



NEWSLETTER

11 May 2012
Chemluminary Awards
[2001-2011]
for services to
our community

Letter from the Chair

Dear ACS Brazosport Section,

What a great start to the year! In case you missed them, this newsletter features some of the great events we had so far in 2012. Our seminar on Chocolate drew record attendance, we got to know the local beer brewing club at our seminar on Beer and got featured on the front page of the FACTS for our involvement with the Brazoria County Petrochemical Council Annual Luncheon. We continued to reach out to our schools through Boy Scout activities and participation in the BISD Walk & Talk Event.

Don't worry if you've missed these activities! We have some fantastic events planned for the next few months. Two highly anticipated events to watch out for will be our Industry Networking Event on June 13th at The Local and the PhD Comic Movie at the new **Dow Academic Center on July 18th**. Both events are free and open to the public. Please join us for these activities and get to know other chemists in the area.

Regards,

-Chanda Klinker (Chair of ACS Brazosport Local Section)

We are always looking for volunteers to participate in our outreach activities!!! If you are interested in bringing kids of all ages (5-95yrs) closer to chemistry, send us an email at

BrazosportACS@gmail.com



Do you want to improve your professional presence on LinkedIn? Are you looking for your next challenge and want to use your online profile to impress your next boss?

Brazosport ACS will be hosting a special seminar providing helpful tips and tricks to make the most out of your LinkedIn profile in **August 2012**.

UPCOMING EVENTS



Brazosport Local Section & Texas Gulf Coast Local Section

THE 5 CHOICES
to extraordinary productivity

Date: Wednesday May 16, 2012

Time: 5:30-7:30 PM

Location: Lake Jackson Civic Center
333 Texas 332,
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

1 hr Overview presented by
Michael Harvey

Do you need to be more productive?

- You'll learn how to achieve extraordinary results.
- Be empowered you to achieve outcomes that have previously been outside your reach.
- Make focused important decisions.
- Learn to eliminate the activities that distract you



The 5 Choices to Extraordinary Productivity will guide you to a new paradigm of your roles, effective weekly and daily planning, technology mastery, and energy renewal for truly extraordinary achievements.

Appetizers provided!

Are planning to attend?

Let us know by **MONDAY** May 14, 2012 so we can order enough appetizers (optional) **SEND TO:** texasgulfcoastsection@hotmail.com

Brazosport ACS (Industry) Networking Event

Wed, June 13, 2012

5:00 – 7:30pm at The Local,
Lake Jackson, TX



<http://www.ljlocal.com/>

Join us for a free, special networking event open to all area professionals in fields related to chemistry. Please invite your colleagues and coworkers to socialize and network with other chemistry professionals while enjoying a variety of food and drinks. Don't forget your business cards!

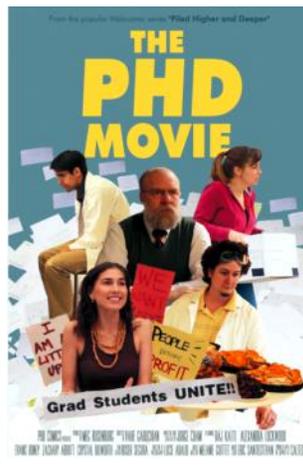
THE PHD MOVIE!

Wed, July 25, 2012

Dow Academic Center

5:30pm — networking
6:00pm — movie

<http://www.phdcomics.com/>

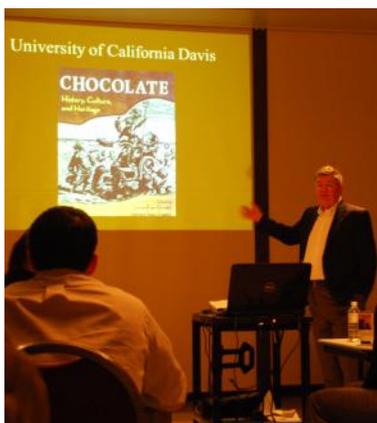




Chocolate - Food of the Gods



On February 21st we held our first hugely successful seminar of 2012! With Howard and Sally Peters leading the way, we all took a highly entertaining journey through the world of chocolate. From its origins, to processing to health aspects and legends, we sampled our way through the many aspects of chocolate. In front of a full house, Howard Peters demonstrated his love for both chocolate and trivia, combining both into an interactive and engaging seminar. His wife, Sally, kept him on his toes by interjecting tidbits that he forgot or taking over the talk when topic arose that were more her forte than his. For those who stayed to the bitter end, we had a raffle for various chocolate prizes including a book, a shirt and chocolate itself.



Howard Peters talking about his favorite topic—chocolate.

We were honored to have Howard and Sally Peters join us for this wonderful event. If you were unable to join us, you can find a previously recorded version of the talk at: <http://tiny-url.org/chocolate>.

By Chanda Klinker, Photos by Brazosport ACS



The raffle winners with Sally and Howard Peters.

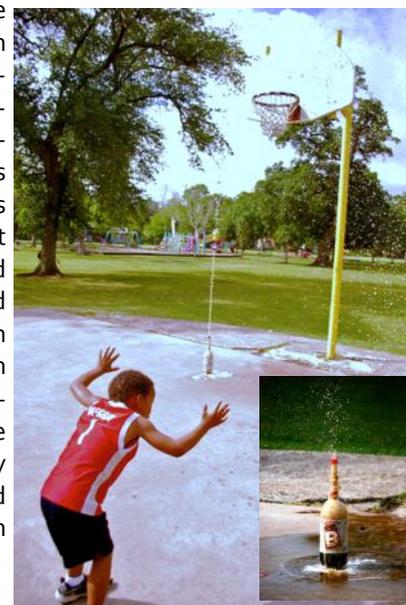
Brazosport Independent School District Walk and Talk

The Brazosport ACS Section showed children and parents that SCIENCE IS FUN at the *Annual BISD Walk and Talk* event at Clute Municipal Park on April 14th. The Walk and Talk event is designed to increase parent involvement in education.



Bob Zeigler and his experiments are the center of attention.

Brad Seurer, Chanda and Eric Klinker, and Bob Zeigler plus AmeriCorps volunteers and guests Ben Zeigler, Meryn Riley and our kid specialist Terry Zeigler worked with over 150 parents and children for 2 hours. While the elephant toothpaste demo was a great way to illustrate catalysts, and the alcohol explosion was used to demonstrate the fire triangle, the most popular science fun was had with the hands on events – the Diet Cola blast, nucleated with Mentos, and the non-Newtonian fluid made with cornstarch and water. Hopefully the children left not only dirty, sticky and gooey, but with an interest in Science!



The famous Diet Cola blast

By Bob Zeigler, Photos by Brazosport ACS



Beer Seminar

Beer is the world's most consumed alcoholic beverage and was the topic of our local Brazosport ACS section science café talk on March 21st, 2012. Peter Takacs, QA Manager of the Spoetzi Brewery Inc., took everyone on a journey of beers. From early discovery of beer to its special contributions to culture development, to the brewing methods that offer a vast variety of beers today, the attendees learned not only the science behind each bottle / mug but also interesting stories weaving through the evolution of beer. Everyone enjoyed a number of samples of Shiner beers during the talk. It was a great time to host our local ACS members and the local brewing club.



By Ling Zhang, Photos by Brazosport ACS



Beer-interested audience

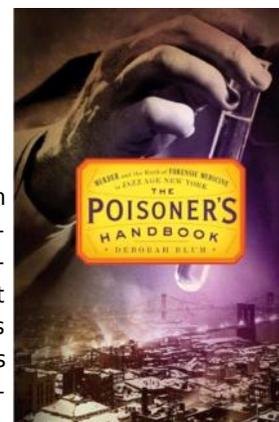


Peter Takacs

MAD SCIENCE: Experiments You Can Do at Home, But Probably Shouldn't

by Deborah Blum, The Penguin Press, 2010

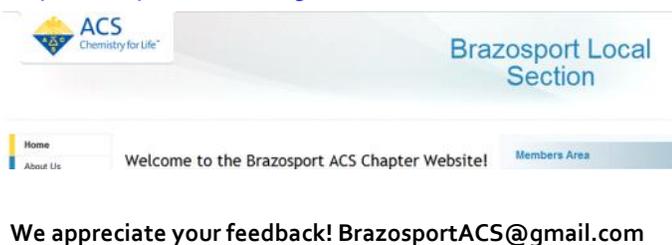
In this fascinating combination of history and science, UW-Madison Journalism Professor Deborah Blum describes how early medical examiners battled political corruption to establish a scientific approach to investigating deaths, and how they discovered new methods of detecting poisons and convicting murderers. These unsung heroes, chief medical examiner Charles Norris and toxicologist Alexander Gettler, also campaigned to expose and eliminate less intentional poisonings from sources like: the wood alcohol that flooded the illicit market during prohibition, radium--whose danger was not initially understood--and the many poisons that were routinely included in a wide range of consumer products. The cases Blum studies are as dramatic and sensational as any CSI fiction and readers will find the book hard to put down.



Source: <http://scifun.chem.wisc.edu/Readings/Readings.htm>

Visit us online and stay up to date on upcoming events and activities!

<http://brazosport.sites.acs.org/>



<http://www.facebook.com/brazosport.acs>



Brazosport ACS Brazoria County Petrochemical Council Luncheon

Following the success of last year's participation of Brazosport ACS at the annual Brazoria County Petrochemical Council luncheon, the section was invited again this year.



On April 26, 2012, Nicole Pietragallo, Eric and Chanda Klinker tested the audience comprised of representatives from local businesses such as Dow, BASF and the Nuclear Power Plant – South Texas Project in a "Spin the Wheel" trivia. The questions centered around water, energy and Earth Day, and the winners were presented with Brazosport ACS mugs.



Eric spinning the wheel.

The 15 minute kick-off event was well received by the audience and planning committee, and the Brazosport section of the ACS received a \$500 donation as a token of gratitude for participating in the event.

By Chanda Klinker, Photos by Brazosport ACS



Cindy Suggs, Chanda Klinker, Nicole Pietragallo, Eric Klinker—and the check

>>> >>> **ACS Webinars** <<< <<<

<http://acswebinars.org/>

CLICK >> WATCH >> LEARN >> DISCUSS

- > **From Cocoa Buds to Taste Buds – The Chocolate Process and Sensory Experience**
by Dr. Greg Ziegler
Thursday May 17, 2012
- > **Pigments, Dyes and Chemical Fingerprints in Art Conservation**
by Kristin Wustholz
Thursday, May 30, 2012
- > **Green Chemistry and Global Access to Medicines in Developing Countries**
by Dr. Joseph Fortunak
Thursday June 14, 2012
- > **The Kitchen as Laboratory: Reflections on the Science of Food and Cooking**
by Cesar Vega
Thursday June 21, 2012

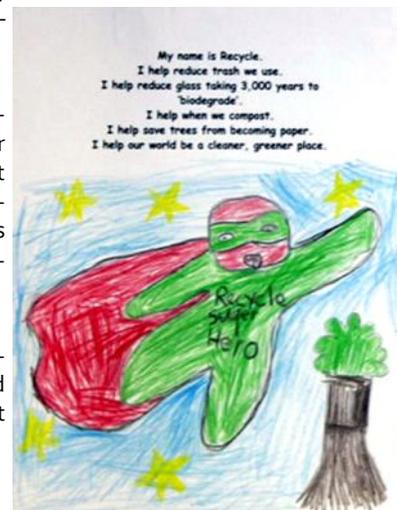
Winners of the 2012 Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) 2012 Illustrated Poem Contest

CCED is a community-based annual event that takes place on or around April 22 each year, and unites ACS local sections, businesses, schools, and individuals in communicating the positive role of chemistry and raising environmental awareness.

As part of the CCED 2012 celebration, students from grades K-12 were invited to share their interpretation of this year's theme in the form of illustrated poems, "Rethinking Recycling—It's Easy to Be Green!"

Winners at the local-section level qualified for the national contest; at the national level, first- and second-place prizes are awarded in four categories.

To request a full-size version of an illustrated poem, please contact outreach@acs.org.





Nationwide



ACS Strategic Plan for 2012 and Beyond

The Society invites our members, customers, and stakeholders worldwide to participate in discussions regarding the strategic plan. As always, member input is invaluable in guiding us as we move forward. To assist in that and to capture our excitement about the new goals, the Office of Public Affairs and the Office of Strategic Development prepared a 2-1/2 minute video, "What is the ACS?". Please view it at <http://vimeo.com/36990661>.

VISION—Improving people's lives through the transforming power of chemistry

MISSION—Advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people

1. Provide Information

Be the most authoritative, comprehensive, and indispensable provider of chemistry-related information.

2. Advance Members Careers

Empower an inclusive community of members with networks, opportunities, resources, and skills to thrive in the global economy.

3. Improve Education

Foster the development of the most innovative, relevant, and effective chemistry education in the world.

4. Communicate Chemistry's Value

Communicate chemistry's vital role in addressing the world's challenges to the public and policymakers.

Board Chair Bill Carroll describes this as our value proposition to our members and includes goals on information, careers, education, and advocacy.

Learn more at www.acs.org/strategicplan

ACS National Meeting Highlights

As the Councilor from the Brazosport Local Section, I have the honor of representing you at all ACS National Meetings. I attended the Open Board meeting and participated in the Council meeting. Here are some highlights from the meeting held March 18-22 in San Diego.

- ◆ The Society ended 2011 with 164,215 members. There are about 16500 student members.
- ◆ By electronic ballot, the Council selected Thomas J. Barton and Luis A. Echegoyen as candidates for 2013 President-Elect. Elections will be held in the fall.
- ◆ The Council VOTED to set the member dues for 2013 at the fully escalated rate of \$151. (this is based on a formula that includes inflation rates).
- ◆ As published in C&EN, unemployment rate of ACS chemists reached an all-time high of 4.6%. This rate have typically peaked a year or two after a US unemployment peak.
- ◆ At the fall meeting, Council will vote on establishing the ACS Senior Chemists Committee. Among its duties: share with ACS members of all ages a rich variety of personal experiences and expertise gained over many years of professional service; provide senior ACS members with challenging, diverse, and enjoyable professional experiences that enable them to contribute to the cultural experiences of the communities in which they reside, and foster interest and participation in choice of chemistry through community outreach, especially in grades K-12.
- ◆ Nominations for ACS Fellows are accepted until April 23 at www.nominatefellow.acs.org.
- ◆ Approximately 500 technical presentations were recorded and will soon be available at www.acs.org Content from the Fall 2011 meeting is currently available at: <http://www.softconference.com/ACSchem/slist.asp?C=4608>
- ◆ The Committee on Constitution and Bylaws has cleared their backlog. So perhaps we'll hear sooner than expected regarding our local section changes.

Please let me know if you have any questions about the above matters or ACS in general.

By Carolyn Ribes, Councilor (cribes@dow.com)

ACS Resources

Employment/Careers

www.acs.org/careers - information on ACS career resources

www.acs.org/ei - information on the ACS Entrepreneurial Initiative

Local Section Resources

www.acs.org/getinvolved : grant information, important deadlines, officer resources

www.acs.org/forms: submit annual reports, record meetings, activities and events year round

speakers@acs.org: nominate speakers for the Online Speaker Directory

Other

www.acs.org/strategicplan - information on the new ACS Strategic Plan

www.acs.org/bulletins: location of the Society's governing documents and unit bylaws, and information on the petition process to amend the Society's governing documents

bylaws@acs.org: email address for questions to the Committee on Constitution and Bylaws

www.acs.org/climatescience: information on the Climate Science Toolkit

So, We Want to Get the Word Out About Chemistry...

As the Public Relations Chair for the Brazosport Local Section ACS, I have had the opportunity to attend some public relations focused training sessions this year. Recently, I returned from a trip to the ACS Headquarters in Washington, DC where I attended the rejuvenated "Sparkle" Public Relations Training which was a welcomed follow up to a Facebook marketing session I attended in Early February. Through the training I have gained a better understanding of how to effectively use public relations to get our local section events more exposure to our local community with the goal of increasing our attendance at ACS events.

For the past few years, public relations has been part of the responsibility for each event coordinator and their team rather than a designated committee. Typically we promote our events through our local section website, Facebook, printed flyers and this newsletter. However, there are other forms of media which we have not explored that can help to reach more people.

To expand our audience and promote our events and demonstrations we plan to begin working with our local newspapers, exploring other social media outlets like Twitter and Linked-In and establishing connections with our teachers and schools in Brazoria County.

Many people still get their daily news from the newspaper or newspaper websites. While it can be more challenging in larger cities to establish connections with the local newspapers, smaller communities frequently feature stories about members of local organizations and community members making a difference. This can be incredibly valuable to us when promoting our events about chemistry.

While we currently use Facebook routinely to promote our events, we have also realized the value of social media sites like Twitter and Linked-In. The audiences of many of these sites tends to overlap, however, the audiences and contexts are very different. Expanding into these avenues can also help us to connect to an audience even bigger than the local community. As a member of the American Chemical Society, you can also subscribe to the ACS Network on the National ACS Webpage – www.acs.org. Once you become a member, you can create a network of other chemists and ACS professionals and find out how they are making a difference in their community. We will also begin to host a presence in this arena as a way to increase dialogue with other sections and improve our events.

Lastly, we want to begin forming stronger relationships with our local schools and science teachers. While we routinely host chemistry demonstrations at the science museum and at the fair, we want to also work with our teachers not only as a way to promote chemistry to the students but also to get their feedback on what they think might be great ways to help teach their students the value and importance of chemistry.

This section does a lot for the community. During the Sparkle training several members of other local ACS sections come up to me and applauded our achievements. After all, it's our main goal to bring chemistry into the community and educate everyone on the benefits of chemistry in everyday life so shouldn't we let EVERYONE know what we are doing?

If you have any comments or questions about how you can help, or if you want to be a part of the Public Relations Committee, please contact me nikkip1008@gmail.com or at brazosport.acs@gmail.com.

By Nicole Pietragallo

ACS Brazosport Newsletter: Responsible for content: ACS Brazosport Local Section—Officers and Committee Members
Editor: Bea Braun, Dow Chemical, Freeport, TX — — — bbraun@dow.com

If you have contributions for the Newsletter, please send in electronic form to brazosportacs@gmail.com or the email address above.
