



# NEWSLETTER

12 Sept 2013  
Chemluminary Awards  
[2001-2012]  
for services to  
our community

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear ACS Brazosport Section,

The year is more than halfway through! This newsletter features some of the great events we have had so far in 2013. Our section volunteers participated in Take Your Child to Work Day at Dow Chemical in June. Over 150 students were able to learn some chemistry and experiment with five interactive chemistry demos. We heard from a career coach, Curtis Swisher, on "The Surprising Truth about what Motivates People." And, I'm happy to report our section has been nominated for two 2012 ChemLuminary Awards: Outstanding Performance by a Local Section (Medium Small Size) and Outstanding Kids and Chemistry Award. Thank you local sections volunteers for helping us make an impact in our local community. The second week in September I'll head to the fall National ACS conference to present a poster on our award winning local section events from 2012.

Want to get involved in our local section? Please consider joining one of our teams as a volunteer or an elected board member or join us at our next event. Join us in October for another networking event (details coming soon). Future outreach events include chemistry demos for Halloween at the Lake Jackson Museum and a chemistry booth (November 23) at the Festival of Lights to celebrate National Chemistry Week in November. This year's National Chemistry Week theme is "Energy: Now and Forever!"

We will wrap up the year and celebrate the year's accomplishments with an Awards Banquet in mid-January. With 2014 just around the corner it's time to start thinking about local section officers for next year. If you know any one that is interested or have any questions, feel free to email me ([afinotello@dow.com](mailto:afinotello@dow.com)). This year we will have online voting available; keep your eyes open for the election information in your inbox. Don't forget to vote and help shape the future of our section.

Keep up to date with our latest and upcoming activities at our website (<http://brazosport.sites.acs.org/>) and on our Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/BrazosportACSLocalSection](http://www.facebook.com/BrazosportACSLocalSection)).

Regards, Alexia (Chair of ACS Brazosport Local Section)



## Festival of Lights – Chemistry for Kids!

Please join us from **9am to 5pm** for fun Chemistry Demonstrations!

**FLOATING BUBBLES ... AND OTHER FUN WITH DRY ICE.**

Ping Pong Gun!

**Super Secret Color Mixing!!**

Why MoM makes everything better!

**Saturday, November 23, 2013**

Other activities throughout the day will include:

- Scared Pepper
- Color Changing Milk
- Volcanoes



Like us on Facebook for a FREE ACS T-Shirt!

Have fun with chemistry and get a chance to spin the wheel for prizes!

For more information: [www.facebook.com/BrazosportACSLocalSection](http://www.facebook.com/BrazosportACSLocalSection)

## ACS Brazosport Local Section Annual Banquet

*Our annual banquet will take place mid January of 2014. Watch out for announcements regarding the location and exact date.*

## Call for Award Nominations

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## 2012 ACS BRAZOSPORT SECTION AWARDS: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Brazosport Section is calling for nominations for three awards which will be presented at the 2012 Brazosport Section ACS Awards Banquet. The awards are to recognize scientific achievement, the promotion of science, and other contributions to the chemical sciences. Nominations are open to anyone fitting the guidelines listed below. Each recipient will receive an ACS-designed engraved plaque. In addition, recipients who are members of the Society will have their ACS national dues paid for one year.

*The deadline to submit nominations is **December 15, 2013.***

NOTE: We will consider small teams (approximately 2-4 people) as a nominee provided the team meets the criteria for the award.

### [The ACS Brazosport Section Award for Outstanding Scientific Achievement](#)

This award is presented to members of the ACS Brazosport Section who have demonstrated continued excellence in scientific achievement.

### [The ACS Brazosport Section Award for Outstanding Promotion of Science](#)

This award is presented to members of the Brazosport Section of the ACS who have excelled in the promotion of and service to the chemical sciences on the local or national level.

### [The ACS Brazosport Section Special Award](#)

This award is presented to Brazoria County residents to recognize special achievement in the promotion of and/or contributions to the chemical sciences. The Special Award is reserved for recognition beyond the scope of the other awards (i.e. non-ACS members) or when special recognition in addition to the other awards is appropriate.

### [The ACS Brazosport Section Outreach Volunteer of the Year](#)

In an effort to recognize the immeasurable outreach efforts made by local section volunteers, the Committee of Community Activities (CCA) has established a new recognition program entitled **Local Section Outreach Volunteers of the Year**. This program gives each local section an opportunity to recognize one individual each year for demonstrating extraordinary outreach volunteer service within the section.

Please note that the guidelines for the Scientific Achievement Award and the Promotion of Science Award specify that the nominee is a member of the Brazosport Section of the ACS. The Special Award only requires that the nominee work or reside within the area of the Brazosport Section (i.e. Brazoria County).

Nominations should include the following information:

- Nominee's name, address, and phone number, as well as name, address, and phone number of the person submitting the nomination.
- The award for which the nomination is placed.
- Description of the nominee's contribution which demonstrates continued excellence in scientific achievement, how the nominee has promoted or provided service to the chemical sciences, or how the nominee has made a special contribution to the chemical sciences.
- Material to support the nomination.

To submit a nomination or to request further information, please contact: Eric Klinker, ACS Brazosport Section, Dow Chemical Company, 2301 N. Brazosport Blvd., Freeport, Texas 77541, Tel: (979) 238-5942

Email: [ejklinker@dow.com](mailto:ejklinker@dow.com)

## Annual Science Day at the Lake Jackson Historical Museum



On June 22, the Lake Jackson Museum had its annual science event and the ACS Outreach Team was there again. Ande Larsen at the Museum is carrying on the vision of creating a larger science day, given the great community response seen in the previous years. Science Day is a Saturday event that lets local children experience the fun and fascination to be found in chemistry, physics and wildlife, including a live alligator and snakes! The ACS outreach team presented a fun program that included a demonstration of how chromatography works (by separating the colors of Kool-Aid), and the always-popular and educational Milk of Magnesia (MOM) demonstration which shows the basics of acids, bases and indicators. Particular favorites were the ping-pong ball cannon, and George's enthusiastic demonstrations of what the extreme cold of liquid nitrogen will do to rubber balls, flowers, and bananas, especially when they're hit with a huge wooden mallet.



Jacinto Lopez-Toledo adjusts the monogoggles on a guest before they can make slime. (Photo: Brazosport ACS)

A record attendance of 359 kids and adults, some traveling from Houston, demonstrates the success of this program, which will be back (and we're invited) in 2014. Sharing our enthusiasm for science and learning makes a difference for area children, and we need more demonstrators! If you can help, please contact Bob Zeigler at 979-480-9879. It is a lot of fun and very rewarding!

*By Bob Zeigler*



Most, but not all kids are fascinated by Carla's chromatography demonstration. (Photo: Brazosport ACS)

## Climate Challenge – Video and Poster Contest

To communicate the principles and issues of climate science and to give the youth in our community a chance to tell their stories of climate science, we sponsored a poster and video contest in May of 2013. This contest was inspired by the ACS National's Climate Science Toolkit.

We sent flyers to area schools with classes in the 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grades throughout the Lake Jackson/Clute/Freeport areas. Also we shared a video starring our own Brad Seurer describing the contest. Interestingly enough, only one teacher – Mrs. Darla Michaelidis, a 6<sup>th</sup> grade science teacher at Clute Intermediate, entered her students in the contest.

Out of the over 30 submitted posters, a team of chemists, engineers and educators selected the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners (shown below). Judging Criteria included clarity of communicating their issue, facts supporting the poster, references, and professional look. Prizes were a 1<sup>st</sup> [place \\$100.00 gift card](#), a 2<sup>nd</sup> place \$75.00 gift card and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place \$50.00 gift card.

Carla and Bob presented the prizes to the students during science class, resulting in a short article in The Facts. Learnings from the contest include the need to shape future contests in such a way that the work will fit in with a busy school year and that the kids are very concerned with climate issues and generally believe climate change is real and a challenge for our society.

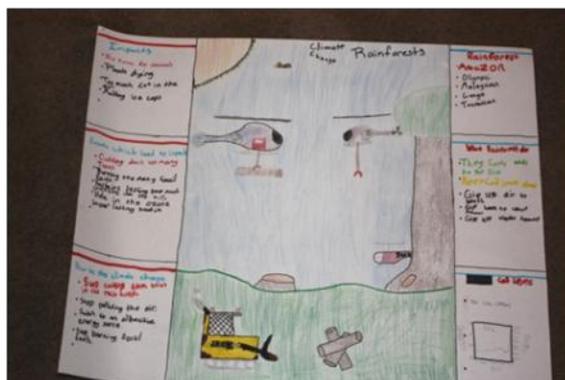
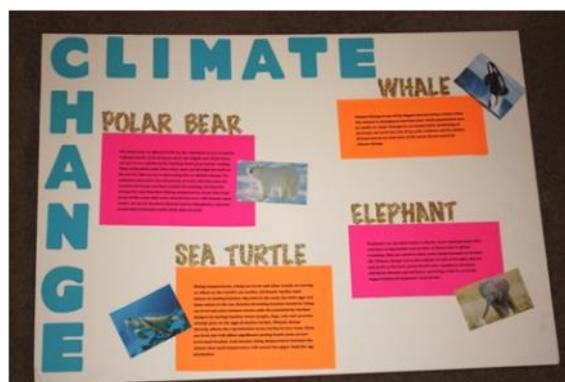
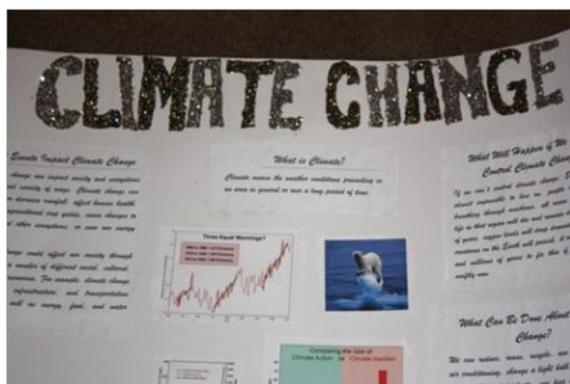
*By Bob Zeigler*

### Poster Contest Winners:

1st place: Climate Change (top left)

2nd place: Climate Change with 4 animal impacts (top right)

3rd place: Climate Change Rainforests (bottom)



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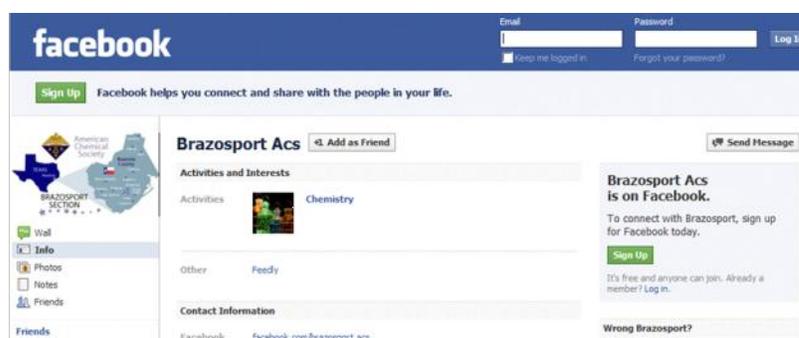


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If you have contributions for the Newsletter, please send in electronic form to [brazosportacs@gmail.com](mailto:brazosportacs@gmail.com) or the email address above.