

## Joseph C. Shivers to Receive The Olney Medal

Joseph C. Shivers is this year's recipient of The Olney Medal for achievement in textile chemistry.

A native of Moorestown, N.J., Shivers received a BS with honors in 1942, an MA in 1943, and a PhD in organic chemistry in 1946 from Duke University. He worked for DuPont from 1946-1980 and retired as technical director of the fibers department. While working at DuPont, he was also an instructor with Canisius College.

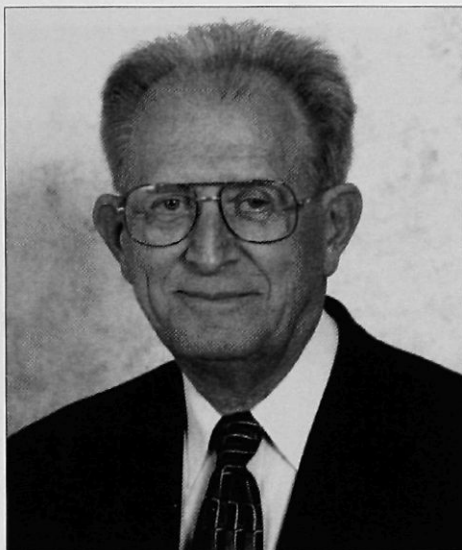
### Professional Activities

Shivers began working at DuPont as a research chemist developing polymers. He first worked on perfecting Orlon and then Dacron polyester. He also started working on a project to develop a synthetic elastomer to replace rubber, then the mainstay of foundation garments. Unable to find a fiber that would snap back like rubber, the project was shelved in 1950, but Shivers had learned much about elastomers and his persistence paid off in the early 1950s when he used an intermediate substance to modify Dacron polyester. The polymer thickened, bounced, and withstood high temperatures. As a result, additional activity sparked in the laboratory and in 1962 DuPont commercialized Lycra, the company's tradename for spandex, the elastic fiber now found in everything from bathing suits to sportswear to underwear. Shivers is credited with developing the basic structural concepts that led to Lycra's discovery.

For his work and the part he played in changing the fibers industry forever, Shivers was awarded DuPont's Lavoisier Medal for technical achievement in 1995. The gold medallion is the company's highest honor for scientists and engineers. He also holds several U.S. and international patents and has authored and co-authored many papers and given several presentations. Shivers is a member of the American Chemical Society and Phi Beta Kappa.

### Personal Data

Shivers and his wife, Margaret Warren Shivers of Shaker Heights, Ohio, reside in Venice, Fla. They have three children—Jeffrey C. Shivers of Erie, Pa., and John A. Shivers and Barbara G. Carolus of Sarasota, Fla. His hobbies



include woodworking, walking, and wine tasting.

### The Olney Medal

Established in 1944 in honor of Dr. Louis Atwell Olney, the founder and first president of AATCC, The Olney Medal recognizes outstanding achievement in textile or polymer chemistry or other fields of chemistry of major importance to textile science. The award consists of a gold medal, a scroll, and an honorarium.

Presentation of the medal each year is a highlight of AATCC conferences. This year the Association will present The Olney Medal at the conference Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, September 23 at the Philadelphia Marriott in Philadelphia, Pa. Shivers will deliver the traditional Olney Medal Address at 2:00 p.m. in the room designated for technical session 4. His topic will be The Search for a Superior Elastic Fiber.

### Previous Recipients

Joseph C. Shivers is the fifty-fifth recipient of The Olney Medal. The first medal was presented to Dr. Olney in 1944. Since then, the Association has awarded the Medal to:

- 1945: Milton Harris of Milton Harris Associates
- 1946: William H. Cady of U.S. Finishing Co.
- 1947: Edward R. Schwarz of Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- 1948: Harold M. Chase of Dan River Mills

- 1949: Charles A. Seibert of the DuPont Co.
- 1950: George L. Royer of American Cyanamid Co.
- 1951: Raymond W. Jacoby of Ciba Co.
- 1952: Werner von Bergen of Forstmann Woolen Co.
- 1953: Roland E. Derby Sr. of the Derby Co.
- 1954: William D. Appel of the National Bureau of Standards
- 1955: Miles A. Dahlen of the DuPont Co.
- 1956: Walter J. Hamburger of Fabric Research Laboratories
- 1957: P. J. Wood of Royce Chemical Co.
- 1958: Henry E. Millson of American Cyanamid Co.
- 1959: Emery I. Valko of Lowell Technological Institute
- 1960: Arnold M. Sookne of Harris Research Laboratories
- 1961: Fred Fortess of Celanese Corp. of America
- 1962: Charles F. Goldthwait of North Carolina State College
- 1963: Giuliana C. Tesoro of J. P. Stevens & Co.
- 1964: Richard O. Steele of Rohm and Haas Co.
- 1965: Herman F. Mark of the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn
- 1966: Wilson A. Reeves of the U.S. Department of Agriculture
- 1967: Edwin I. Stearns of American Cyanamid Co.
- 1968: Harold P. Lundgren of the U.S. Department of Agriculture
- 1969: D. Donald Gagliardi of Gagliardi Research Corp.
- 1970: Paul L. Meunier of the DuPont Co.
- 1971: Ernest R. Kaswell of Fabric Research Laboratories
- 1972: Victor S. Salvin of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- 1973: Herman B. Goldstein of Sun Chemical Corp.
- 1974: Henry A. Rutherford of North Carolina State University
- 1975: R. Lee Wayland Jr. of Dan River Inc.
- 1976: George L. Drake Jr. of the U.S. Department of Agriculture
- 1977: James M. Straley of Tennessee Eastman Co.
- 1978: Dmitry M. Gagarine of Milliken Research Corp.
- 1979: Joseph W. Gibson Jr. of the DuPont Co.
- 1980: Roland E. Derby Jr. of the Derby Co.
- 1981: Mathias J. Schuler of the DuPont Co.
- 1982: Stephen B. Sello of J. P. Stevens & Co.
- 1983: Theodore F. Cooke of Textile Research Institute
- 1984: Ralph McGregor of North Carolina State University
- 1985: Stanley P. Rowland of the U.S. Department of Agriculture

1986: Melvin D. Hurwitz of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
1987: Ludwig Rebenfeld of Textile Research Institute  
1988: Martin K. Lindemann, Consultant  
1989: J. Lee Rush of AlliedSignal Inc.

1990: Hans-Dietrich H. Weigmann of Textile Research Institute  
1991: Robert J. Harper Jr. of the U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1992: Bethlehem K. Andrews of the U.S. Department of Agriculture  
1993: Herbert T. Pratt of the DuPont Co.

1994: J. Nolan Etters of the University of Georgia  
1995: Vivian T. Stannett of North Carolina State University  
1996: Wayne C. Tincher of Georgia Institute of Technology  
1997: Hans H. Kuhn of Milliken Research Corp.

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