

CHICAGO SECTION AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Joint Meeting With Chicago Chemists' Club and

Iota Sigma Pi

Holiday Party Meeting

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2006

Fountain Blue Banquets 2300 Mannheim Rd. Des Plaines, IL (847) 298-3636

DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING From 290 East/West

Take 290 from either direction and exit onto 294 North. Continue until you reach the exit for 190 West (to O'Hare). Exit and immediately pay toll. Exit onto Mannheim Road North. Go North for 2 miles.

From 90 East/West

Take 90 from either direction and exit onto 190 West (to O'Hare). Pay toll and immediately exit onto Mannheim Road North. Go North for 2 miles.

From 294 North/South

Take 294 from either direction and exit onto 190 West (to O'Hare). Pay toll and immediately exit onto Mannheim Road North. Go North for 2 miles.

From 88 East

Take 88 East to 294 North. Take Touhy Avenue exit and go west to Mannheim Road. Turn north on Mannheim and proceed to Fountain Blue.

PARKING: Free

This is the Chicago Section ACS/Chicago Chemists' Club/lota Sigma Pi Annual Holiday Party/Meeting. At this event, everyone is a chemist (either practicing or honorary)!

Come join in the celebration with all your fellow chemists. In addition to our technical program, Santa will be bringing gifts! ENJOY!

We are asking you to also bring something!!! Please bring some

canned food or other non-perishable food item (in non-glass containers) that we, as the ACS, can donate to Loaves and Fishes Community Pantry. This year we are also collecting clothing that will be donated to Ada S. McKinley Community Services. **See article on page 5 for details on the clothing drive.** Let's share our good fortune in the spirit of the season. **THANK YOU!!**

JOB CLUB

5:30 - 6:30 p.m.

SOCIAL HOUR Cash Bar

6:00 - 7:00 p.m.

7:00 p.m.

Complementary Hors D'oeuvres

DINNER

Please make your reservations by Tuesday, December 5 with the Section office by **phone** (847-647-8405), **fax** (847-647-8364), **email** (chicagoacs@ ameritech.net), or **website** (http:// chicagoacs.org).

Holiday Menu: Choice of Chicken Piciatta, Broiled White Fish, or Vegetarian Pasta Primavera with Alfredo Sauce; Fresh Fruit Cocktail; Garden Salad with a variety of dressings; Included with the chicken and fish entrees are Athenian Oven Roasted Potatoes and a Peas, Mushrooms & Carrots Medley; Chocolate Sundae; beverage; bread and butter.

The cost to Section members who have paid their local section dues, members' families, and visiting ACS members is \$32. Cost to non-Section members is \$34. The cost to students and unemployed members is \$16. Seating will be available for those who wish to attend the meeting without dinner. Tables of 8 or 10 are available and may be reserved at this time. PLEASE HONOR YOUR RESER-VATIONS. The Section must pay for all dinner orders. No-shows will be billed.

CHANGING OF THE GAVEL 8:10 p.m. Outgoing Chair Barb Moriarty will turn over the gavel to the incoming 2007 Chair, Ken Fivizzani.

GENERAL MEETING 8:15 p.m.



Dr. Bassam Z. Shakhashiri, Professor of Chemistry, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Topic: "The Joy of Chemistry"

Abstract: Professor Shakhashiri is renowned nationwide for his chemical

(continued on page 2)

NOTICE TO ILLINOIS TEACHERS

The Chicago Section ACS is an ISBE provider for professional development units for Illinois teachers. Teachers who register for this month's meeting will have the opportunity to earn up to 3 CPDU's.

LUB 5:3

(continued from page 1)

demonstration shows, and in particular for his annual presentation, "Once Upon a Christmas Cheery, In the Lab of Shakhashiri". For over 30 years, this science-oriented entertainment has played to packed houses at such varied locations as the University of Wisconsin-Madison, the National Academy of Sciences and the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum in Washington, DC and Boston's Museum of Science. His presentation has also been televised by stations across the country.

In this presentation to our local section, he will perform a version of his annual holiday presentation with a series of demonstrations featured in his four volume series "Chemical Demonstrations – A Handbook for Teachers of Chemistry". This presentation, including such activities as oscillating chemical reactions and reactions of dry ice, promises to be informative and entertaining for all.

Biography: Bassam Z. Shakhashiri is Professor of Chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and the first holder of the William T. Evjue Distinguished Chair for the Wisconsin Idea. He is well known internationally for his effective leadership in promoting excellence in science education at all levels and for his development and use of demonstrations in the teaching of chemistry in classrooms as well as in less formal settings such as museums, convention centers, shopping malls and retirement homes. The Encyclopedia Britannica cites him as the "dean of lecture demonstrators in America." His scholarly publications, including the multi-volume series, Chemical Demonstrations A Handbook for Teachers of Chemistry, are models of learning and instruction that have been translated into several languages.

As an advocate for chemistry, Professor Shakhashiri has given over 1,100 invited lectures and presentations in North America, Europe, Asia, Australia, the Middle East, and South America. He has given numerous presentations at professional meetings, named lectureships and is a featured speaker at dedications of new science buildings, science centers, commencements, and honors convocations. He has been featured in newspapers, magazines, national and local radio and television, including the New York Times, the Washington Post, Newsweek, Time, the German-language Business Week, Today's Chemist, NBC Nightly News, National Public Radio, CNN, and the Larry King Show. He appears as a regular guest on the Ideas Network of Wisconsin Public Radio and on WKOW-TV's WAKE UP WISCONSIN.

In 1977, Professor Shakhashiri was the founding chair of the University of Wisconsin System Undergraduate Teaching Improvement Council. In 1983, he founded the Institute for Chemical Education (ICE) and served as its first director. His work with ICE inspired the establishment of the Center for Biology Education, the Merck Institute for Science Education, the Miami University (of Ohio) Center for Chemical Education, among others.

From 1984 to 1990, Professor Shakhashiri served as Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation for Science and Engineering Education. As the NSF chief education officer, he presided over the rebuilding of all the NSF efforts in science and engineering education after they had been essentially eliminated in the early 1980's. His leadership and effectiveness in developing and implementing national programs in science and engineering education have helped set the annual NSF education budget at its current level of almost \$800 million. His NSF strategic plan launched the systemic initiatives and most of the other NSF education programs of the last two decades.

He currently directs the Initiative for Science Literacy and its various programs including Science in the City, SCIENCE IS FUN! public presentations, the SCIENCE IS FUN web site **www.scifun.org**, Science, the Arts, and the Humanities, Women in Science, and the Conversations in Science Series.

He is the recipient of over 35 awards. including the 2002 American Association for the Advancement of Science Award for Public Understanding of Science and Technology. In 2004 he was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the national chemistry fraternity Alpha Chi Sigma. In 2005 he received the Madison Metropolitan School District "Distinguished Service Award for Citizen", was elected Fellow of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts and Letters, received the CHEMI-CAL PIONEER Award from the American Institute of Chemists, the American Chemical Society's Helen M. Free Award for Public Outreach for "lifelong accomplishments and for explaining and demonstrating science with charisma and passion", and was cited in the Answer Book of Capital Newspapers as "the coolest UW professor."

The Chicago Section's e-mail address is chicagoacs@ameritech.net

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"CHEM SHORTS" For Kids

The Elementary Education Committee of the Chicago Section ACS presents this column. They hope that it will reach young children and help increase their science literacy. Please cut it out and pass it on to your children, grandchildren, or elementary school teachers. It is hoped that teachers will incorporate some of the projects in this column into their lesson plans.

Xmas Tree Preservative

Kids, do you have a real Christmas tree for the holidays? Would you like to be in charge of feeding and watering your tree? Yes, your tree needs food and water just as much as you do!

Christmas tree and cut flower preservatives all contain the same ingredients: a food source for the plant, an acidifier (hard water is alkaline - making the water more acidic helps the plant take in water and food), and a disinfectant to prevent mold, fungi, and algae from growing.

Here are some really important safety tips before we get started:

1. Be sure to have an adult partner to supervise and to pour the ingredients.

2. Do Not Drink! If you make enough preservative to store, label your container and keep it out of reach of other kids and pets.

3. Mixing bleach and vinegar is not recommended because it produces toxic vapors when mixed. However, the low levels used here will be okay if your adult partner follows a certain procedure. If vinegar or lemon juice is used, add it first to the water and then add the bleach to the water/acid mixture.

4. Make your solution in a well-ventilated area.

5. For the Christmas tree, you will need 1 gallon of water, 2 cups light corn syrup, 4 teaspoons lemon juice or vinegar (optional), and 4 teaspoons chlorine bleach. Add all ingredients to the water individually.

6. For flowers you can cut the recipe down to 1 quart water, 1/2 cup corn syrup, 1 teaspoon bleach, and 1 teaspoon lemon juice.

7. Both trees and flowers will last longer in cooler areas away from direct sunlight. Make sure the tree or flowers always have enough preservative. Regularly refill the vase or the base where the tree sits. You can store the solution for 4-5 days at room temperature in a closed container or for two weeks refrigerated.

8. If you don't have corn syrup, you can substitute 4 teaspoons of sugar dissolved in the water.

9. Another common option is to substi-

tute a can of acidic soft drink, like Sprite or 7-Up, instead of the corn syrup and lemon juice. Just add a can of (nondiet) soft drink to a gallon of water, with the tiny amount of bleach.

10. Instead of bleach and an acid, some people add a penny to a sugar solution with the idea that the copper can act as both a fungicide and acidifier. Personally, we can't attest to how well this would work. Maybe you could try both as part of your experiment, using two different vases of the same flowers!

References:

Dr. Anne Marie Helmenstine at http://chemistry.about.com/od/ chemistryhowtoguide/ht/treepreserve.htm

EDITED BY K. A. CARRADO, ARGONNE NATIONAL LABORATORY

All past "ChemShorts": http://member ship.acs.org/C/Chicago/ChmShort/ki dindex.html

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For more information, call the Section office (847) 647-8405 or e-mail at chicagoacs@ameritech.net December, 2006 Vol. 93, No. 10. Published by the Chicago Section of The American Chemical Society, Editorial Staff: Cherlyn Bradley, Editor; Fran Kravitz, Copy Editor; Fadwa Al-Taher and Richard Treptow, Proofreaders; Frank Jarzembowski, Publications Business Manager. Address: 7173 North Austin, Niles, Illinois 60714; 847/647-8405. Subscription rates: \$15 per year. Frequency: monthly-September through June.

JOB CLUB

The next meeting of the **Chicago Section ACS Job Club** will be held on **Friday, December 8 at 5:30 p.m. at Fountain Blue Banquets**. The meeting will include a review and discussion of some of the tools that a chemist can use to conduct a job search.

The Job Club provides a continuing opportunity for unemployed members of the Section to meet with one another, share their experiences and develop a network that may help in identifying employment opportunities. Bring plenty of resumes and business cards to distribute to your colleagues. Be prepared to talk about the kind of job you are seeking.

Several participants have received outsource help with resume preparation and marketing strategies to present their best attributes to prospective employers. The group has critiqued some individual resumes and made suggestions for improvements in a positive way!

The Job Club is also for employers seeking chemists. Employers need to be prepared to describe the positions to be filled and requirements for these positions.

Should you wish to attend the Section's dinner meeting following the Job Club, the cost is \$16 and you can continue your networking activities. Please call the Section office for reservations and indicate that you are eligible for a discount.

Also, the Chicago Section's website has a link to the Job Club's yahoo job forum group. If you can't attend the Job Club, you can still find out about job openings and other information. 12/06 4

HOLIDAY PARTY

Get those fingers ready to make reservations for the annual Chicago Section, American Chemical Society holiday party on Friday, December 8. Gifts for the raffle will be numbered randomly and placed on tables in the dining room. Each attendee will draw a number when they register that evening for the meeting. Please attach that number to your name badge.

Gifts will be handed out by volunteers throughout the evening by calling up groups of individuals having a series of numbers. Larger gifts such as dinner certificates or gift certificates will be announced separately throughout dinner. Meeting attendees are asked to claim their gift only during the time their numbers have been announced. Those individuals who forget to claim their gift will have another opportunity to claim them at the end of the evening. Individuals must present their number in order to pick up their gift.

Door prizes of wine will only be handed out to those 21 or older. A substitute prize will be handed out to students under the age of 21. As always, please do not open your wine at the table.

RICHARD CORNELL HOSPITALITY CHAIR

ALMA E-NEWS

Quality Systems

Over the past decade or so, almost every lab has developed a formal documented quality system compliant with one of the ISO 9000 standards. While reflecting on the work put into this effort, vou might be interested in comments on this standard made by one of the quality movement pioneers, Joseph Juran. In an interview (Quality Digest, August 2002), Juran commented, "A lot of companies believe that getting certified to ISO 9001 solves their quality problems. That simply is not true... We've been taken in by the standardization people are coming up with. They are coming up with standard that's not at the excellence level but at the mediocre level. That's inherent in the way the standards are set. There has to be consensus."

If you have any comments, cost saving suggestions, or opinions, contact me at the email address below.

Past ALMA (Analytical Laboratory Managers Association) e-News articles by Dr. Wayne Collins, a former ALMA President, are available at the website http://www.labmanagers.org/. This article is from the November 2002 edition.

WAYNE COLLINS wayne.collins@thermo.com

DEADLINES FOR CHEMICAL BULLETIN

Please submit all *Chemical Bulletin* copy to the editor before the deadlines listed below for each issue. Articles can be emailed to the editor, **Cherlyn Bradley, cbrad1027**@ **aol.com**.

Since we like the Bulletin to be as timely as possible, we need the lead time indicated. You can help by early planning and submission of your information or articles.

2007 Issue	Deadline
February	December 29
March**	January 12
April	February 23
Мау	March 23
June	April 27
September	July 13
October	August 24
November	September 21
December	October 12

** The March issue will be the special National Meeting in Chicago issue. IT WILL ALSO CONTAIN THE REGULAR MARCH MONTHLY DINNER MEETING INFORMATION.

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FOOD AND CLOTHING DRIVE

We will be collecting nonperishable food items (no glass items) for charity at the December Holiday Party again. The food is donated to the local Loaves and Fishes Community Pantry for distribution.

This year we would like to increase our generosity to another good cause. Ada S. McKinley Community Services, Inc. is a social agency in Chicago and Oak Park serving individuals with disabilities or other limiting conditions that need help in finding and pursuing paths leading to healthy, productive and fulfilling lives. They need our help in collecting clothing for two different projects. The first is adult men and women's clothing for their clients to use for job interviews. The second is for children's clothing. They have opened a new emergency foster care program to serve children who have been removed from their homes because of neglect or abuse or because the foster home placement was disrupted. Most of these children will be coming from their homes after being taken from their family, often with nothing but the clothes they are wearing. They are requesting boys' and girls' clothing for the age range from infant to 17 years old.

Please open your heart to both of these programs and bring a nonperishable food item and a piece of gently used or new clothing to the holiday party.

WCC ARTICLE AUTHORS NEEDED

Chicago Section Women Chemists Committee has been working on a project to highlight women, both current and historical, and topics of interest to women since January 2004. The project has been very successful, and we would like to invite anyone, women or men, to ioin us in this endeavor. There are slots to fill to write articles, starting in January. The article needs to be about 500 words long and will be published in the Chemical Bulletin and put on the Chicago Section website. The author also needs to design a poster for the corresponding monthly meeting. Our office manager, Gail Wilkening, will help with the poster, which can be primarily a large font version of what you wrote, if you wish. We welcome new authors and those who have already discovered what a pleasure this project is. Whether you interview a current chemist or research an historical chemist on the web, please join us in this stimulating activity.

CO-CHAIRS MARGY LEVENBERG AND SUSAN SHIH

WCC COLUMN

Members of the Chicago Section's Women Chemists Committee (WCC) are developing outreach plans for Chicago Area section members and the community. These plans include a column in *The Chemical Bulletin* covering topics such as networking, career development, and vignettes of women in chemistry.

However, this month's topic is about Bette Nesmith Graham, a secretary and single mother raising a son on her own. While she was not a chemist, she was the inventor of Liquid Paper correction fluid, one of the most simple, yet work-saving inventions in all of office-supply history.

As electric typewriters came into widespread use after World War II. Bette Nesmith Graham and countless other secretaries let out a collective groan. The new machines did make typing easier, but their carbon-film ribbons made it impossible to correct mistakes neatly with a pencil eraser. As a result of this predicament, Graham ended up inventing one of the most widely used office products of the 20th century. Born Bette Clair McMurray in 1924 in Dallas, Texas, she dropped out of high school at the age of seventeen and married Warren Nesmith at the age of 19. However, shortly after World War II ended, she found herself divorced with a small child to support. She went to secretarial school and worked as a secretary while earning her GED in night school.

By 1951, she had worked her way up to the position of executive secretary for W.W. Overton, the Chairman of the Board of the Texas Bank and Trust. It was at this time that she and her colleagues at the bank began experiencing trouble with the new IBM electric typewriters. Tired of having to retype entire pages because of one small error, she determined to find a more efficient alternative.

The impetus for her breakthrough came as she observed painters decorating the bank windows for the holidays. Rather than remove their mistakes entirely, the painters simply covered any imperfections with an additional layer. She decided to mimic their technique by using a white, water-based tempera paint to cover her typing errors.

She came up with a very simple formula that she began making in batches just for her to use at work. Using her kitchen blender she mixed up some tempera water-based paint, tinting it to match her company stationery. She took it to the office with a watercolor brush and whenever she made a mistake on paper, she simply painted over it and fixed the error.

The formula worked like magic. In fact, her boss never even noticed the corrected errors in her work. It wasn't long before other secretaries at her company found out about the ingenious solution she had created and when they began asking her if they could use some of the fluid, she began making up bottles, putting labels on them that read "Mistake Out," and giving them to friends.

She soon began to realize that the product was popular enough to form the basis for a business. She started the Mistake Out Company in 1956 in her home, mixing the fluid in her kitchen. She employed her son Michael, who would later achieve fame as a member of the pop group, The Monkees, and his friends, to fill bottles for customers.

When she became too engrossed in her own business, her boss at the bank fired her. It was a blessing in disguise: Now she could devote all her time to the Mistake Out business.

She continued experimenting with the makeup of the substance until she achieved the perfect combination of paint and several other chemicals. The refined product was renamed "Liquid Paper" in 1958 and, amid soaring demand, she applied for a patent and a trademark that same year.

Before long she was selling around 100 bottles of Liquid Paper per month. In 1957, a magazine called "The Office" mentioned the product and General Electric placed a large order. Soon, business was booming. In 1962, she married Robert Graham and he joined the business.

The Liquid Paper Company experienced tremendous growth over the next decade. By 1967, the company had its own corporate headquarters and automated production plant, and sales were in excess of one million units per year.

In 1975, she opened a 35,000-squarefoot headquarters building for Liquid Paper in Dallas. A year later, the company's net earnings were \$1.5 million and product was being sold in 31 countries around the world. Bette Nesmith Graham was innovative in establishing her company culture, encouraging employees to participate in making corporate decisions and setting up an in-plant library and child-care center. She also used a portion of her fortune to set up two foundations to help women in need, the Gihon Foundation, established in 1976; and the Bette Clair McMurray Foundation, founded in 1978. She sold the company to the Gillette Corporation for \$47.5 million four years later, just six months before her death in 1980.

References:

http://inventors.about.com/od/lstartin ventions /a/liquid_paper.htm

http://web.mit.edu/INVENT/iow/ne smith. html

http://www.women-inventors. com/Bette-Nesmith-Graham.asp

CHERLYN BRADLEY

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REMEMBRANCE OF SECTION MEMBERS

During 2006, we have seen the passing of a number of section members. We would like to remember these section members at the January 2007 Section meeting. The chair will read the names of the section members who have passed and we will observe a moment of silence. If you have anyone you want to add to this list, please let the office know by either phone (847-647-8405) or email (chicagoacs@ ameritech.net).

In addition, if you have pictures or other memorabilia, we will be preparing a poster for display at the front table at this meeting. Please send any information you would like to see added to this display. If at all possible, please provide duplicates, as we cannot ensure that we can return submissions.

CHICAGO SECTION'S ELECTION RESULTS

Chair-Elect: David Crumrine

The ACS Chicago Section's Tellers Committee met on Friday, October 20, 2006 to count the ballots for the 2006 election. There were 475 ballots received as of noon on that day. Of these, 443 ballots were counted and four ballots were invalid. The results are as follows:

	David Crumme	
Vice-Chair:	Mark Cesa	
Secretary:	Amber Arzadon	
Treasurer:	Margaret Stowell Levenberg	
Directors:	Rudy Bernath Roy Bible Irene Cesa Russell Johnson Peter Lykos Susan Shih Anthony Tortorello Fred Turner	

Councilors: David Crumrine Fran Kravitz Milt Levenberg Claude Lucchesi Marsha Anne Phillips

Alternate

Councilors: Ken Fivizzani Keith Kostecka Peter Lykos Fred Turner

Officers, directors, councilors, and alternate councilors take office January 2007.

Thanks to all the candidates for participating and congratulations to the winners!

CHERLYN BRADLEY TELLERS COMMITTEE CHAIR, 2006

Successful Women in Chemistry Book

If you do not have your copy of the ACS National's Women Chemists Committee (WCC) book "Successful Women in Chemistry: Corporate America's Contribution to Science," it is not too late to order this ACS symposium series, which highlights the careers of some of today's successful women in the scientific field. To order your book, call the Oxford University Press at 1-800-451-7556 for information. Please be sure to reference the ISBN number 0-8412-3912-6.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES NEEDED

We need your e-mail address in order for the Chicago Section to better communicate with you, our members. The Chicago Section is investigating ways to reduce the Section budget so more money can be used in member's programs such as education, community outreach, and other program areas. We are considering changing are the Chemical Bulletin to an electronic version and moving to electronic balloting for our elections. This does not mean it will happen tomorrow or there will not be a paper version of the Chemical Bulletin or ballot if you request one. The idea is to reduce our printing cost, paper usage and mailing cost.

Please send your e-mail address with your name and phone number to the Section office at **chicagoacs@ ameritech.net**. Remember we do not share this information with other organizations.

FRAN KRAVITZ BUDGET DIRECTOR

FREE T-SHIRTS

The Hospitality Committee raffles one T-shirt at each monthly dinner meeting. The shirt has Chicago spelled out using the periodic table. So come to a monthly meeting and maybe you'll win one!



POP TOP RINGS COLLECTION

Instead of throwing away those pop top rings from your pop cans, please bring them to the dinner meeting so we can donate them to a program at Ronald McDonald House.

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CALENDAR

December 8: Chicago Section's Holiday Dinner Party and Meeting at the Fountain Blue Banquets. The after-dinner speaker is Bassam Z. Shakhashiri, University of Wisconsin-Madison. See the details in this issue.

January 19, 2007: Chicago Section's monthly dinner meeting.

January 27-31: The Association for Laboratory Automation (ALA) will hold its LabAutomation 2007 Conference in Palm Springs, CA. For more information, contact Anne O'Day via (630) 305-0003 or **aoday@labautomation.org**.

February 22: Chicago Section's monthly dinner meeting held jointly with AIChE. Note that this meeting is on a Thursday.

February 24: DuPage Engineers Week at IIT's Rice Campus, Wheaton, IL, beginning at 11:00 a.m. Stay tuned for further details.

February 25 - March 2: PittCon Conference and Expo, McCormick Place, Chicago, IL. For information, go to **www.pittcon.org**.

March 16: Chicago Section's Public Affairs dinner meeting.

March 25-30: The 233rd Spring ACS National Meeting, Chicago, IL.

March 30: Two-day Lab safety Short Course hosted by the Laboratory Safety Institute, Naperville, IL. For details, go to **http://www.labsafety.org**.

April 20: Chicago Section's monthly dinner meeting.

May 18: Chicago Section's Gibbs Award banquet and meeting.

June 21: Chicago Section's monthly dinner meeting held jointly with YCC. Note that this meeting is on a Thursday.

September 28: Chicago Section's monthly dinner meeting.

October 18: Basolo Medal Award joint dinner meeting of the Chicago Section ACS and Northwestern University.

November 16: Chicago Section's Education Night dinner meeting.

Have a Happy and Safe Holiday Season