

Upon multiple requests from "optics types" elsewhere to join,<sup>1,2</sup> Perley Gilman Nutting was more than willing to adapt the constitution and by-laws to form a national society. By doing this they established the first OSA Local Section in 1916, in Rochester, New York (USA). Ninety years later the OSA has evolved into the professional home for 14,000 optical physicists and engineers around the globe, with thousands of individual section members located in OSA Local Sections around the world. In recognition of its global reach and focus, since 2008 the Society has been known as OSA—The Optical Society.

(cont. on next page)

The ROSA Newsletter was created last year to keep you informed about the activities of our local chapter of the Optical Society. We would like to include your stories and any information you feel we should share. Please e-mail your suggestions to [secretary@osarochester.org](mailto:secretary@osarochester.org).



# OPTICAL SOCIETY

ROCHESTER SECTION

Perley Gilman Nutting (1873–1949) was the founder of the Optical Society of America and served as its first president from 1916-1917.

- 1897 Ph.D. Cornell University
- 1899 University of California: Academic Colleges: Master Graduate
- 1899 Stanford University
- 1903 Physicist with the U.S. Bureau of Standards, Washington D.C.
- 1903 Optical engineer, Eastman Kodak Co. Residence, 11 Fair View Heights, Rochester, N.Y.
- 1904 Constructed one of the earliest, if not the first, neon sign, which was displayed at the Louisiana Purchase Exposition; however, this story has been disputed<sup>3</sup>
- 1906 Ph.D., 3 Kodak Park, Rochester, N. Y.
- 1910 Staff member at Eastman Kodak Company
- 1912 George Washington University, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Physics
- 1912 Author of "Outlines of Applied Optics"
- 1917 Director of Research at Westinghouse, Pittsburgh, P.A.
- 1924 Geophysicist with the Geological Survey
- 1943 Retired



## References:

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.opnmagazine-digital.com/opn/200902?pg=14&pm=2&fs=1#pg14>

<sup>2</sup> NBS, Yale and Cornell

<sup>3</sup> [http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Making\\_Neon\\_Signs](http://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Making_Neon_Signs), and John K. Howard, "OSA's First Four Presidents," OPN, February 2009.

- [http://wn.com/perley\\_g\\_nutting\\_/#/biography](http://wn.com/perley_g_nutting_/#/biography)

- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perley\\_G.\\_Nutting](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Perley_G._Nutting)

- Past presidents of OSA-RS: <http://www.osarochester.org/presidents.html>

(Content taken from "Common Origins of The Institute of Optics and the Optical Society of America" by Susan Houde-Walter, *A Jewel in the Crown*, 2004)

- Past presidents of OSA national:

[http://www.osa.org/About\\_Osa/Leadership\\_and\\_Volunteers/Officers/Past\\_Presidents.aspx](http://www.osa.org/About_Osa/Leadership_and_Volunteers/Officers/Past_Presidents.aspx)

## Books by Perley Nutting:

<http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/webbin/book/lookupname?key=Nutting%2C%20P.%20G.%20%28Perley%20Gilman%29%2C%20b.%201873>

<http://onlinebooks.library.upenn.edu/webbin/book/lookupname?key=Nutting%2C%20Perley%20Gilman%2C%201873->

## ***And here's where you can help us:***

***Although it's still a few years away, we are soliciting input from you, members of the Optics Society and beyond, for any thoughts, ideas, suggestions or other ways to celebrate the milestone 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the OSA Rochester Section. In the meantime your local '96 year old' council will feature past presidents in our future newsletters.***

by Mari de Wit (Councilor-at-Large)



**Rochester Section Council Meeting  
Education Committee Report  
Optical Society of America  
07/13/11  
By S. Jacobs and T. Pfuntner**



- We shipped 3 *Suitcases* to groups who had responded to the OSAF website with orders (i.e., they were willing to pay!)

Date - #	Recipient	Location
06/22/11 #349	Full (paid) to Prof. Anton Middleberg, University of Queensland, no program description	St. Lucia, Queensland, Australia
06/22/11 #350	Full (paid) to Lee Bartolomei, Deposition Sciences, Inc., no program description	Santa Rosa, CA
06/28/11 #351	Full (paid) to Jessica Bitting, Cross Keys Middle School, no program description	Florissant, MO

- On 6/28 we sent an update on *Suitcase* supplies costs to Meredith Smith at OSAF. Not much had changed since last February.
- On 7/13 we will participate in a conference call with OSAF to discuss *Suitcase* distributions for the remainder of 2011 and for 2012.
- Terri gets married on 7/23, so there are no *Suitcase* orders going out for July and most of August.
- Photos from Prof Kathy Richardson (Clemson) and her PhD student Benn Gleason (beard): Savannah GA “Science Olympiad Team” visit at May Howard Middle School on Wilmington Island (Chatham County), Georgia. Ms. Susan Daly is the host Science teacher. May 2011

