Northwest Section Meeting
September 25, 2012

I. Welcome & Introduction – Susan Matter
   A. The Northwest Section Meeting and Dinner was held at Stanford’s Jantzen Beach in Portland OR. There were 19 attendees (15 members; 4 guests). Section officer not in attendance was Vice Chair, LaShurya Wise, Nike.
   B. After our meeting was a presentation on “What is Color and How Do We See It?” Our speaker, Ralph Bliquez from Ewing-Foley talked about the differences between natural and artificial light, how it is perceived and how it is measured; the development of a new Color Quality Scale to address the limitations of the Color Rendering Index; and technical aspects of bulb technologies along with a comparison of illumination with new LED and “full spectrum color” lamps.
   C. Following the presentation, the members visited with Ralph and during dinner we had an enjoyable time viewing and sharing our personal comments about the many bulb samples.

II. Announcements – Susan Matter
   A. As Lauren Dalton our elected Program Chair in the Seattle area has given her resignation, Susan will be contacting one of our section members to fill this vacancy.
   B. Our next meeting will be in Seattle and will be our annual meeting and holiday event.

III. Review & Approval of Minutes of February 22, 2012 meeting – Rita Holland
   A. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Nancy PeBenito and seconded by Kham Viengkham. Motion passed.

IV. Membership Report – May Mills
   A. May reported that our section has 102 members that included 71 senior, associate and retirees; 31 student members and 6 corporate members.

V. Program Announcements – Nancy PeBenito and
   A. Nancy reported that there are several upcoming events over the next two months, including a symposium on “Advances in Nonwovens, Technical Textiles & Functional Materials” on October 10-11 in Atlanta GA; a seminar on “Performance Textiles: Technologies & Testing” at the IFAI Expo in Boston MA on November 8; the AATCC Fall Committee meeting at Research Triangle Park NC on November 13-15.
   B. Be sure to go to the AATCC website for the calendar of other events.
   C. Susan mentioned that the cost to attend these meetings is very reasonable with a members discount as well as a great opportunity for networking and making contacts.

VI. Old Business
   A. Nancy has volunteered to be our Student Scholarship Chair. We are looking for at least two additional members. Please contact Nancy at: pebe2@comcast.net.
VII. New Business
   A. Nancy asked that members contact her about signing up to be involved with our student mentor program. The program includes job shadowing, career path development, resumes, book clubs and such. Investment of this learning experience for the students would be a couple of times a quarter.

VIII. Treasurer’s Report - Kham Viengkham
   A. The NW Section balance is currently $2,826. This included income from AATCC Section reimbursements, cash disbursements and pending transactions.

IX. Adjournment
   A. Motion to adjourn was made by Rita Holland and seconded by Kham Viengkham. Motion passed.

X. Conference speaker

Ralph Bliquez

Ralph works for Ewing-Foley, a distributor for GE Lighting.

He began his career in the electrical industry in 1979.

Ralph has focused on product training for distributor partners and end users as well as electricians at the NECA/IBEW facilities and the IEC schools. He also began a long association with the principal electrical engineering firms in the Northwest.

He holds a Master’s Degree in English Literature from the University of California, Santa Barbara (1973), and passed preliminary electrical engineering classes from Portland Community College (1980).

In addition to his other responsibilities, Ralph is licensed by the State of Oregon to teach six Continuing Education Classes on the 2011 code for electricians and engineers.

Ralph is Past Chairman of the National Electrical Manufacturers Representatives Association, Past Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Jesuit High School, a Regent of the University of Portland, a four-time finisher of the Boston Marathon and a mediocre golfer.

Ralph is married; has two children and four grandchildren and lives in Portland.