

Nominations for 1993 Coblentz Society Awards

Nominations are requested for the 1993 Coblentz, Williams–Wright, and Ellis Lippincott Awards sponsored by the Coblentz Society. Additional support for the Lippincott Award comes from the Optical Society of America and the Society for Applied Spectroscopy.

The Coblentz Award is presented annually at the Pittsburgh Conference and Exposition to an outstanding young spectroscopist. The award winner receives a \$1000 prize and a travel allowance. Nominees must be under the age of 36 as of January 1, 1993. Nominations should include a detailed description of the individual's accomplishments, a curriculum vitae, and as many supporting letters as possible. For more information, contact Hai-Lung Dai, Department of Chemistry, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (215-898-8313). Deadline is Aug. 1.

The Williams–Wright Award is also presented annually at the Pittsburgh Conference and Exposition. The award, which includes a \$1000 prize and a travel allowance, is presented to an industrial spectroscopist who has made significant contributions to the field of vibrational spectroscopy. Nominations should consist of a curriculum vitae, a statement of the nominee's significant contributions, and citations of any publications or talks. Seconding letters are useful but not necessary. Files on nominees are kept active for three years, after which time the candidate must be renominated. For more information, contact Barry Streusand, Applied Analytical, 9909 Burnet Rd., Austin TX 78758 (512-339-1462). Deadline is June 1.

The Ellis Lippincott Award honors a researcher for significant contributions and notable achievements that have influenced scientists in the field of vibrational spectroscopy. It is awarded annually at an appropriate scientific meeting. The winner receives a medal and a travel allowance. Nominations should include sufficient background information to justify the nomination. As with the Williams–Wright Award, files on Lippincott Award nominees are kept active for three years, after which time the candidate must be renominated. For more information, contact Jarus Quinn, Optical Society of America, 2020 Massachusetts Ave., N.W., Washington DC 20036 (202-416-1400). Deadline is Oct. 1.

Starcar

The downside of attending scientific meetings is having to travel and sleeping in a strange bed. Wouldn't it be great to attend a meeting halfway across the country and still be home at night to walk the dog? Or did you ever wish that you could just hop down to the Bahamas for an afternoon on the beach?

Steven Crow, professor of aerospace and mechanical engineering at the University of Arizona, is working to

make your dreams come true. "Starcar" combines the advantages of a personal automobile with the speed of flight. It will be guided by the Global Positioning System (GPS), a group of satellites that can pinpoint the position of single GPS receivers to within 100 m anywhere on Earth. This system was used during Operation Desert Storm to guide aircraft in low-visibility conditions.

Crow and his colleagues used a differential GPS system to pilot a van to within a 1-m accuracy around a 400-m test track (on the ground). Because the differential system uses two receivers—one in the vehicle and the other at a fixed base station—it is possible to attain 1-m accuracy, as opposed to the 100-m accuracy of a single GPS receiver. Improvements in the differential system will reduce the 1-m error to about 20 cm.

The pilot/driver will fly Starcar through a series of rings, like a view down a tunnel, displayed on a video screen in the vehicle. These "skyways" will be cheap to build or re-route; the source of the coordinates for the skyways will be the GPS.

Pilot/driver control will be minimal. Automatic controls will not allow the Starcar to stray from the tunnel or come too close to another Starcar. The pilot/driver will be able to guide the vehicle down off-ramps, displayed on the video screen, onto intersecting skyways or to a transformer station where the vehicle will be changed from flight mode to road mode.

Nominations for the Suttle Award

Nominations are requested for the 1992 Suttle Award, sponsored by The Filtration Society. The award will be given for the best paper on filtration and separation written between June 1990 and June 1992. It consists of a check for £250 and a certificate. Entrants must be no older than 31 as of the deadline date, June 30, 1992. For further information, contact the Secretary, The Filtration Society, 48 Springfield Rd., Horsham, Sussex RH12 2PD, U.K. (44-0403-59419; fax 44-0403-65005).

For Your Information

The Education Department of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry (AACC) has published the 1992 edition of *Graduate and Postdoctoral Training Programs in Clinical Chemistry*. The directory lists graduate and postgraduate clinical chemistry programs in the United States and Canada, both accredited and nonaccredited. *Clinical Chemistry—Is the Challenge for You?* is a career education brochure that describes the profession, typical education requirements, work environments, and job responsibilities. These two free publications can be obtained by contacting Claire House, Education Department, AACC, 2029 K St., N.W., Washington, DC 20006 (202-835-8701 or 800-892-1400; fax 202-887-5093).