

# OPTICAL SOCIETY

ROCHESTER SECTION

## ROSA News

March 2012

### ROSA 2011-2012 Council Members

#### President

Julie Bentley

#### Past President

Rick Plympton

#### President Elect

Chris Palmer

#### Secretary

Cristina Canavesi

#### Treasurer

Jessica Nelson

#### Education

Steve Jacobs

#### Program Co-Chairs

Ted Mooney

Damon Diehl

#### House Co-Chairs

Melissa Geng

Monica Sears

Yuhong Yao

#### IT Chair

Blair Unger

#### Councilors at Large

Stephanie Bloch

Mari de Wit

Joe Vornehm

Cisca Sugiro

### Sign up Now to Attend the Annual Meeting!

Our Annual Business Meeting and Dinner will be held on Tuesday, April 17, 2012 at the Burgundy Basin Inn, 1361 Marsh Road, Pittsford, NY. Our featured speaker is Greg Gbur, of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte: *"How not to be seen: a brief history of the science of invisibility"*. This promises to be an informative and interesting talk for technical and non-technical audiences alike, so we encourage you to attend. Bring family members and friends!

The meeting will also include an election of officers (the 2012-2013 nomination slate is listed at the end of the newsletter) and we will be voting on some minor changes to the Bylaws. To make additional nominations, any OSA-RS member may write to [secretary@osarochester.org](mailto:secretary@osarochester.org), or to OSA-RS c/o RES, 150 State St., Rochester, NY 14614-1353. Written nominations must be received by Friday, March 30, 2012. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the Annual Business Meeting (in which case the election will be by voice vote, rather than by written ballot).

Please visit <http://www.osarochester.org/AnnualDinner.html> by April 6 for reservations.

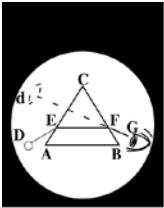
### Help Needed ... 2012 Educator's Day Chairperson

Science Educator's Day (EDAY) is a key OSA outreach program held annually during Frontiers in Optics. The goal of EDAY is to advance youth science education by providing teachers with hands-on activities emphasizing easily replicated optical experiments. The event is cosponsored by OSA, through a grant and staff resources, but the local OSA representatives are the true impetus behind the program. Each year, OSA calls upon its local and student chapters in the meeting's host city, to organize and support this important outreach opportunity. EDAY is a wonderful way for local OSA affiliates to support their communities and inspire tomorrow's young scientists. EDAY is currently looking for its 2012 chairperson - if you have any interest please contact Kathryn Amatruo at OSA ([kamatruo@osa.org](mailto:kamatruo@osa.org)).

### A Bit of History ... by Mari de Wit

This month's spotlight is on Henry F. Kurtz who served as our local ROSA president in 1923. Mr. Kurtz was born March 3, 1888 and died on January 7, 1958. He lived at 31 Highland Parkway in Rochester. He married Erma Jane Sweeting on May 11, 1935. They had no children. He has many patents to his name, has written many papers, and was Secretary for the National OSA for 9 years. From an excerpt from the 1942 issue of the Journal of the Optical Society of America regarding his resignation:

*"One other matter to be mentioned is that of the resignation of Mr. Henry F. Kurtz as treasurer, effective January 1, 1942. To him, for his efficient and careful services in that office for the past nine years, the Society is extremely grateful. It recognizes, however, that the demands made on his time, freely given, have been heavy and that it is appropriate that the task shall now be assumed by another. In his successor, we shall look for the same high ideal of service to the Society."*




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HENRY FREDERICK KURTZ,  
165 Sanford Street, Rochester, N. Y.  
Musical Clubs, (2-3).

Kurz means short; seidle means pint;  
The latter were better we think,  
For were there but shorts and never a long,  
What a bother it would be to drink.



*A special thank you to Nancy Martin from the Univ. of Rochester library who helped provide this photo and other information for this article from the alumni archives!*

### **Short Biography:**

- 1913: UofR class member (non-graduate), studied at UofR from 1909-1912  
He prepared at the Mechanics Institute (now called RIT)
- 1923: Service rendered as a civilian: "Design and control in the construction of range finders, gunsights, periscopes and other fire-control and observation instruments."
- 1928+: Optical Engineer in the scientific bureau at Bausch & Lomb Optical Co.
- 1932: Member in Sigma Xi: Scientific Research Society.
- 1949: Retired

### **Other Achievements/References:**

- It also appears that he was involved with the Motion Picture Exhibitors' League at which time he may have been either an officer or member of the local Lyric Theatre. Theater programs show that this theater was showing double features from 1929 through the early 1930's and that it was still operating as a movie theatre in 1950.
- 1922 The diptrometer, an apparatus for measuring the power of commercial lenses: Henry F. Kurtz, Bausch & Lomb. Also see: "<http://www.museyeum.org/detail.php?t=objects&type=all&f=s&s=kurtz&record=0>"

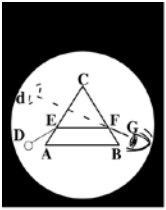
## **Small Telescopes for Military Use**

### ***The Functions and Properties of Telescopic Apparatus***

By Henry F. Kurtz\*

**P**RACTICALLY all military optical instruments are telescopic in nature. It is the purpose of this article to lay the fundamental theory of the telescope before the

**T**HE diagram, Fig. 1, represents the astronomical telescope. The objective O and the eyepiece E are represented as single lenses for simplicity. They are separated a



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## *Links/Papers:*

- 1923: Henry F. Kurtz, "The Dioptrimeter," J. Opt. Soc. Am. **7**, 103-123  
<http://www.opticsinfobase.org/abstract.cfm?URI=josa-7-1-103>
- 1929: National Defense Vol.10: Small Telescopes for Military Use The Functions and Properties of Telescopic Apparatus By *Henry F. Kurtz\** - (see image below)
- 1932: Kurtz, Henry F. Optical Glass in America, and important thread in the fabric of National defense. Army Ordnance 12 (Jan./Feb.) 251-254.
- 1937: Henry F. Kurtz, "Orthostereoscopy," J. Opt. Soc. Am. 27, 323-336  
<http://www.opticsinfobase.org/abstract.cfm?URI=josa-27-10-323>
- 1938: American Machinist Vol.82: "Scope and Limitation of the Projection Method for Shop Measurement," by *Henry F. Kurtz*.

A few of his patents can be examined here:

- [Projection apparatus \(15-Dec-1936\)](#)
- [Substage lamp \(10-Mar-1936\)](#)
- [His microscope patent](#)

\*[http://www.silentfilmstillarchive.com/rochester\\_lyric\\_oct\\_19\\_1930.htm](http://www.silentfilmstillarchive.com/rochester_lyric_oct_19_1930.htm)

## An Update from OSA on the Optics Suitcase...

In March, an abbreviated version of the Suitcase Teaching Guide was translated into four languages: Spanish, German, Portuguese and Mandarin Chinese. These translated guides will allow educators around the world to utilize this important tool more effectively. In September, OSA Staff reached out to Student Chapters in advance of their Leadership Conference to determine whether some Chapter representatives would be interested in carrying a Suitcase home from the meeting. 25 Student Chapters opted to pick up a Suitcase at Leadership, and many more joined the waiting list to receive one at a later date. This model allowed OSA to save on shipping funds and increased awareness of the Suitcases among Student Chapters, and will be repeated in 2012 at CLEO and Leadership/FiO.

In early 2011, over 100 organizations had joined the waiting list to receive suitcases. OSA Staff evaluated these requests, giving "priority points" for those meeting any of the following criteria:

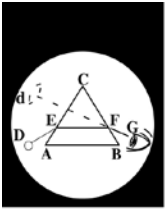
- Organization has never received an Optics Suitcase
- OSA Student Chapter/Local Section
- Developing Nation
- New country for Optics Suitcase
- Deadline for receiving Optics Suitcase (in some cases, the Suitcase is needed for a specific scheduled activity; others have no such deadline)

Note: any organization or individual purchasing a Suitcase receives the next available one. At 2011 year-end, 27 organizations remained on the waiting list; as of March 12, 2012, 17 of these organizations await receipt of a Suitcase.

ROSA plans to create another 70-80 Optics Suitcases in 2012. These will be distributed to:

- Organizations already on the waiting list
- OSA Student Chapters and Local Sections (by request, with another large-scale distribution planned for Leadership in October 2012)
- OSA Teacher Members (by request)
- Organizations newly joining the waiting list

In addition, the Optics Suitcase request form will re-launch on OSA.org, with options to purchase, donate or request a granted Suitcase.



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## Nomination slate for the 2012–2013 OSA-RS Council:

President-Elect:	Damon Diehl, Monroe Community College
President: <sup>1</sup>	Chris Palmer, Richardson Gratings
Past President: <sup>1</sup>	Julie Bentley, University of Rochester
Treasurer:	Blair Unger, Blu Optics
Secretary:	Dan Christensen, University of Rochester
Councilors:	Mishkatul Bhattacharya, Rochester Institute of Technology Stephanie Bloch, QVI Cisca Sugiro, RCPaiszley Joseph Vornehm, University of Rochester
Program Co-Chairs: <sup>2</sup>	Mari de Wit, QED Technologies Dan Staloff, Corning
House Co-Chairs: <sup>2</sup>	Monica Sears, Rochester Institute of Technology (until Fall 2012) Julien Mailfert, Rochester Institute of Technology (from Fall 2012) Yuhong Yao, University of Rochester
Education Chair: <sup>2</sup>	Steve Jacobs, University of Rochester
Information Technology Chair: <sup>2</sup>	Pete McCarthy, University of Rochester

<sup>1</sup> Chris Palmer, this year's President-Elect, will serve as President next year. Julie Bentley, our current President, will continue service next year as Past President.

<sup>2</sup> Committee chairs are appointed by the President, not elected.

Congratulations to this year's nominees!