

CRYSTALLOGRAPHERS TO GATHER IN ST. LOUIS THIS MONTH

The American Crystallographic Association will hold its annual meeting in St. Louis from 19 to 25 July. During the week-long gathering, an expected 850 crystallographers will attend lectures, poster sessions and workshops covering such current topics as charge-density analysis, ultrahigh resolution and cryocrystallography, and neutron scattering and reflectivity. This year's meeting has been extended by one day, to allow for fewer parallel sessions. The workshops, lectures, poster sessions and exhibits will take place at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, located in historic Union Station in downtown St. Louis.

The meeting will begin with three workshops on Saturday, 19 July, focusing on measuring electron density distributions, structure-based drug design and research at third-generation synchrotron sources, respectively. A fourth workshop, intended for mmCIF (macromolecular crystallographic information file) software developers, will take place on Tuesday. Oral and poster sessions will be held from Sunday through Friday, with 25 half-day sessions and 6 full-day sessions scheduled.

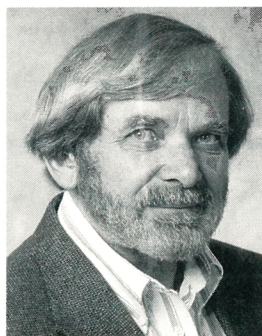
Among the highlights of the meeting will be Monday's ACA transactions symposium on "structural informatics," which will give an overview of archival macromolecular databases and the ways they are used to predict crystal structure. The other scientific sessions will cover macromolecular techniques and structures, small molecules, XAFS (x-ray absorption fine structure) spectroscopy, glass, materials, small-angle scattering and general-interest crystallography. In addition, the evening session on Wednesday will bring together scientists from each of ACA's special-interest groups to discuss "future trends and hot topics" in their fields.

The exhibition show, organized by

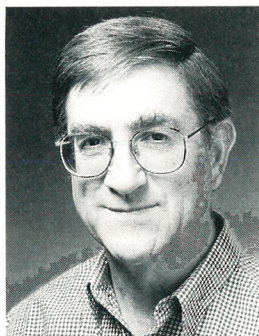
the American Institute of Physics, will present the latest instruments and techniques for sample isolation, purification and preparation, crystal growth and data collection; computer software for data storage, retrieval and analysis; graphics systems and databases; and books and journals. The show will be open Sunday from 3 to 7 pm; Monday through Wednesday from 10 am to 7 pm; and Thursday from 10 am to 1 pm.

Awards

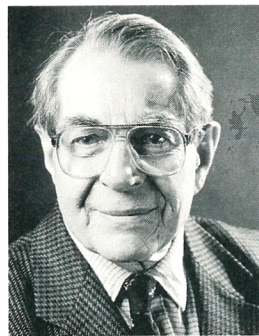
At the awards session on Wednesday afternoon, ACA will honor the work of three individuals. **Carroll K. Johnson** will receive the Buerger Award for his 1965 development of the Oak Ridge Thermal Ellipsoid Plot Pro-



CARROLL K. JOHNSON



DAVID LONG PRICE



CHRISTER NORDMAN

gram, which has become the standard computer program for the graphical display of the x-ray structure of small molecules. "It is one of the few crystallographic programs that has stood the test of time, as valuable today as it was 32 years ago," the award citation notes. Johnson retired from Oak Ridge National Laboratory last October.

The Warren Award will go to **David Long Price** for "his researches published during the 1990s on the structure and dynamics of liquids and glasses" and for "the development of the sources and the instrumentation and techniques that are essential to the success of such studies." Price is a senior physicist in the materials science division at Argonne National Laboratory.

Christer Nordman, a professor of chemistry at the University of Michigan, will accept the Patterson Award for "his

work on structure determination by utilization of the Patterson function....

Many difficult structures [that] could not be determined by other methods have been solved by the vector search method that Dr. Nordman pioneered."

Two other individuals will be honored during the annual ACA banquet on Thursday evening. ACA will present the first Elizabeth A. Wood Science Writing Award, given for promoting a wider understanding of science, to **Roald Hoffmann**, the Frank H. T. Rhodes Professor of Humane Letters and a professor of chemistry at Cornell University. The award citation notes Hoffmann's popularized science books and poetry and praises "his determination to make accessible to everyone the

extraordinary links between his beloved science and the worlds of art, literature and religion."

The ACA Public Service Award will be given to US Representative **George E. Brown Jr.**, the California Democrat who is the ranking minority member on the House Science Committee. ACA

is recognizing Brown for "his very effective service in the cause of science" and for being "a strong supporter of government funding for scientific research and space exploration."

Social events

This year's social activities include an opening reception on Saturday evening in the Grand Hall of Union Station. On Sunday evening, the Young Scientist Special Interest Group (YSSIG) will sponsor a "mentor-mentee" dinner, to provide an opportunity for students and postdocs to meet senior researchers and other junior researchers in their field. The YSSIG mixer will take place on Tuesday evening at the St. Louis Brewery. For spouses and other accompanying guests, a series of daytime tours of the St. Louis area have been arranged. ■