

American Chemical Society - Central New Mexico Local Section Newsletter May 2004

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Central New Mexico Local Section Award Night May 7, 2003

The May meeting of the Central New Mexico Section of the American Chemical Society will be an award night. On this occasion we will be recognizing the achievements of the Chemistry Olympiad winners, the Science Fair Winners of the specialty Chemistry Prizes from the Central New Mexico Section, and 10 of our own members who are being recognized for fifty years of membership in the American Chemical Society. Dr. Dana Brabson has volunteered to perform his Chemical Show following the awards presentation.

Details: Time and Place

There will be hors d'oeuvres (vegetables and chips with dip) along with iced tea available at 6 pm for an informal social (½ hour) in the Santa Anna Room on the second floor of the Student Union Building at the University of New Mexico. Dinner will begin at 6:30 PM in the same room. The award ceremony and Chemical Show will begin at 7:30 PM in the Chemistry Building, Room 101. We have reserved parking in the Bandolier Lot to the West of the Chemistry Building. To reach our reserved parking exit Interstate 25 at Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue and take it east until you are onto the university grounds, continue east into the parking lot. There should be signs indicating the reserved parking area. The chemistry building is due east of the parking lot (#22 on the map). The Student Union Building is east of the Chemistry Building (Clark Hall) and is an easy 3 minute walk (#60 on the map). A map of the UNM campus is available at <http://www.unm.edu/campusmap.pdf>.

The dinner will consist of a dinner salad, London Broil (marinated flank steak in a Bordelaise sauce), rice pilaf, vegetable, rolls, apple pie and coffee, tea, ice tea or ice water. The dinner will cost \$15.00 per person; vegetarian options are available upon request. ***This will not be a buffet dinner so it is important that we have an accurate count of the number of people in attendance.*** Reservations may be made by contacting Steve Showalter at (505) 844-6412 or skshowa@sandia.gov by noon on Wednesday May 5th.

The award ceremony and Chemical Magic Show will begin at 7:30 PM and will be presented in the Chemistry Building (Clark Hall), Room 101. Please RSVP even if you are only planning to attend the award ceremony and the show.

National Chemistry Olympiad

The Central New Mexico Section of the American Chemical Society has announced the names of five outstanding high school chemistry students in the 2004 New Mexico Chemistry Olympiad competition. The students have been nominated to take a national exam that may qualify them to become members of the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad team that will compete in the 36th International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) in Kiel, Germany from July 18-27, 2004. The students are:

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| Brian House, Los Alamos High School, Los Alamos | Ryan McGowan, Albuquerque Academy, Albuquerque | Zigfried Hampel, Los Alamos High School, Los Alamos | Hayley Brown, Oñate High School, Las Cruces | Geoffrey Abraham, Albuquerque Academy, Albuquerque |
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These five New Mexico students are among nearly 900 nationwide who took a national qualifying exam on April 15-18 to select finalists for the top four students that will represent the U.S. at the IChO in Kiel, Germany. The IChO involves a series of theoretical exams, laboratory exercises, and other activities aimed at identifying the best chemistry students from participating nations around the world. This is the twentieth year of U.S. participation in the IChO. In 2003, the U.S. team won one silver medal and three bronze medals. A total of 228 students represented 58 countries at the 2003 IChO in Athens, Greece. We would like to thank Gil Butler for his hard work in organizing our Local Section's participation in the Chemistry Olympiad and those in the UNM Department of Chemistry who assisted with the April exam on their campus.

Science Fair Winners

The Local Section Sponsors: 3 chemical special awards at the NW and NE New Mexico Regional Science Fair; the Junior and Senior Chemistry Divisions at the New Mexico State Science and Engineering Fair as well as 3 special awards. Your Local Section also sponsors four special awards for New Mexico participants at the 2004 National American Indian Science and Engineering Fair in Albuquerque. We would like to thank our local section member special award judges (Donivan Porterfield: NAISEF, Merritt Helvenston: NE Regional and Andrew Rutkiewicz: NW Regional and NM State) for participating in this activity. Thank you to all of our other members who have participated as judges in these events and other Science Fair events around the state.

Northeastern New Mexico Regional Science Fair

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| Deja Chavez Las Vegas, NM | Arik Burakovsky Los Alamos, NM | Gabriella Ochoa Espanola, NM | Bonita Baca Las Vegas, NM |
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National American Indian Science and Engineering Fair

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| Marell Charley Gr 5, Bubble Trouble. Smith Lake, NM | Fetisha Martinez Gr. 7, Will Yeast Inflate a Balloon in 1 Hour. Thoreau, NM | Leona Delgarito Gr. 10, Frybread Oil Absorption. Thoreau, NM | Nathanael Willie Gr. 12, Bacteria vs. Oil. Gallup, NM |
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Northwestern New Mexico Regional Science Fair

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| Melissa Hatch Sr Chem: Red or Yellow (tomatoes), Rio Rancho, NM | Mark Probasco Sr Chem: Photoelectric approach to quantum physics: determining relevance of valence band on current. Rio Rancho, NM | Aubrey Herrera Jr Chem: Sustenance or Sewage: How quickly do vitamins dissolve in your stomach?, Albuquerque, NM |
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New Mexico State Science and Engineering Fair

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| Kevin Lane Jr Chem: Biogas production from bovine excrement using an anaerobic digester. Flora Vista, NM | Serge Shkuro Sr Chem: Isolation of proteins in peanuts. Grants, NM | Dylan Conradson Sr. Chem: Microscopic modeling of defects in alloys from multiscale structural data, Los Alamos, NM |
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ACS 50 years of Service Honorees

These members have remained involved with the American Chemical Society for half a century. Congratulations to our Local Section members who have reached this significant milestone.

These ACS 50-year members have received a 50-year member lapel pin and a 50-year membership card that entitles them to free registration at ACS national and regional meetings from the ACS. A certificate will be presented at our May Local Section meeting. The recipients are:

Dr. Terry Charles Wallace
Mr. James Robert Huff
Dr. William Emmett Garrison
Dr. Peggy W. Alley
Dr. Hubert W. Joy
Dr. Raimond Liepins
Dr. J. Frederick Stampfer
Dr. Robert N.R. Mulford
Dr. Howard Hamilton Cady
Dr. Darryl Dean Jackson

National Chemistry Week 2003 Report

Our National Chemistry Week activities were coordinated by David Wiedenfeld at New Mexico Highlands University. The theme for 2003 was "Earth's Atmosphere and Beyond". Multiple celebrations/demonstrations were carried out through our section the week of October 23rd at universities, high schools and museums. A copy of the report can be downloaded from the local section web site in PDF format at <http://www.acs.nm.org/> National Chemistry Week will be celebrated October 17-23 this year and the theme for this year's NCW is "Health and Wellness". If you are interested in participating in the activities for this year please contact David at (505)454-3003 or dwiedenfeld@nmhu.edu.

Chemists Celebrate Earth Day

The American Chemical Society observed Earth Day (April 22, 2004) again this year through the "Chemists Celebrate Earth Day" program. The theme for this year's Earth Day celebration was "What do You Know About H₂O?" The Local Section helped to sponsor a recent meeting of the Albuquerque Science Teachers Association (ASTA) and handed out Sep-pack kits and pH paper for water related activities. The separation of the colors in Grape Kool-aid was demonstrated for the participants using the Sep-paks and liquid chromatography. The packets of pH paper were provided to allow the students to collect rainwater and enter the results into a national database organized by NADP, the Illinois State Water Survey and the ACS. Since this was only the 2nd year of the program, participation was limited. Hopefully next year more students and teachers within our section can be involved with the Earth Day activities. More information about these and other national activities can be viewed online at <http://www.chemistry.org/earthday>.

Councilors Report

The latest Local Section councilor report from the National Meeting in Anaheim has been posted on the web page. Information in the report includes: AIChE interactions, electronic voting, Project SEED information, national meeting city rotation, use of projectors at national meetings, fees, a new ACS college textbook and various legislative items. It can be downloaded in PDF format from <http://www.acs.nm.org>

ProSpectives Conference Reminder

Just a quick reminder that the ACS will host a ProSpectives conference on "Emerging Opportunities in Chemical and Biosensing" in Santa Fe at the Lorretto Inn, May 16-19. Local Section members are invited to attend the poster session on Monday night 7-9 pm. There is no charge for attendance if you are an ACS member but an RSVP must be received by John Katz (jck96@acs.org) by May 5th if you do plan to attend. See the last Local Section newsletter for more details.

Green Chemistry R&D and the ACS Legislative Action Network

On April 21 the US House of Representatives passed the Green Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2004 (H.R. 3970). This act would authorize a new interagency green chemistry R&D program that would award about \$30 million a year to green chemistry researchers. NSF and EPA would lead an Interagency Working Group to coordinate and disseminate federal green chemistry activities. The Working Group would also include DOE and NIST, as well as any other agency the President designates. This legislation has now been referred to the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. The ACS expressed support of this legislation in the House and continues to work with several congressional offices to achieve final passage. Those in the ACS that are members of the Legislative Action Network (LAN) received timely news of consideration of this legislation in the House so that they could make their opinions known to their respective representatives. For information on how you can participate in the ACS LAN go to the "Join the ACS Grassroots Network" link on the following web page: <http://www.legislators.com/chemical/>

Summer Hiatus

Every year we take a hiatus from meetings during the summer months as families leave for extended vacations. The plan is to have a tour rather than a speaker sometime in late summer/early fall. More details will be sent out in late July or early August. Hope you have a fun and safe summer. Please feel free to contact your Local Section officers with any ideas on how we may better serve you and our other members.

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As always a PDF version of this newsletter can be downloaded from our Local Section web page at <http://www.acs.nm.org>.

For national ACS members the e-mail address to which this newsletter is sent is that on file with ACS. That e-mail address can be changed through ACS at: 800-333-9511 or service@acs.org.

All others receiving the e-mail version of this newsletter may reply to it with any needed e-mail address changes.