Chair’s Message

Happy New Year, and welcome to a new year of ACS activities! Like all of the Santa Clara Valley (SCV) Chairs before me, I’m here to keep our section informed and active.

We have many things planned for the forthcoming year. Some are annual events and others are brand new.

With a section membership in excess of 3,000, we have so many opportunities to participate. Think about it. You are a member of the SCV section. You can contribute something and get rewarded for doing so. What rewards? Exercise your talents. Yes, whatever they may be, there’s something you can do: learn new skills, meet colleagues in a friendly environment, see your efforts help others, practice your leadership skills, and influence events. All of that is yours in less than a year.

For all new Chairs this is the time to set goals for the year. Here are my top three:

- Get five new people involved in SCV activities at a high level of participation and decision-making that shows results.
- Hold at least one dinner meeting in a membership cluster site to engage more people.
- Have one lunch meeting as part of the Western Regional Meeting in October.

February Dinner Meeting

2012 Mosher Award to Doctors Charles and Martha Casey

Abstract

Martha and Chuck Casey will describe how their chemistry experiences had common origins in undergraduate research and in joining the research groups of beginning professors in graduate school at MIT. Chuck’s career followed a traditional path as a Professor at the University of Wisconsin. He will describe his research career in organo-metallic chemistry and his experiences in teaching both graduate and undergraduate students. Martha switched to university administration, and will describe some of the ways her chemistry background helped her as an Assistant Vice Chancellor in charge of academic planning and institutional research. Chuck and Martha have shared a strong interest in ACS activities.

Martha became active first, was elected secretary-treasurer of the Wisconsin Section in 1975, Chair in 1980, and a Councilor in 1982. She has served on national committees ranging from the Committee on Budget and Finance to the Women Chemists Committee. Chuck was Chair of the Wisconsin Section in 1985, and later served as chair of the Organometallic Chemistry Subsection and the Inorganic Division of ACS. With Martha acting as a savvy campaign manager, he successfully ran for 2004 ACS President. He is proud of starting the Academic...continued on next page
Chair’s Message, continued from front page

Employment Initiative and for efforts that led to open disclosure of ACS Executive Compensation.

Since retirement, Martha and Chuck’s activities have re-converged and now center on service to scientific, civic and university organizations. Chuck chaired the National Research Council Committee that wrote the 2007 report “The Future of U.S. Chemistry Research: Benchmarks and Challenges”; he also served as chair of the Chemistry Section of AAAS during the International Year of Chemistry. Martha currently serves on the national ACS Nominations and Elections Committee, and needs suggestions for ACS presidential candidates. She continues to seek ways the local ACS section can best serve the chemical community, especially the students. In Madison, she serves on many boards including Madison Symphony Orchestra, Opera for the Young, Downtown Rotary, and the UW-Madison Alumni Association.

Biographies

Charles Casey is Homer B. Adkins Emeritus Professor of Chemistry at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He received a B.S. in Chem. from St. Louis University and a Ph.D. from MIT. In 1968, he joined the faculty at the University of Wisconsin-Madison where he spent his entire academic career and served as Chair of Chemistry from 1998-2001. He served as President of the American Chemical Society in 2004. His research focused on mechanistic organometallic chemistry and explored mechanisms of important catalytic processes including hydroformylation, hydrogenation, and alkene polymerization. He chaired the National Research Council Panel that wrote the 2007 report: “The Future of U.S. Chemistry Research: Benchmarks and Challenges.” He is a member of the National Academy of Sciences (1993) and has received ACS Awards in Organometallic Chemistry (1991) and for Distinguished Service to Inorganic Chemistry (2011).

Martha Casey received her A.B. degree from Bryn Mawr College and her Ph.D. in organic chemistry from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. She did postdoctoral work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. After six years as a research chemist at UW-Madison, she switched to a career in university administration. She completed her service as an Assistant Vice Chancellor and head of the Academic Planning and Analysis Office, an arm of the Provost’s Office. This office developed academic planning and institutional research at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. In particular, she pioneered developing truly comparable comparisons with peer universities.

Martha was elected a Fellow of the American Chemical Society in 2012. She currently serves on the ACS national Committee on Nominations and Elections. As Councilor for the Wisconsin Section of the ACS for 28 years, she previously served on the Council Policy Committee, the Budget and Finance Committee, the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs, and the Women Chemists Committee. At the local level, she has served as chair of the Wisconsin Section and secretary-treasurer. She is particularly proud of helping to transform the mission of the Wisconsin Section toward student-oriented activities. She also serves on a number of boards in Madison related to supporting classical music and opera in the community and to supporting the university.

Chair’s Message, continued from front page

Now, the details.

• A high level of participation and decision-making that shows results means leading some activity or event or some part of it. You take a risk to say “Yes” to anything. Here’s a way to take a small risk, do something to help out, and see the benefits.

• A membership cluster site is some work locale where we have a group of members. There are company sites in our section where there are anywhere from a dozen to more than a hundred ACS members. Let us come to you with the programs of the SCV. Join me and volunteer to make this happen.

• Instead of a dinner meeting, we will have a Saturday lunch meeting at the Western Regional Meeting in October to meet not only SCV members but also other ACS members from local sections in Northern California.

You can reach me by emailing me at chair@scvacs.org. I welcome and look forward to your e-mail.
Welcome to the Santa Clara Valley Section of ACS

Each month the section receives a spreadsheet from national ACS with the names of members new to our section. The members are either new to ACS, have transferred in from other areas, or are the newest members – students. To welcome you to the section and get to know you, the Executive Committee offers new members a free dinner!! To encourage you to attend a monthly section dinner meeting, we would like you to be our guest. When you register, make certain to mention that you are a new member and you and a spouse (or friend) will be our guests. The dinner meetings are often the 3rd Thursday of the month at a local spot, somewhat convenient to the entire section. If you are unable to attend in the evening, perhaps you would join us for an outreach event, like judging a science fair, participating in the Chemistry Olympiad, or a National Chemistry Week event in October. Then, there is our annual wine tasting and awards picnic in July. The local section is a volunteer organization. Please attend an event, volunteer to help, and get to know your local fellow chemists. Welcome!!

New Members List for December

- Dr. Richard L. Beardsley
- Marc A. Blatchford
- Alix Chan
- Alyssa Russo
- Benjamin Smith
- Alice Brooks
- Bettina Chen
- Dr. Jibin Sun
- Jay Titus
- Mengyou Wu

Abstract

Bettina Chen and Alice Brooks, the co-founders of Maykah, Inc. will describe their company and toys. They have developed a toy called Roominate, a wired building toy for girls because every young girl is an artist, engineer, architect and visionary. Bettina and Alice were influenced by their early childhood experiences. They are committed to delivering a fun toy experience that encourages exploration and confidence for young girls in science, technology, engineering, and math. Early opportunities to be inspired and encouraged will help girls welcome their potential as tomorrow's technology innovators! Math, science, and engineering are a way of thinking that can become familiar to children through early exposure. Confidence and enthusiasm can be developed, starting with fun and engaging hands-on play in childhood.

Biographies

Alice grew up playing in her dad's robotics lab. When she asked for a Barbie, he gave her a mini saw. So she made her own doll!

Alice Brooks graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 2010 with a BS in Mechanical Engineering. She received her Masters in Mechanical Engineering Design from Stanford in June 2012. While a student at Stanford, Alice spent six months working at Nest Labs.

In her spare time, Alice loves making anything from light fixtures to stuffed animals to strawberry shortcake.

As a young girl, Bettina loved Lego and built hundreds of extravagant creations with her older brother.

Bettina Chen graduated from the California Institute of Technology in 2010 with a BS in Electrical Engineering. She received her Masters in Electrical Engineering Design from Stanford in March 2012. Bettina has conducted research on bionic contact lenses and worked as an electrical engineer at Discera and KLA-Tencor.

Bettina loves volunteering and working with kids, and is looking forward to getting kids as excited about engineering as she is! She is an ultimate frisbee enthusiast and plays competitively on a San Francisco bay area mixed club team.

January Dinner Meeting

Date: Thursday, January 17, 2013
Time: 6:00 p.m. Social Hour
7:00 p.m. Dinner
8:00 p.m. Presentation
Speakers: Alice Brooks and Bettina Chen
Founders of Maykah, Inc.
Location: Biltmore Hotel & Suites
2151 Laurelwood Road
Santa Clara, CA
Cost: $26.00
Chicken Romano or Vegetarian Lasagne

Reservations: www.scvacs.org
Sally Peters 650-854-4614

Reservations should be made by January 14th stating your name, address, company/school affiliation, number of people in party. Watch the web site for more information. If you are unable to honor your reservation and do not cancel by Thursday, January 16th, you will be invoiced following the dinner meeting.
Our 2012 election ended just after the December issue of this newsletter went to press. We got 308 votes, which is 10.0% of the electorate.

As we do every year, we have a new Chair-Elect. We also have a new elected chair, due to the resignation of our Chair-Elect for 2012. Both the Treasurer and the Secretary were re-elected. All three of the Councilors and all three of the Alternate Councilors whose terms expired at the end of 2012 ran for re-election; all, of course, were re-elected since they ran unopposed.

We thank everyone who voted, and we hope that our electronic balloting, managed by Votecount, was as easy for you as it was for us. The continuing members of the Executive Committee also thank those who voted for the implied vote of confidence in the volunteer work we do for the Section. We also thank you for your votes on the revision of our bylaws.

The most important requirements for Executive Committee ("ExComm") membership are (1) membership in the Santa Clara Valley Section of the ACS and (2) willingness to serve. If you’re interested, you should come to our dinner meetings; most of the current ExComm members attend most of those and showing up is a good way to meet them and get to know them, and they you. Any of us will be glad to describe what being a member of the ExComm involves. Also, visitors are always welcome at our ExComm meetings; the times and places are listed near the bottom of our home page at www.scvacs.org. For some time now we’ve been meeting at 7:30 p.m. on the first Monday of the month. Most of our recent meetings have been at the home of Howard and Sally Peters in Menlo Park. Meetings typically last until about 9:30.

Our Nominations and Elections committee puts names on the ballot based upon interest and willingness to serve, or, for incumbents, willingness to continue to serve. Thus, you have to find a way to be active in Section activities and attract the notice of the committee. Come to our dinner meetings! Volunteer for one of our committees!

Our Section is designated by the national office as "large". We have seven Councilors, and seven Alternate Councilors. That’s fourteen people, and three of the five officers are also either Councilors or Alternate Counselors. So, despite the fact that Section membership is still well over 3000, all we have been able to do is get 16 people to fill 19 slots! Getting volunteers for ongoing work isn’t easy!

The only viable way to be elected is to get your name listed on the ballot. The national bylaws require Sections to hold elections, even if the races are non-contested. We are also required to allow for write-in votes, but the fact is that no one has ever come remotely close to being elected that way.

Besides being placed on the ballot by the Nominations and Elections committee, the only way to get on it is through a petition. At least one past Section Chair not only ran, but also was elected in precisely this way. Only 15 signatures (one can even be the candidate’s own) of Section members are needed. You send the petition to the Secretary, and you’re on the ballot.

We’re a 100% volunteer organization. None of us is paid for what we do, and we have no paid employees. Volunteers are always welcome. The work is interesting, fun, and rewarding. We invite you to join us!

Karl Marhenke, Secretary

Local Science Fairs in 2013

Contact: Susan Oldham-Fritts, sofritts@garlic.com, or Mark Kent, marklent@yahoo.com

Now that the holidays are over, we are starting another important time frame – Science and Engineering Fair season. Every January to June is the time of intense effort for important competitions at the local, regional, state and international levels. There is always a great need for category awards judges for the following science fairs (especially in the areas of botany, biology, biochemistry, chemistry, microbiology, and the behavioral/social sciences). In addition, we have need of a few interested members for our SCVACS sponsored special award judges team at our local fair, the Synopsys Championship.

So, no matter which fair includes your hometown, please volunteer now!

**SCIENCEPALOOZA**

East Side Union High School District fair, where many of the students are first time science fair participants

**Date**: Saturday, February 9, 2013

**Location**: Santa Clara County Fair Grounds, San Jose

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

**San Mateo County Science, Math and Technology Fair**

**Date**: Tuesday, February 26, 2013

**Location**: Hiller Aviation Museum, San Carlos

Contact Janet Shi at jshi@smcoe.k12.ca.us or (650) 802-5355

For more information, visit www.usc.edu/CSSF/Fairs/300.html

**Monterey County Science and Engineering Fair**

Sixth through twelfth grade Monterey County students

**Date**: Saturday, March 9, 2013

**Location**: California State University, Monterey Bay

For more information, visit www.montereycountysciencefair.com

**Santa Cruz Science Fair**

Sixth through twelfth grade Santa Cruz County students

**Date**: Saturday, March 9, 2013

**Location**: Santa Cruz County Fairgrounds, Santa Cruz

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

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

**Date**: Wednesday, March 13, 2013

**Location**: San Jose Convention Center, San Jose

For information on category award judging, visit www.outreach-foundation.org/judges.html

For information on participating in the SCVACS special awards judging team, contact Susan Oldham-Fritts, sofritts@garlic.com, or Mark Kent, marklent@yahoo.com

**San Francisco Bay Area Science Fair** - ISEF affiliate

While San Mateo County students are eligible, they will not be able to qualify for the California State Science Fair (CSSF).

**Date**: Wednesday, March 20, 2013

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

Contact Robert Fabini at sfbasf@gmail.com

www.usc.edu/CSSF/Fairs/300.html
CHEMPSLOYMENT ABSTRACTS JANUARY 2013
For a complete list of current abstracts, please visit: www.scvacs.org/Local_Folder/abstract.htm

CHEMPSLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3981
Position Title: Chemistry Research Associate
Job Description:
• Synthesis and characterization of organic molecules, including nucleic acids
• Chemical modification and characterization of surfaces
• Chemical and spectroscopic analysis and interpretation (e.g., UV-VIS, Fluorescence, HPLC, NMR, LC/MS, FTIR)
• Documentation of experimental work; analysis of data and reporting/presenting results

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:
Education: Masters of Science degree in Chemistry.
Experience: Candidates must have 2-5 years of relevant post-graduate experience in industry, where they demonstrated an expert knowledge of organic chemistry, creative problem solving ability, proficiency and independence in a multidisciplinary laboratory research environment; and achievement of successful experimental outcomes. Experience with nucleic acids and other biomolecules is highly desirable.

LOCATION, SALARY, EMPLOYER:
Job Location: Palo Alto, CA
Salary: Salary is commensurate with industry standards and experience.
Employer: Centrillion Biosciences is a venture-backed, growing life sciences company located in Palo Alto, CA.
Application Instructions: Please send resumes to hr@centrillionbio.com

Happy New Year
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 is published on our web site, sign up at:
http://www.scvacs.org/newsletter/

FUTURE MEETINGS

Jan 13-18  21st Winter ACS Fluorine Conference
           St. Pete Beach, FL
           http://fluorine.sites.acs.org/21stwfc.htm

Jan 17     Santa Clara Valley Section Meeting
           Alice Brooks and Bettina Chen
           Founders of Maykah, Inc.
           Santa Clara, CA
           www.scvacs.org

Jan 29     Stanford Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series
           Dr. Daniel Gamelin
           https://chemistry.stanford.edu/events/cessler-lectures

Feb 28     Mosher Award Dinner Meeting
           Doctors Charles and Martha Casey
           University of Wisconsin
           Biltmore Hotel & Suites
           Santa Clara, CA
           www.scvacs.org

Mar 17-21  Pittcon
           Philadelphia, PA
           http://pittcon.org

Apr 7-11   145th National ACS Meeting
           New Orleans, LA
           www.acs.org/neworleans2013

SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION

2013 Section Officers  Chair  Peter Rusch (chair@scvacs.org)
                      Chair Elect  Ean Warren
                      Past Chair  Natalie McClure
                      Secretary  Karl Marhenke
                      Treasurer  Ihab Darwish

Councilors  2011-2013  George Lechner
            2011-2013  Herb Silber
            2012-2014  Abby Kennedy
            2012-2014  Ean Warren
            2013-2015  Linda Brunauer
            2013-2015  Sally Peters
            2013-2015  Peter Rusch

Alternate Councilors  2011-2013  Mark Kent
                      2011-2013  Harry Ungar
                      2012-2014  Lisa Milstein
                      2012-2-14  David Parker
                      2013-2015  Stephanie Bachmann
                      2013-2015  Lois Durham
                      2013-2015  Natalie McClure

Newsletter Editor  Nathaniel Zuckerman
                  nathanielzuckerman@gmail.com

ChemPloyment Abstracts  Director  Liang Cao