

Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

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JANUARY 2010 NEWSLETTER TOPICS

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Reminder!

Mosher Award Meeting

Thursday, January 21, 2010

Biltmore Hotel & Suites

Featuring our own Howard and Sally Peters discussing Death by Chocolate and Chemistry Outreach

Professor Jeanette Medina Teacher-Scholar Award for Community College Chemistry Faculty

The Santa Clara Valley Section is excited and honored to announce that the first Teacher-Scholar Award for Community College Chemistry Faculty, given to Professor Jeanette Medina on November 19, 2009, was recognized nationally in Chemical & Engineering News. See the full article on page 49 of the December 21, 2009 issue.

February Dinner Meeting Benefits of Wine with Dinner

Dr. Valery Uhl

Abstract:

Chemists know that simple alcohols are poisonous compounds. Ethanol is just the least toxic to humans. Many "toxic" compounds are beneficial to humans in small doses. After defining "moderate alcohol consumption" and explaining the "French Paradox," Dr. Uhl will discuss the health benefits of moderate alcohol consumption. The talk will cover the health benefits of wine and will contrast wine being part of a meal or not part of a meal. Some of the compounds of wine that might be responsible for its beneficial nature will be discussed.

Biography:

Dr. Uhl is the Chief Judge and Director of the "North of the Gate" Wine Competition for the Sonoma-Marín Fair in Petaluma, California. She also judges for the San Francisco International Wine Competition, the Pacific Rim International Wine Competition, the Grand Harvest



Awards, the National Women's Wine Competition, the West Coast Wine Competition, the El Dorado County Fair Wine Competition, the International Japan Wine Challenge, the Mid American Wine Competition and multiple others.

Dr. Uhl has a degree in Viticulture Management, and graduated Cum Laude from U.C. Davis where she was a Taster for the U.C. Davis

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February Dinner Meeting

Date: Wednesday, February 17, 2010

Time: 6:00 Social Hour
7:00 Dinner
8:00 Presentation

Location: Biltmore Hotel & Suites
2151 Laurelwood Blvd.
Santa Clara, CA 95054

Speakers: Dr. Valery Uhl
Benefits of Wine with Dinner

Cost: \$27.00 with a choice of:
Chicken Vernique (cream sauce)
Schezwan Vegetable Stir-Fry

Reservations: www.scvacs.org or
Shirley Radding 408-246-2564
408-296-8625 Fax

Reservations should be made by February 14th stating your name, address, Company, affiliation, number of people in party and menu selection. If you are unable to honor your reservation and do not cancel by Tuesday, February 16th, you will be invoiced following the dinner meeting.

Biography, continued from front page

Enology and Food Science Departments. Her family owns gold medal Pinot Noir vineyards in the Green Valley sub-appellation of the Russian River AVA.

She has written papers and given lectures around the country on the health benefits of wine. She also educates various Bay Area clubs on wine and food pairings.

She continues to collect and donate wine for many of her special causes such as the American Cancer Society of which she is a Board member, various Breast Cancer events and Summit Medical Center in Oakland where she is also the Director of Radiation Oncology Services at the AB Summit Comprehensive Cancer Center's Department of Radiation Oncology.

Chair's Message



My name is Bruce Raby and I will serve as Santa Clara Valley Section Chair for 2010. It is interesting to contemplate the changes that have occurred since I was Chair 30+ years ago.

I thank Natalie McClure for all she has done during her term as Chair. She has done an outstanding job and as they say "she's a hard act to follow". Thank you Natalie for helping me to prepare for my term.

What about the year ahead? The Section will host a joint meeting of college and university student clubs so that

the clubs can exchange ideas and contacts. We will need to adjust our by-laws to reflect the new status of students as members; that will require a ratifying vote of our membership. I would like the Section to hold at least one tour event; I propose

one to the Almaden Mercury Mine Museum in April to learn about that one-time industry for providing mercury to the California gold mines. The March Section meeting will feature a talk about energetic molecules and Russian spies.

You will be learning more about coming events this spring: the national meeting of the ACS in San Francisco in March and the International Science and Engineering Fair to be held in San Jose in March. Both events require your help, especially as judges for the Fair.

Our big January event is the Mosher Award meeting, January 21, 2010. The honorees this year are our own Howard and Sally Peters. Plan to attend and help celebrate the work these two have done for our Section and for the national ACS.

I wish that each of you will have good health and freedom from want during 2010!



Save the Dates for Green Chemistry June 21-24

The 14th Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference returns to downtown Washington, DC on June 21-24, 2010. With the theme "Innovation and Application" and with one of the renowned founders of green chemistry, Dr. John Warner (President and CTO, Warner Babcock Institute for Green Chemistry) as the chair, this conference is shaping up to be one you won't want to miss! The tentative schedule for the week begins with a Student Workshop, Roundtable Meetings, and the Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Awards Ceremony on Monday, June 21, followed by technical programming on June 22-24. Please visit the conference website, www.gcande.org, where more details will be posted as they become available.

Career-enhancing Course Scholarships Available!

The National Chemistry Week Committee invites you to apply for an ACS Leadership Course Scholarship for the 2010 San Francisco National Meeting. The ACS Leadership Development System is a competency based, integrated framework of learning modules designed to help members develop into highly skilled leaders. Has your employer cut back on conference and training funds? Here is a chance to broaden your leadership skill-set. You can apply these proven leadership techniques in your personal career and now we're giving you the opportunity to also apply this leadership within the ACS.

What we ask in return for our funding is that scholarship recipients become members of the 2010 National Chemistry Week Committee. Time commitment on the committee is variable—most of the planning is done virtually, over email and by phone and the busiest time of year is July through October. This is your chance to become involved in a creative and fun local ACS committee. Two scholarships will be awarded for 2010. All Santa Clara Valley Section members and student members are eligible. Scholarship candidates are required to submit their choice of course (see list below) and a brief statement on why they would like to attend the course (no more than 1 page) to NCW Chairperson Abby Kennedy by February 1, 2010 at akennedy-california2007@yahoo.com. Please include your name, email and phone number in your email submission. Candidates must be able

to attend the meeting online or in person (for the facilitated courses, schedule available at www.acs.org/leaderdevelopment) and be willing to participate as a NCW Committee member during 2010. Scholarship recipients will be notified by February 15, 2010. For questions regarding the scholarship or the NCW Committee, please contact Abby Kennedy.

The following courses are available for the scholarship (full course descriptions can be found at www.acs.org/leaderdevelopment.

- Becoming an Effective Contributor (*self-paced online course*)
- Matching Interests with Goals (*self-paced online course*)
- Engaging Colleagues in Dialogue
- Manage Projects Effectively (*self-paced online course*)
- Running Productive Meetings (*self-paced online course*)
- Understanding Members' Interest (*self-paced online course*)
- Engaging and Motivating Volunteers
- Fostering Innovation
- Coaching and Feedback
- Collaborating Across Boundaries
- Leading Change
- Succession Planning (*self-paced online course*)
- Leading without Authority
- Developing Communication Strategies
- Strategic Planning



Chemistry and Public Outreach

by Howard Peters

In today's global economy, it is important that we explain chemistry and inspire students to gain the technical skills to invent and innovate our way out of the present "mess." Public outreach for science and technology comes in many forms. Here are two local examples:

CHOCOLATE – A new student member chemistry group is forming at the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC). On November 16, Howard Peters (aka locally as Mr. Chocolate) presented one of their first lectures, his signature fun talk, "Chocolate: Food of the Gods," to about 40 students and faculty. For those who stayed to the "bitter" end, there was a free drawing for a ten-pound bar of dark "bittersweet." Some of the UCSC students later attended the dinner program where ACS President Tom Lane spoke and presented the first ever ACS award to recognize achievement in teaching chemistry in the community colleges. Howard also donated a ten-pound bar of bittersweet chocolate to the student member group to hold a raffle to raise chapter funds in December.

INVENTION – On December 4, Howard (as a retired patent attorney) spoke to two classes of eighth grade science students at Bucsher Middle School in Santa Clara (near the Santa Clara University campus) about invention and innovation. To get and keep their early-morning attention, there was also a free drawing for familiar patented toys: a SLINKY, a YO-YO, and a FRISBEE, with a copy of the U.S. patent for each.

The very animated Bucsher instructor Carl Erickson is interested in teaching innovation. He requires his eighth grade science classes to create an invention project by the end of the school year. This project includes seeing a problem, filling a need and coming up with a new solution. The students search the open literature and the patent literature to see if the idea is new, prepare drawings, create a working model, and write one type of a "provisional" patent.

This is news!

For more information about Bucsher, see <http://buchser.ca.campusgrid.net/home>

Local Science Fairs in 2010

Contact: Howard Peters, peters4pa@sbcglobal.net

January to June of each year is the time for intense effort for IMPORTANT science and engineering fair competitions at the local, regional, state and international levels.

SPECIAL NOTE: The judging for the 2010 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF 2010) will be held in San Jose, CA on May 12-13 (Tuesday about 5 pm –Wednesday about 6 pm). There will be a need for an enhanced commitment of our Silicon Valley scientists to volunteer for judges in all judging categories.

REMEMBER - There is always a need for judges for these science fairs. Please volunteer now!

Contact local science fair information is below:

San Francisco Area Science Fairs - ISEF affiliate

San Mateo County students eligible

Date: Thursday, March 25, 2010

Location: San Francisco County Fair Ground Building - Golden Gate Park

Contact: Greta Mayfield

(925) 842-3047 or Greta.Mayfield@chevron.com

www.usc.edu/CSSF/Fairs/300.html



San Mateo County Science, Math and Technology Fair

Date: February 1-4, 2010

Judging February 2, 2010

Location: Hiller Aviation Museum, San Carlos

www.hiller.org/upcoming-events.shtml

Contact: Ms Christine or Gary Nakagiri

(650) 802-5337 or cjoy@smcoe.k12.ca.us

www.usc.edu/CSSF/Fairs/400.html



SCIENCEPALOOZA

East Side Union High School for first time science fair participants

Date: Saturday, February 27, 2010

Location: Santa Clara County Fair Grounds, San Jose

For more information, visit www.outreach-foundation.org/judges.html



Monterey County Science and Engineering Fair

County High School students

Date: Saturday, March 6, 2010

Location: California State University, Monterey Bay

For more information, visit www.montereycountysciencefair.com/



Santa Cruz Science Fair

Santa Cruz County high school students

Date: Saturday, March 13, 2010

Location: Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium, Santa Cruz

For more information, visit www.science.santacruz.k12.ca.us/links.html



Synopsys Championship (aka Santa Clara Valley Science and Engineering Fair)

Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2010

Location: San Jose Convention Center, San Jose

For more information, visit www.outreach-foundation.org/judges.html



SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY
P.O. Box 395, Palo Alto, CA 94302

Visit our web site at:



<http://www.scvacs.org>

To receive an email when our newsletter
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<http://www.scvacs.org/newsletter/>

SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION

2010 Section Officers

Chair	Bruce Raby	408-294-6718	alanice811@att.net
Chair-Elect	Abby Kennedy	209-640-2005	akennedy@exelixis.com
Past Chair	Natalie McClure	650-906-7831	nmccclure@drugregulatoryaffairs.com
Secretary	Karl Marhenke	831-688-4959	karlmar@armory.com
Treasurer	Ihab Darwish	650-594-1654	darwishis@yahoo.com

Councilors

2008-2010	George Lechner	408-226-7262	glechner@aol.com
2008-2010	Herb Silber	408-924-4954	hbsilber@science.sjsu.edu
2009-2011	Abby Kennedy	209-640-2005	akennedy@exelixis.com
2009-2011	Howard Peters	650-854-4614	peters4pa@sbcglobal.net
2009-2011	Ean Warren	650-329-4554	ewarren@scvacs.org
2010-2012	Linda Brunauer	408-554-6947	lbrunauer@scu.edu
2010-2012	Sally Peters	650-812-4994	Sally.Peters@parc.com
2010-2012	Peter Rusch	650-961-8120	pfrusch@aol.com

Alternate Councilors

2008-2010	Mark Kent	408-736-0989	markkent@yahoo.com
2009-2011	Ihab Darwish	650-594-1654	darwishis@yahoo.com
2009-2011	David Parker	408-615-4961	dparker@santaclaraca.gov
2009-2011	Bruce Raby	408-294-6718	brida954@comcast.net
2010-2012	Lois Durham	650-322-3507	ldurham9398@sbcglobal.net
2010-2012	Natalie McClure	650-906-7831	nmccclure@drugregulatoryaffairs.com
2010-2012	Stephanie Gehling	408-429-9681	s_gehling@hotmail.com
2010	Harry Ungar	831-708-2049	haungar@cruzio.com

Newsletter

Editor	Stephanie Gehling	408-429-9681	s_gehling@hotmail.com
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ChemPloyment Abstracts

Director	Charles Sullivan	650-728-7034	cdansullivan@sbcglobal.net
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FUTURE MEETINGS

- Jan 29** Photopolymerization Short Course
Mountain View, CA
www.ggpf.org
- Feb 17** Dr. Valery Uhl
Benefits of Wine with Dinner
Biltmore Hotel, Santa Clara, CA
- Feb 27** SCIENCEPALOOZA
Santa Clara County Fair Grounds
www.outreach-foundation.org
- Mar 12-14** Santa Cruz County Science Fair
<http://science.santacruz.k12.ca.us>
- Mar 17** Synopsys Silicon Valley Science
and Technology Championship
San Jose Convention Center
www.outreach-foundation.org
- Mar 18** Dr. Joseph Castellano
High Energy Molecules and Russian
Spies
- Mar 21-25** Spring National Meeting
Chemistry for a Sustainable World
San Francisco, CA
- May 9-14** Intel International Science and
Engineering Faire
San Jose Convention Center
www.societyforscience.org/ISEF