

theCHEMICALbulletin

<http://chicagoacs.org>

JUNE • 2008

CHICAGO SECTION AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Joint Meeting with the Milwaukee Section

FRIDAY, JUNE 20, 2008

(NOTE: THIS IS A LUNCH MEETING)

ILLINOIS BEACH RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER

One Lake Front Drive
Zion, IL 60099
(847)625-7300

DIRECTIONS TO THE MEETING

FROM ILLINOIS

Take I-94 North and exit at Grand Avenue (Route 132) east. After exiting, get into the left lane immediately and make a left turn at the first light, Dilley's Road.

Take Dilley's Road North to Wadsworth Road and turn right onto Wadsworth Road. Continue east on Wadsworth Road through the stoplight at Sheridan Road (Rt. 137). Continue driving east into the park about 1.75 miles following the signs to Illinois Beach Resort and Conference Center.

FROM WISCONSIN

Drive south on I-94 to US 41 South.

Take US-41 South to Wadsworth Road, turn left and continue east (about 5.25 miles) on Wadsworth Road through the stoplight at Sheridan Road (Rt. 137). Continue driving east into the park about another 1.75 miles following the signs to Illinois Beach Resort and Conference Center.

PARKING: Free

For information on the surrounding state park, visit: www.dnr.state.il.us

JOB CLUB 11:00 A.M.

SOCIAL HOUR 11:30 A.M.
Cash Bar

A video on the park will be shown

LUNCH 12:30 P.M.

Lunch reservations are required and should be received in the Section Office via **phone** (847-647-8405), **fax** (847-647-8364), **email** (chicagoacs@ameritech.net), or **website** (<http://ChicagoACS.org>) by noon on Wednesday, June 18. PLEASE HONOR YOUR RESERVATIONS. The Section must pay for all meal orders. No-shows will be billed.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

As you should know from notices in recent issues of the *Chemical Bulletin*, the Chicago Section is switching to an all-digital format for the *Chemical Bulletin* and will stop distributing the printed format. This change will be effective with the September 2008 issue. It will enable us to provide a more flexible and modern format and at the same time manage the escalating costs. The production and mailing of the *Chemical Bulletin* has become the single greatest expense to the Section each year. So... in keeping with the responsibility of a technological society to adapt technology to further its goals, the Section is transitioning to an all-digital format, and will only send a paper copy of the *Chemical Bulletin* upon request.

We ask that anyone who requires a paper copy of the *Chemical Bulletin* help defray production costs by sending a check for \$15 made out to "Chicago Section ACS", to the Chicago Section office, at 7173 N. Austin

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GENERAL MEETING 1:30 P.M.

Presentation of the 50-YEAR AWARDS

The Chicago Section honors our fifty-year members. (See page 2)

Presentation of the 2008 DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD to Margaret Stowell Levenberg (see page 5)

General Meeting Speaker



Dr. Jeffrey Weidenhamer, Professor of Chemistry and Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Geology & Physics, Ashland University

Topic: "Lead: An Ancient But Still Present Hazard"

Abstract: Lead is a known neurotoxin that has profound effects on the neurological development of young children. For this reason, lead has been eliminated as an additive to gasoline and as a component of most paints. Deteriorating lead paint in older homes is the major path of lead exposure for young children in the US. However, the dozens

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1, column 3)

of recent recalls of imported toys and jewelry items for lead contamination have emphasized the need for continued vigilance in protection of children from unnecessary sources of lead exposure, and the fact that in a global economy, product safety is as good as the weakest link in the global product supply chain. This talk will review recent research on the lead content of children's products such as jewelry and toys, and evidence that lead in trinket jewelry may derive from improperly recycled lead waste from vehicle batteries and other sources.

Biography: Dr. Jeffrey Weidenhamer is a Professor of Chemistry and is the Chair of the Department of Chemistry, Geology & Physics at Ashland University. He teaches general, analytical and non-majors chemistry courses, and his research in chemical ecology is funded by the National Science Foundation. His work on lead-contaminated products grew out of a non-majors course he developed, Lead and Civilization, which focuses on the chemistry and toxicity of lead. With students and colleagues, he has published five recent papers on lead contamination of imported, inexpensive jewelry in the US.

Dr. Weidenhamer's work on this topic has been cited by numerous national and international news media, including *National Geographic*, *Consumer Reports*, *the Wall Street Journal*, *the New York Times*, *the Chicago Tribune*, *Associated Press* and *the London Sunday Times*. He has been interviewed by CBS News, NPR, and Radio Free Asia, among others. His work has resulted in numerous product recalls of more than 1 million Halloween and children's jewelry items for lead contamination.

REGISTER TO ATTEND MONTHLY SECTION MEETINGS

ON LINE

at
www.ChicagoACS.org

TALENTSPARKS!

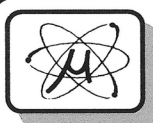
Please join your fellow Chicagoland high school science educators on July 14-16, 2008 for iBIO Institute's TalentSparks at the Illinois Science & Technology Park. TalentSparks! features three days of hands-on lab sessions, presentations by scientists, and tours of nearby industrial sites.

For more information, contact Ann Reed of iBIO Institute at ann.reed@ibioinstitute.org or Wanda K. Hartmann at 847-716-0507.

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MENU: Entrée Choices: Grilled Breast of Chicken served with Béarnaise sauce; Salmon fillet seasoned and broiled, topped with lemon dill sauce; or Vegetable Stir Fry, fresh vegetables stir-fried in a marinade and served with white rice. Entrée includes rolls and butter, garden salad, seasonal vegetables, potato, cake for dessert and a beverage.

The cost is \$20 to Section members who have paid their local section dues, members' families, and visiting ACS members. The cost to members who HAVE NOT paid their local section dues and to non-Section members is \$22. The cost to students and unemployed members is \$10. Seating will be available for those who wish to attend the meeting without dinner.



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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR 50-YEAR ACS MEMBERS!

As part of our June 20 lunch meeting program, we will honor our section members who have been ACS members for 50 years! In late February, a special ruby pin and a 50-year membership card, which entitles them to free attendance at all ACS meetings, were sent to each of them from the ACS National office in grateful appreciation of their many years of service to the Society.

At our meeting, each of them will be presented a handsome 50-year membership certificate to mark the occasion. Maybe you know or have worked with some members of this elite group. Take this opportunity to get together with your former colleagues for a nice lunch and an interesting presentation at our June meeting. We hope to see many of you there!

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WILL YOUR DEPARTMENT BE HIRING NEW FACULTY THIS YEAR?

If so, plan to attend the Academic Employment Initiative (AEI) to meet with potential new faculty candidates at the Sci-Mix poster session held at the ACS Fall National Meeting in Philadelphia, PA, Monday evening, August 18, from 8–10 PM at Sci-Mix.

At the ACS meeting in Philadelphia, candidates seeking faculty positions will use the AEI Poster Session at Sci-Mix to present posters about their current research, which will expand on their research interests, teaching philosophy, and experience. Faculty recruiters are invited to take advantage of this opportunity to meet as many candidates as possible.

Further information can be found by writing to GradEd@acs.org or visit <http://portal.acs.org/portal/PublicWebSite/education/students/graduate/gettingready/academiccareers/initiative/index.htm>.

"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.

Heat-Activated Invisible Inks

Kids, how can you send an invisible message? Some science projects only require chemicals that you already have around the house, and a great example is invisible ink.

You write your message with invisible ink using a cotton swab, dampened finger, or toothpick. Let the message dry. To be extra sneaky, you may want to write a normal message on the paper so that it doesn't appear to be blank and meaningless. If you do write a cover message, use a ballpoint pen, pencil, or crayon (fountain pen ink could run into your invisible ink). Don't use lined paper for the same reason.

Most invisible inks are made visible by heating the paper. Some messages are developed by spraying or wiping the paper with a second chemical; others are revealed by ultraviolet light.

Examples of common invisible inks are: any acidic fruit juice (e.g., lemon, apple, or orange juice), onion juice, baking soda (sodium bicarbonate), vinegar (acetic acid), white wine, dilute cola, dilute honey, milk, soapy water, and sucrose (table sugar) solution. Here is just one example:

1. Mix equal parts water and baking soda.
2. Use a cotton swab, toothpick, or paintbrush to write a message onto white paper.
3. Allow the "ink" to dry.
4. One way to read the message is to have your adult partner hold the paper up to a heat source, such as a light bulb. The baking soda will cause the writing in the paper to turn brown.
5. A second method to read the message is to paint over the paper with purple grape juice. The message will appear in a different color.

Tips:

1. If you are using the heating method, avoid igniting the paper - don't use a halogen bulb.
2. A cotton swab makes an excellent disposable "paintbrush".

3. Baking soda and grape juice react with each other in an acid-base reaction, producing a color change in the paper
4. The writing turns brown because the weakened paper burns before the rest of the paper. Be careful not to overdo your heating and ignite the paper!

References: Anne Marie Helmenstine on her April 27, 2008 blog at <http://chemistry.about.com/>. See these links for baking soda and lemon juice "inks": <http://chemistry.about.com/cs/howtos/ht/invisibleink2.htm> and <http://chemistry.about.com/cs/howtos/ht/invisibleink3.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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**The mission of the Chicago Section
of the ACS is to encourage the
advancement of chemical sciences
and their practitioners.**

June, 2008 Vol. 95, No. 6. Published by the Chicago Section of The American Chemical Society, Editorial Staff: Cherlyn Bradley, Editor; Fran Kravitz, Associate 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.

Announcement (Continued from page 1)

Ave., Niles, IL 60714-4617. Include your name, mailing address, and a phone number or e-mail address as well as a note indicating that you wish to continue receiving paper copies of the Chemical Bulletin. Your \$15 check will provide you with paper copies of the Chemical Bulletin through December, 2009. We anticipate an initial subscription rate of \$15 per year. If you have any questions about this transition, please call the Section office at 847-647-8405.

Two years ago we started posting issues of the Chemical Bulletin on line, and all issues since April, 2006 can be found in PDF format at <http://chicagoacs.org/newsletters/newsletters.html>. These issues may be freely accessed at any time, and we are working on a system to notify you by e-mail when a new issue is available. Of course, you will be able to opt-out of this notification at any time. You can also update or change your e-mail address in our files using the form at <http://chicagoacs.org/EmailAddress.html> or by calling our office.

As we transition to an electronic newsletter we will be expanding the format and the capability of the Chemical Bulletin in ways that are not possible in the print format. We will no longer have a restriction on the number of pages or a restriction on the use of color because of production costs, and hyperlinks will be provided to relevant content as appropriate. For our ad subscribers we will have a page displaying their logos and hyperlinks to their web sites. They will be able to include full-color ads in the on-line version of the newsletter. We welcome suggestions on other ways we can expand the value and usefulness of the Chemical Bulletin to the Section members.

Russ Johnson
Milt Levenberg
Cherlyn Bradley
Susan Shih
New Technology Committee

REPORT OF THE ACS SPRING COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN NEW ORLEANS

The 235th National Meeting of the ACS was held in New Orleans, Louisiana from April 6 – 10, 2008. The Chicago section was represented by eleven councilors and two alternate councilors. The councilors who attended for the section were: **Cherlyn Bradley** (Committee on Committees), **Charles Cannon** (Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs), **Mark Cesa** (Committee on Chemical Safety, Committee on Science), **David Crumrine** (Committee on Chemical Safety), **Herb Golinkin**, **Russell Johnson** (Committee on Public Relations and Communications), **Fran Kravitz** (Committee on Project SEED), **Milt Levenberg** (Committee on Public Relations and Communications), **Claude Lucchesi** (Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs), **Barbara Moriarty** (Divisional Activities Committee, Committee on Science) and **Susan Shih**. The alternate councilors representing the section were Inessa Gorelik and Keith Kostecka. I have also listed national committee assignments, for your information.

Finances: The Committee on Budget and Finance reported that the Society ended 2007 with a net contribution from operations of \$9.6 million, on revenues of \$444.2 million and expenses of \$434.6 million, which was \$2.2 million favorable to the approved budget. In addition, the Society ended 2007 in full compliance with the Board-established financial guidelines. The Council voted to set dues for 2009 at \$140.

Governance: The Council selected Joseph S. Francisco (Purdue) and Josef Michl (Colorado) as candidates for 2009 President-Elect. These two candidates will stand for election in the Fall National Election.

Local Sections: The Council VOTED to change the name of the University of Kansas Local Section to the Wakarusa Valley Local Section

Meetings and Expositions: As of April 9, 2008, the 235th ACS national meeting had attracted 13,302 registrants as follows: Regular attendees 6,681; Students 4,659; Exhibitors 1,156; Exposition only 374; and Guests 432.

Economic and Professional Affairs: As of the end of Tuesday, there were 936 job seekers at the ACS Career Fair and 807 posted positions available from 104 employers. The Council VOTED to

approve the Academic Professional Guidelines.

Membership: At the end of 2007, membership in the ACS was reported to be 160,052. In 2007, there were 16,533 new member applications, the second highest number of new applications.

Petitions: The Council received three amendments to the ACS Bylaws (Petitions) for action. The results of Council deliberations on the three petitions are given below

- The Council approved the Petition on Election Procedures for President Elect and District Director to make the balloting procedure more uniform and to avoid the complications and expense of run-off elections.
- The Council approved the Petition on Election Procedures 2006, Part 2 to standardize election processes for President-Elect and all Director positions based on percentages of voting members. The number of petitioners would be 0.5% of the membership entitled to vote for President-elect and 0.25% of the membership entitled to vote for director-at-large, and increases the number of required signatures.
- The Council approved (by a recorded vote) the Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements that broadens qualifications for membership and creates a new category of student membership. The results of this election will be reported in Chemical and Engineering News. The Board of Directors will vote within 90 days on whether to ratify the approved petitions. The Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements contains changes to the ACS Constitution, and not just the Bylaws. Therefore, ACS members must approve these changes in the fall to be valid.

If you have any questions and/or comments about the above actions, please contact me or one of the other representatives. You may contact me by email (bmoriarty@nalc.com).

BARBARA MORIARTY

**NEXT ISSUE IS
FOR THE
SEPTEMBER 26
EDUCATION NIGHT
AT LOYOLA UNIVERSITY**

TIPS TO REDUCE YOUR ACS MEETING EXPENSES

With ACS national meetings becoming ever more expensive to attend, what can you do to reduce your minimize these expenses?

Begin with meeting registration. Of course, you can save money by pre-registering. There are also reduced registration fees available for unemployed and retired members, 50-year members, pre-college teachers, and both graduate and undergraduate students. Depending on what sessions you want to attend, a one-day registration fee may let you attend what you want to while letting you save money.

You can also save money on travel costs. ACS customarily arranges reduced fares for meeting attendees on one of the major airlines. Does your employer have reduced fare arrangements on one of the airlines? Could you use your frequent flier miles?

For shorter distances, you could travel by train or drive. If you drive, try to find a colleague attending the meeting to share the driving, gasoline costs and perhaps a hotel room.

Should ACS conference hotels be too costly even if you share a room, check out non-conference hotels listed on the ACS website and on travel and reservation websites. Many of these list hotel distances from convention centers. Some YMCA and YWCA facilities and youth hostels might be conveniently located near the meeting. Could you stay with friends in the host city? Occasionally, you might be able to stay in a near-by college dormitory.

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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.

2008 Issue	Deadline
September	July 4
October	August 29
November	September 26
December	October 10

MARGARET STOWELL LEVENBERG RECEIVES THE DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



The 2008 Distinguished Service Award will be presented to **Margaret Stowell Levenberg** at the June 20 Chicago Section's luncheon meeting.

The Distinguished Service Award was established in 1974 at the suggestion of Louis L. Lerner, who was consulting editor of *The Chemical Bulletin* at that time. It was established to recognize members of the Chicago Section ACS who have provided outstanding and devoted service to the Section.

Margy Cross (Margy is pronounced with a hard g) was born in Riverside IL and also lived in Minneapolis, Hinsdale, and Short Hills, NJ while growing up. During her senior year in high school in NJ, Margy took a one-year class combining first year high school chemistry and Advanced Placement chemistry, and she learned to love chemistry. She graduated from Wellesley College in Massachusetts with a bachelor's degree in chemistry and 13 semesters of math courses. Margy spent 2½ years in a Physical Chemistry Ph.D. program at Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, specializing in Nuclear Magnetic Resonance (NMR). When her first husband decided to move to Minneapolis for a job change, Margy was unable to complete her Ph.D. After five years in Minnesota where their two children were born, the Stowells moved to Barrington Illinois, and Margy was a mommy for 12 years.

When it became obvious that there was going to be a divorce (and the children insisted on eating regularly), Margy went to Northern Illinois University for an M.S. in Education and a high school teaching certificate. She spent four years teaching chemistry, math, physics, and physical science. She decided that, while she loved the science, she was not very good at class management, so she decided to find a job in industry. At an interview at Akzo

Nobel, the interviewer looked up from the application listing her teaching salary and said "We can't pay you this little". Margy was able to handle that.

Margy worked in spectroscopy at Akzo Nobel in McCook, IL for over three years and at Sandoz Agro in Des Plaines, IL for seven years. Both companies were involved in mergers and moved east. Margy's 46 semester hours of Ph.D. work enabled her to land on her feet each time, getting interesting, fulfilling jobs with the help of networking at ACS Chicago Section meetings. At the Sandoz job, Margy added to her spectroscopic skill set by working in chromatography, so the job at Stepan Company in Northfield, IL. has been a particularly good work fit, since at Stepan, analytical chemists are expected to "do it all". That's what has made the job so fun for the past eleven years. Stepan has a system of small workgroups dedicated to maintaining specific instruments, and Margy's favorite is the NMR workgroup. She has attended many years of NMR meetings and been on the executive board of a ten-year old international NMR conference called SMASH NMR (for Small Molecules Are Still Hot). As vendor liaison for SMASH, she solicited and received over \$30,000 in support of SMASH NMR last year.

In 1990, Margy was invited to work as a proof reader for Tom Farrar's (UW-Madison) NMR book on *Density Matrix Theory*. Since she had not been working with "operators" for twenty years, it took time to get the synapses firing, but one of her most proud professional moments was when she saw her name, Margaret Stowell, in the acknowledgments section of the book.

In 1991, Margy met Milt Levenberg because they both liked tennis and skiing. They didn't know each other's professions, but it turned out that Milt was also a spectroscopist who was in charge of NMR and Mass Spec at Abbott Labs before he retired in 2001. As Milt says, "There's chemistry between us." Margy and Milt married in 1997, have been teaching skiing professionally since 1991 and scuba diving since 1995. They enjoy traveling to warm and cold destinations for these activities.

When Margy started working in industry in 1987, her boss encouraged her to join the ACS Chicago Section. Margy found the Chicago Section particularly supportive and welcoming. After three years of regularly attending monthly dinner meetings, she was invited to be on the Section Board and, over the years, given increasing responsibilities as either the chair or co-chair of a variety of committees. After years of saying

that she would do anything except for Section chair or program chair, she was Section chair the last year of Chicago Section office manager Ron Sykstus' 35-year tenure. He and the Section Board worked to make her look good. Her first program the year she was program chair was in September 2001. Besides feeling great sadness over the tragedy of 9/11, Margy remembers feeling acute panic as she worked to replace her first speaker who was grounded. Margy routinely advises new Section chairs that they will have a good year, since the Section Board is so supportive and is delighted to work with them. The Chicago Section of the ACS has been a wonderful professional home for Margy for over twenty years.

Please join us on June 20 as we honor Margy with the 2008 Distinguished Service Award for meritorious service to the Chicago Section.

DID YOU KNOW?

The 2008 theme for National Chemistry Week is "Having a Ball with Chemistry" and will emphasize chemistry's role in sports.

NORTHWESTERN CHEMISTRY SUMMER LECTURE SERIES

**Malcolm Dole Distinguished
Summer Lectures in
Physical Chemistry**
August 11-15, 2008
Host: T. Seideman

**Distinguished Summer Lectures
in Inorganic Chemistry**
August 25-29, 2008
Speaker: Joan Selverstone Valentine, UCLA
Host: B. Hoffman

**Myron L. & Muriel S. Bender
Distinguished Summer Lectures
in Organic Chemistry**
Sept. 8-10, 2008
Speaker: Christopher T. Walsh, Harvard Med
Host: R B. Silverman

Check out our website
www.chem.northwestern.edu
for more details during the summer!

TIPS

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Once you arrive in the host city, check out cheaper alternatives to taking a taxi from the airport to your hotel. These include airport shuttle services, buses and trains. Use the ACS shuttle instead of a taxi to get around the meeting locations. Share taxis you take to restaurants.

The ACS website, C&EN, and the onsite meeting program list many afternoon and evening social events that serve complimentary hors d'oeuvres. Particularly suitable for students are the YCC Reception, the ACS Presidential Event and the ACS Corporation Associates Reception for Undergraduates. Refreshments are available at the Division's Henry Hill Award Reception.

Don't forget fast food as a cheap alternative. Locate the fast food restaurants near the convention center and conference hotels.

Some hotels offer free breakfast buffets for their guests. Pack nutritious breakfast bars in your carry-on bag as an alternative to a restaurant breakfast or for a quick lunch. Get a professor or manager to take you to a lunch or dinner.

JOHN K. BORCHARDT
Counselor, Division of Professional Relations
jkborchardt@hotmail.com

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MEETING WITH ACS NATIONAL TO DISCUSS FUTURE NATIONAL MEETINGS IN CHICAGO

On April 9 in New Orleans, the current section chair and the three prior section chairs met with the chair of the Meetings and Expositions committee (M&E) and the ACS staff liaison to that committee. The purpose of this meeting was to learn more about the decision to move the Fall 2011 National Meeting from Chicago to Denver and to determine what, if any, specific actions could be taken to improve Chicago's chances to be selected for future national meetings. Two major factors drove the decision to move the 2011 meeting. The first factor could be called logistical. In a survey conducted by M&E, attendees reported that shuttle bus travel times routinely exceeded 45 minutes. Our contractual space at McCormick Place was limited, resulting in the ACS having to locate evening poster sessions and SciMix in hotels. 39% of survey attendees expressed dissatisfaction with the walking distance within McCormick Place.

The second major factor in moving the meeting was financial. ACS national meetings attempt to be financially successful, either revenue neutral or a slight positive gain. As an example, the Fall 2007 meeting in Boston gained the ACS just over \$600,000. Prior to Chicago, the last time the ACS lost money at a national meeting was at the 2003 New York meeting, where losses were just under \$200,000. The net for the 2007 Chicago meeting was a loss of approximately

\$750,000. Both the logistical and financial factors played a part in the decision, approved by the ACS Board of Directors, to move the Fall 2011 meeting from Chicago to Denver.

Everyone at the April 9 meeting agreed that the City of Chicago should be informed as to the reasons for moving the 2011 meeting. ACS staff members meet on a regular basis with the Convention and Visitors Bureau, and ACS agreed to express their concerns. It would be useful to inform elected officials as well, particularly Mayor Richard Daley and perhaps some Chicago aldermen. The Chicago Section chairs plan to draft a letter from the section to send to the mayor. We are looking for some section members who are residents of Chicago and willing to contact their alderman about our experiences. We will supply a draft of a letter for you to use. Contact the section office if you are willing to contact your alderman. Also, please copy the section office on any letters or emails that you send and forward any responses from Chicago officials; this keeps us current on section efforts on this topic.

M&E is still committed to exploring Chicago as a future site of a national meeting. In order to increase the city's chances for being selected, some of these issues must be resolved or at least improved. Your suggestions on any aspect of Chicago as a national meeting site are welcome. Send your comments to the section office.

KEN FIVIZZANI

E-WOMEN CHEMISTS

The National WCC Newsletter is now sent electronically!

If you received the spring-summer 2007 newsletter electronically, your correct e-mail address is in the files and you will continue to receive future issues. To provide an alternate e-mail address, or for other inquiries, please contact service@acs.org.

If you did not receive the spring-summer 2007 newsletter, you may opt-in for future newsletters from the WCC webpage <http://membership.acs.org/W/WCC/>

DID YOU KNOW?

The person who invented aspirin did not think it would be widely used. French chemist, Charles Gerhardt, first made aspirin in 1853. It wasn't until 1893 that a young chemist named Felix Hoffman at the Bayer Drug Company in Germany rediscovered it and turn it into a medicinal success.

Desert Analytics has a new name, but we are still the same location, same people, and same high quality data and service.

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- Fuel Analysis - Proximate, Ultimate and BTU Content
- Air Sensitive & Hygroscopic Samples - Nitrogen Dry Box

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JOIN US AT THE FAIR!

The Chicago Section, along with the other ACS Illinois Sections, again plans to have a cooperative tent at the Illinois State Fair **August 8-17** in Springfield, IL. Our joint-sections' tent activities provide information to the public on chemistry with demos, hand-on activities, literature, and give-aways. This fun and worthwhile outreach project gives us a chance to show the positive aspects of chemistry to many Illinois citizens and governmental leaders. **Last year, over 10,000 people visited our tent!**

We particularly need volunteers to help during the fair. Student affiliates and other student volunteers are welcomed! If you are interested in helping us for a few hours (you do get free admission to the Fair and free parking) — call the Section office at (847) 647-8405.

2008 DIRECTORY OF EXPERIENCE OPPORTUNITIES

Each year, the ACS Experiential Programs in Chemistry (EPiC) activity produces the Directory of Experience Opportunities. This valuable online resource lists internships, co-op programs, summer work, and fellowships in academia, industry, and government, including positions throughout the U. S. and abroad.

Go to **www.acs.org** to search for positions. For more information or to list a program in the on-line edition of the Directory, e-mail epic@acs.org.

YOUR SECTION NEEDS YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS!!

We need your e-mail address in order for the Chicago Section to better communicate with you. 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. **One way is to change the *Chemical Bulletin* to an electronic version this year.** This does not mean there will not be a paper version of the *Chemical Bulletin*. The idea is to reduce our printing and mailing costs.

Please send your e-mail address with your name and phone number to the Section office at **chicagoacs@ameritech.net**. If you change your email address, please let us know! We do not share this information with other organizations.

THE NATIONAL DEBATE ON SCIENCE POLICY: THE TIME HAS COME

It has been quite some time since I have seen as much political discussion of science policy and its political ramifications coming from scientists as I have during the past several months. The discussion has come from a broad spectrum of scientists and non-scientists. For this article, I will speak mostly about the work of the organization **ScienceDebate2008**, which was formed late last year by two non-scientists. It immediately got support from several Nobel Laureates, scientific, professional and educational organizations, university presidents, and many other prominent folks. On their website, the science-debate organization continues to display up-to-date daily news concerning progress of the campaign, including links to many publications that carry news of the upcoming election.

They have obviously mounted an impressive campaign with great coverage throughout the scientific community and among those whom I would consider friends of the community. However, there is no sign yet that they have reached very far beyond that community. The failure of a debate to be organized which had scientific concerns and questions as a major theme has made small stories in a few places, but most of these were insufficient to be called news. Most of it sounded more like frustrated hand-wringing by the planners and supporters. Having missed the first opportunity to hold the debate on a pre-set date of April 18, some future dates have been put forth as upcoming possibilities.

My guess is that until there is a democratic presidential nominee, either real or presumptive, we will not have a debate. Perhaps we will learn from what we are going through right now about just how we must begin to organize to make a science debate become a reality. The public efforts of our society have been described by the editor of C&EN, who has written a couple of very good editorials supporting the idea of a science debate. And ACS is one of the organizations that is on a list of more than 150 scientific, educational and professional organizations that have signed on as sponsors of such a debate.

As I write this article, I can say that we obviously missed that first scheduled debate. I say "scheduled" with tongue in cheek, because the schedule never did include any type of commitment from any of the principals. According to an article by David Baltimore and Ahmed

Zewail, two eminent Nobel Laureates, which appeared in the Wall Street Journal on April 17, all three candidates declined. The organizers have not given up, nor should they. They really ought to carry their appeal on to the conventions, if necessary. If we can't get the candidates to have a science policy debate, it still might be possible to have the nominees speak directly and forthrightly to the science-related issues that confront the nation and the world. It still might be possible to get a science policy speech, or statement during the campaign. If we get one from either candidate, the other candidate is bound to follow.

It seems obvious that **ScienceDebate2008** will set a real standard for participation and involvement. Given the highly political nature of the decisions regarding participation and the apparent disregard that the political establishment has traditionally held for scientific involvement, I believe we may be witnessing the beginning of the end of scientific non-involvement.

JIM SHOFFNER

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ACS CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY STUDENT RECOGNITION AWARD

A continuing award for students is the ACS Chemical Technology Student Recognition Award. This award recognizes college students who demonstrate performance excellence while preparing to become professional chemical technicians.

Students who win this award meet the following criteria:

- A high level of integrity and reliability.
- A high level of performance in laboratory work. Performance should include safety, literature searching, equipment setup and use, experimental setup and design, teamwork, and problem solving, as well as interpreting experimental results.
- Strong oral and written communication skills.
- A high level of academic performance across all courses (consistently in the upper 25% of most classes).
- Completion of at least 75% of the chemical technology courses required for the certificate or degree program by the end of the term when nominated.

Students will receive a certificate from ACS recognizing their achievement and an invitation to join ACS. Additionally, a press release with the names of the students and the programs will be submitted to the local press, unless otherwise requested. The award is sponsored by The Committee on Technician Affairs, the leader in the recognition of the chemical and process technician field as a profession. The award helps winners demonstrate their value to future employers. Presentation of the award has also inspired students to work to their full potential.

For further information, contact Blake Aronson at cta@acs.org, 1-800-227-5558, ext. 6108 or go to <http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acsdisplay.html?DOC=education%5ctechncians%5ccalendar%5ccctwork.html>.

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!

JUNE HISTORICAL EVENTS IN CHEMISTRY

June 1, 1917 William Knowles, who, in 2001, shared Nobel Prize in Chemistry with Ryoji Noyori for their work on chirally catalysed hydrogenation reactions and K. Barry Sharpless for his work on chirally catalysed oxidation reactions, was born.

June 4, 1877 Heinrich O. Wieland, who was a researcher in organic chemistry and biochemistry, was born. In 1927, he received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his investigations of the constitution of the bile acids and related substances.

June 6, 1918 Edwin G. Krebs, who shared the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine in 1953 with Edmond H. Fischer for their discoveries concerning reversible protein phosphorylation as a biological regulatory mechanism, was born.

June 8, 1916 Francis H. C. Crick, who determined structure of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) with James D. Watson, was born. In 1962, he shared the Nobel Prize in Medicine with James D. Watson and Maurice H. F. Wilkins for their discoveries concerning the molecular structure of nuclear acids and its significance for information transfer in living material.

June 11, 1885 Frederick G. Keyes, a researcher on thermodynamic properties of matter, kinetic theory, and the application of thermodynamics to equilibria, was born.

June 13, 1923 Lloyd Conover, who invented tetracycline, was born.

June 15, 1885 Auer von Welsbach announced separation of didymium into Nd and Pr.

June 17, 1860 William Perkin, Jr., who synthesized terpenes and alkaloids, was born.

June 19, 1910 Paul J. Flory, a researcher in physical chemistry of macromolecules, was born. In 1974, he received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his fundamental achievements, both theoretical and experimental, in the physical chemistry of the macromolecules.

June 20, 1886 James R. Partington, who was a historian of chemistry and did research on specific heat of gases, was born.

June 22, 1892 Nathaniel Howell Furman, who did research on analytical separation of uranium, was born. He also wrote books on analytical chemistry.

June 24, 1840 Émile DuClaux, who was a researcher on osmosis, molecular adhesion, surface tension, and fermentation, was born. He served as Director of the Pasteur Institute from 1895 to 1904.

June 25, 1812 Hermann von Fehling, who discovered Fehling's solution as an oxidizing agent and as an analytical reagent for aldehydes and sugars, was born. He determined the composition of paraldehyde and metaldehyde; and prepared phenyl cyanide. He was born on this day.

June 26, 1824 Lord Kelvin (William Thompson), who established the theory and practice of thermodynamics, was born. He also defined the scale of absolute temperature, which was named for him (Kelvin).

June 27, 1909 Arthur Clay Cope, who did research in synthetic organic chemistry including medium-sized ring compounds, was born.

June 29, 1833 One hundred and twenty five years, ago, Peter Waage, was born. He and Cato M. Guldberg formulated the Law of Mass Action and presented their paper "Studier over Affiniteten" before the Norwegian Academy of Sciences and Letters in 1864.

LEOPOLD MAY
The Catholic University of America
Washington, DC

Additional historical events can be found at Dr. May's website, www.faculty.cua.edu/may/history.htm.

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.

SCIENCE FAIR JUDGES NEEDED

The Primary Education Committee is seeking ACS members, nonmembers, undergraduates, graduate students and industrial companies who would be interested in being science fair judges and demonstrators for grades Pre-K through 8 in Chicago and in the surrounding suburban area schools and groups. The committee will publish this list and distribute it into area schools and libraries. If you are interested, please send your name, address, phone number with area code, e-mail address and whether you would like to be a science fair judge, demonstrator or both to the Section office at: chicagoacs@ameritech.net or by mail at: Chicago Section, ACS, 7173 N. Austin Ave., Niles, IL 60714. Please make sure to mark the subject line with "Science Fair Judges".

FRAN KRAVITZ
PRIMARY EDUCATION COMMITTEE
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Preparing people to lead extraordinary lives

YOU ARE THE MISSING LINK

Love Canal dealt a massive blow to the image of chemistry. Even DuPont abandoned its famous slogan, "Better Living Through Chemistry". In an attempt to turn that tide, ACS President George Pimentel initiated National Chemistry Week by way of enlisting the aid of each and every American Chemical Society member, each in our own community, to work at the grass roots level. He called on all of us to educate people, of all ages, about the many contributions by chemists to the health and welfare of all living persons.

And now with the global warming phenomenon, a well established and generally acknowledged serious global issue, a lingering disenchantment with science is being compounded. Why is that? Because we have also come to learn that we scientists in the USA are failing to adequately inform and to interest the high potential youth of today about the opportunities and excitement of rewarding careers in science. Global Warming is emerging as a fundamental multidimensional challenge that affects us all now and into the foreseeable future.

Well here in metro Chicago we have available the happy combination of the opportunity and the mechanism for reaching the youth of today whereby they can come to know actual chemists, illustrating by our presence that chemists are the human element, and by showing them chemistry in action.

First, we have *ChemShorts for Kids*. Every issue of our Chemical Bulletin contains a description of a tested experiment designed for use in elementary schools. The accumulation over several years contains over 150 entries - all accessible via our Section website, **Chicagoacs.org**.

Second, we have 4,800 ACS members in the seven-county (five in NE Illinois and two in NW Indiana) domain of the Chicago Section of the ACS. Each and every one of us is a potential ambassador for science reaching out to students in the elementary schools of metro Chicago and as an exemplar to other scientists.

Third, each and every one of us lives in an elementary school district. The taxes we pay go to support those schools. Their teachers generally do not have degrees in science. But we have an outstanding model for how chemists can work with classroom teachers, as their humble helpers, in introducing basic science in the elementary school classroom. Susan Ole-sik, Professor of Analytical Chemistry at Ohio State University (recent winner of

an ACS National Award for her ground breaking work in that regard) has shown the way. One can google her name and learn more about WOW.

The system works. I downloaded the ChemShorts for Kids list of experiments and used that as authentication that one can deliver science concepts in an elementary school classroom working in concert with and in support of the classroom teacher. I worked with a parent of a child in the class of a second grade teacher in an Oak Park elementary school and who brokered the arrangement. The teacher specified a morning at a time they would be studying the subject "States of Matter". We brought along ice cubes, salt, an alcohol-in-glass thermometer and a dozen empty soda cans. A hot plate was already there.

We measured the temperature of the transition points between the states of water noting our temperature scale is based on the unique physical properties of water. Along the way we noted that the atmosphere has mass and demonstrated that fact by arranging for the atmosphere to rapidly crush those cans - one at a time. The resounding pops elicited ohs and ahs. The excitement was palpable. And when the class ended, the students crowded around asking if they could have the cans, crushed by the air surrounding us, as souvenirs.

You can find a school in the school district in which you live. You can visit and make your presence and interest known. You can share a copy of the ChemShorts for Kids experiments as clear evidence that meaningful and tested experiments can be done in the classroom. And finally you can offer to work with the teacher as his or her humble helper.

You can be an agent of change. You can help realign the image of chemistry to be more in accord with reality. You can inspire young people to believe they too can become scientists following your example. But to do that you need to be there, on the level playing field of the classroom, standing next to the authority figure, the teacher, doing science.

And remember, chemists are the human element!

PETER LYKOS
Oak Park, IL

NEW LEGISLATIVE ACTION NETWORK HOMEPAGE

The ACS Office of Legislative and Government Affairs (OLGA) is proud to announce the development of a new Legislative Action Network homepage called **act4chemistry.org**. Act4chemistry.org offers ACS members:

- Current news and commentary through the Act 4 Chemistry blog,
- Daily links to news articles of interest to scientists, and
- Access to an improved legislative action center, where ACS members can send letters to policymakers.

Register at <http://www.act4chemistry.org/register>

Only registered participants will receive notices of key decisions being made affecting chemistry. ACS members are encouraged to register so that they can comment on blogs and send letters to their policymakers.

Act4chemistry.org is a free program of the OLGA designed to bridge the gap between policymakers and chemistry. If you have any questions please contact Brad Smith at b_smith@acs.org.

WCC ARTICLE AUTHORS NEEDED

The Chicago Section's Women Chemists Committee has a project to highlight women, both current and historical, and topics of interest to women. The project is called the "WCC Column" in the *Chemical Bulletin* and the project has been very successful.

We invite anyone, women or men, to join us in this endeavor of writing an article for the column. The article needs to be about 500 words long and will also be 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.

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The following courses will be offered in our
2008 Summer Semester (June 30 — August 1)

Chem 106 **Chemistry Essentials** [3 c.h.]

Lec MWF 12:30-3:10pm

Phys 202 **General Physics II** [4 c.h.]

Lec MWF 4:30-5:20pm

TTH 5:00-7:50pm

Lab MWF 5:40-8:30pm

2008 Fall Semester (August 25 — December 12)

Chem 111 **General Chemistry I** [5 c.h.]

Lec MWF 1:00-1:50pm Or MWF 3:00-3:50pm

Lab T or TH 8:30am-12:20pm

Or T or TH 2:00-5:50pm

Chem 211 **Analytical Chemistry** [5 c.h.]

Lec M 6:30-9:20pm

Lab W 5:30-9:20pm

Chem 251 **Organic Chemistry II** [3 c.h. lec/2 c.h. lab]

Lec MF 1:00-1:50pm & W 1:00-2:50pm

Lab TH 9:00am-12:50pm or 2:00-5:50pm

Or M 2:00-5:50pm

Chem 301 **Biochemistry I** [3 c.h. lec/1 c.h. lab]

Lec MW 4:00-5:20pm

Lab T 3:00-5:50pm

Phys 201 **General Physics II** [4 c.h.]

Lec MWF 9:00-9:50am

Lab TH 9:30am-12:20pm

Or TH 2:00-4:50pm

Phys 211 **University Physics II** [5 c.h.]

Lec MWF 9:00-9:50am & M 2:00-2:50pm

Lab TH 9:30am-12:20pm

Or TH 2:00-4:50pm

The following courses are **Allied Health Science oriented**

Chem 107 **Principles of Inorganic Chemistry** [4 c.h.]

Lec MWF 10:00-10:50am

Lab M 1:00-2:50pm

Or W 1:00-2:50pm

Chem 108 **Principles of Organic & Biochemistry** [4 c.h.]

Day Lec MTWTF 10:00-10:50am

Day Lab T 8:00-9:50am or T 12:30-2:20pm

Eve Lec T 6:30-9:20pm & TH 6:30-7:20pm

Eve Lab TH 4-5:50pm

Or TH 7:30-9:20pm

For additional information about the courses, contact:

Dr. Frances Crean at 773-298-3517 or fcrean@sxu.edu

Updated schedule: <https://claws.sxu.edu> and click

Prospective Students to Search for Sections

JOB CLUB

The next meeting of the **Chicago Section ACS Job Club** will be held at the **ILLINOIS BEACH RESORT AND CONFERENCE CENTER** on Friday, **June 20 at 11:00 a.m.** 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 lunch meeting following the Job Club, the cost is \$10 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.

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CALENDAR

June 18 - July 2: 2008 Science History Tour to France. Contact Lee Marek at Lmarek@aol.com or Yvonne Twomey at ytwomey@mindspring.com.

June 20: Chicago Section's luncheon meeting. The Distinguished Service Award will be presented and the 50-year members will be honored. **See this issue.**

June 24-26: 12th Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference, Washington, D.C. For more information, call (202) 872-6102, email: greenchem2008@acs.org. Website: www.gcande.org.

July 7-11: 60th Anniversary Inter/Micro Conference focused on applied microscopy, hosted by the McCrone Research Institute will be held in Chicago at the Millennium Knickerbocker Hotel. For information, contact Lauren Logan at intermicro@mcricri.org or go to www.mcricri.org.

July 27-31: 20th Biennial Conference on Chemical Education, Bloomington, IN. For further information, email BCCE2008@indiana.edu. Website: bcce2008indiana.edu.

August 7-8: Illinois Institute of Technology will have a symposium on Sustainability & Product Development, McCormick Tribune Campus Center, 3201 S. State St., Chicago. For more information, go to www.mmae.iit.edu/symposium.

August 8-17: ACS Illinois Sections' cooperative science tent project at the Illinois State Fair. For further information on this fun and worthwhile outreach activity, contact the section office at (847) 647-8405.

August 17-21: The 236th ACS National Meeting & Exposition, Philadelphia, PA. Website: acs.org.

September 26: Chicago Section's Education Night jointly with Loyola University. Note change in date.

October 13: The International Coatings Expo: ICE 2008, Chicago, IL. For information, call (610) 940-0777. Website: www.coatingstech.org.

October 13-15: The Chicago Section Society of Plastics Engineers will have the Vinyltec Conference at the Crowne Plaza Chicago O'Hare. For more information, go to www.SPEChicago.org.

October 15-17: Association of Laboratory Managers (ALMA) 29th Annual Conference, The Conference Center at Waltham Woods, Waltham, MA (Boston area). Visit www.labmanagers.org for further details.

October 17: Basolo Medalist Lecture at Northwestern University and dinner at Zhivago's. Note change in date.

Whether you spend your summer traveling, going to school, working, resting or playing....Have a wonderful summer and see you in the Fall with the September issue!----Editorial Staff

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