

Annual Report 2011



Board of Directors:

Bego Gerber, President and Chairman of the Board
Rolande Hodel, Board Member
Steve Chambreau, Vice President and Board Member

President's Letter

Chemists Without Borders has started what will be an exciting year 2012 by revising its Mission and Vision statements, as shown below. The purpose of this effort was not to change the mission and vision, but to clarify the existing expression of them. Thanks are owed to all the members of the executive leadership team for this effort.

Our Mission

Chemists Without Borders solves humanitarian problems by mobilizing the resources and expertise of the global chemistry community and its networks.

Our Vision

A global support network of volunteers providing mentoring, information and advice to ensure every person, everywhere, has affordable, consistent and persistent access to:

- Essential medicines and vaccines
- Sufficient safe water
- A sustainable energy supply
- Education in green chemistry and business which people can apply in their daily lives and teach to others
- Safe processes in work environments where chemical hazards exist
- Emergency support, including essential supplies and technology

Financial Report

Chemists Without Borders currently operates on a very modest budget. It has benefited from the very generous contributions of its key members and their families, as well as some additional supporters. We are all very grateful for this support. In 2012 we will be raising money for specific field projects.

	December 31, 2010	December 31, 2011	FY10-11
Assets	\$6727.04	7900.82	
Liabilities	\$0.00	\$0.00	
Donations			2608.42
Expenditures			\$1434.64

Thank you to our 2011 donors: John Zavras, Werner Haag, Bob Hansens, Sarah Gerber & Bryan Tolentino, George & Constance Ongley, Judy Lew & Jess Ruefli, and anonymous donors. Nicholas Azad and our Thompson Rivers University Chapter in Kamloops, Canada also raised \$300 on Earth Day, 2011!

Arsenic Project

In an effort to help the 77-95 million people (35 million of whom are children) at risk of ground water arsenic contamination, Chemists Without Borders created the Arsenic Project. Working

with its partner in Bangladesh, the organization is taking its first step in making a difference with a Composite Iron Matrix (CIM) filter, one drop of water at a time. The Arsenic Project's first phase will start with the distribution of 500 CIM filters and sending one of Chemists Without Borders' representatives to observe and document the CIM filter manufacturing and distribution process. The project has been long in the making with several dynamic factors to consider and address. The helpful guidance and cooperation of tireless volunteers allow the Arsenic Project Team to gather all the information, identify the risks and develop mitigating options to minimize the impact on the project's results. Milestones in 2011 include the [validation](#) of the CIM filter and the Arsenator at the Arsenic Field Event held in Boron, CA in March 2011, the development of the project plan, and acquiring a letter of consent to work with the CIM manufacturer to increase production and distribution of the CIM filter in Bangladesh.

Green Chemistry

The Green Chemistry Initiative was started in November of 2011 with John Cihonski leading the effort as project manager. The goal is to identify chemistry-based quality-of-life issues then coordinate and assist in the development and distribution of environmentally sound, cost effective solutions. We anticipate that the needs will fall into three general categories of solutions: Information, Product or Process related. The solutions may be as simple as supplying the appropriate information or referring to an available solution that the needs group is unaware of, or as complicated as requiring a more extensive effort to actually develop a product or process for a novel situation.

Our approach has been to break the potential participants into two groups. The most important is the needs group or the ones with the inadequately addressed problem and not having sufficient resources to solve the problem. The second group is the green community at large that has resources and hopefully a willingness to assist in solving the problem. This group has not been contacted yet. Since the success of this program relies on addressing real problems in a meaningful way, the first order of business has been to identify a sufficient number of potential projects so that we can begin to formulate and initiate meaningful programs. The first tabulation of potential projects has been completed and four ideas were selected for further consideration:

- Processing of dyestuff-contaminated waste water
- Improving water usage efficiency in cotton growing and processing
- Development of a Green Laboratory Kit for chemical education
- Developing a green education and project tracking web site for the rapid and efficient distribution and exchange of information

These ideas are currently being evaluated to insure that Chemists Without Borders is addressing the real problem with sufficient resources to make a difference. Related to this, a considerable amount of time has been spent developing project management machinery to evaluate, initiate, follow and transfer the projects that we are involved in.

Once the project management mechanism has been polished, then an expanded project identification and support effort will be initiated, hopefully with the benefit of the green web site mentioned above. The anticipated timing for this expanded effort is likely to be late Summer to Fall of 2012.

Membership

Chemists Without Borders has over 450 members in 30 countries. Members participate in twice monthly Conference Calls and receive our newsletters. Chemists Without Borders is also reaching out to our membership using Social Media. A growing percentage of members are using our Facebook Group page and Community Page, as well as our LinkedIn Group page.



Chemists Without Borders Facebook Group page

Regional Member Meetings provide the sense of community to local members in promoting new ideas and networking opportunities. Bay Area Member Meetings (BAMM) are posted on YouTube. Organization is available in media kits so members can organize local meetings anywhere in the world. We expect to hold meetings in the Los Angeles area in 2012.

Communications

In 2011, we published 3 newsletters to keep our members, donors and other stakeholders up to date with our progress: [Newsletter 11](#), [Newsletter 12](#), [Newsletter 13](#).

Awards

In 2011, the Executive Committee of Chemists Without Borders awarded Professor Lois Ongley the Distinguished Member of Chemists Without Borders Award for her work. Dr. Ongley brings broad knowledge and expertise, not just in technical and scientific areas, but also in the development of an organization like ours. She is a major player in both our arsenic remediation and green chemistry education efforts. Her passion for teaching and for making a difference have taken her half way around the world and back on our behalf. Lois currently serves as Corporate Secretary of Chemists Without Borders, and with her dedication, patience and initiative, she has made a massive contribution to our growth and development. Lois joins the ranks of only two other Distinguished Members, Nazneen Khanam and K. C. Wang. Lois is a person whom we are most happy to call our friend.

Partnerships

Partnerships with Beyond Benign and Bangladesh University resulted in a Chemists Without Borders visit to the University in Dhaka March 5 – 9, 2011, at the invitation of Mr Jamil Azher and Mr. Shihab Azhar, Trustees of the University. Professor Lois Ongley, Secretary, Chemists Without Borders, and Rachel Podkrandt, Education Consultant, Beyond Benign, spent several busy days as guests of the Trustees and Faculties of Bangladesh University ably assisted by Mr. Shohel Ahsan Nipu and Mr. Taif Sadat. Pharmacy students and faculty members participated in green chemistry lab exercises including extraction of essential fruit oils using liquid carbon dioxide. Ongley participated in the Symposium on the Built Environment expertly organized by Lecturer Mrs. Jubaida Gulshan Asa, and presented her work on arsenic in Mexico the following day. The final days were spent discussing the development of the University of Bangladesh's nascent programs in environmental science and management with members of the Board of Trustees led by Mr. Shihab Azhar. All faculty, staff, and students were very welcoming. We look forward to further collaboration with the trustees, faculty, staff, and students of Bangladesh University.

Volunteer Opportunities

For the following membership volunteer opportunities contact - Louis J Ciabattoni, Membership Manager, ph +1-650-255-2760, louciabattoni@chemistswithoutborders.org

- Help with Chapter Development (University, Regional)
- Help with Partner Relations (Red Cross, Hands On Network, other humanitarian orgs)
- Be a Social Networks "Poster" (Facebook, Linked In, Google+, ACS Network, etc.)

For the following Education Projects volunteer opportunities contact - Lois K Ongley, Education Projects Lead, ph +1-207-948-9120, loisongley@chemistswithoutborders.org

- Project Manager
- Curriculum Development (Environmental Management and Science BSc degrees)
- Assistants for course development
- Green Chemistry Education resources

For the following Clean Water (Arsenic) Projects volunteer opportunities contact - Ronelly Bem Garcia Taborite, Project Manager, ph +1-619-301-7736, ronellytaborite@chemistswithoutborders.org

- Arsenic Remediation Team members (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

For the following corporate volunteer opportunities contact Steven D. Chambreau, Vice-President, ph +1-951-529-1057, stevechambreau@chemistswithoutborders.org

- Executive Director
- Chief Operating Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- Help refine a business plan
- Help with strategic planning
- Communications Director
- Bookkeeper

For the following administrative volunteer opportunities contact - Lois K Ongley, Secretary, ph +1-207-948-9120, loisongley@chemistswithoutborders.org

- Meeting note taker
- Administrative filing and organizing of online documents and folders

For the following Green Chemistry Projects volunteer opportunities contact - John Cihonski, Project Manager, ph +1-408-629-7718, johncihonski@chemistswithoutborders.org

- To be determined (in planning stages)

For the following volunteer opportunities in these project areas contact – Bego Gerber, President, ph +1-408-962-0256, begogerber@chemistswithoutborders.org

- Project Manager - Affordable Medicines & Vaccines
- Project Manager - Disaster Services
- Development Officer - Fundraising Team
- Assistant Development Officer - Fundraising Team
- Grant writers - Fundraising Team

Contact information:

Volunteer, contact and general information: info@chemistswithoutborders.org

Website: www.chemistswithoutborders.org

Weblog: <http://chemistswithoutborders.blogspot.com>