



NEWSLETTER

13
Chemluminary
Awards
[2001-2013]
for services to
our community

Jan 2014

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear ACS Brazosport Section,

As the new Chair of the Brazosport ACS section I would like to share my thoughts and goals for 2014. I made my transition to the Brazosport area in late 2007. At the time I was the Secretary of the North Jersey Chromatography Group (NJCG), a topical sub-group of the North Jersey ACS section, leaving unfinished my post as the 2008 NJCG Chair-Elect. I am thrilled to be able to once again take up a service and leadership role as the Chair of the Brazosport ACS section. The Brazosport ACS section is an active and vibrant group and it is an honor to take on this post.

Our goals this year are to explore the satisfying and varied careers that are possible when one has a passion for chemistry. We plan to explore the interesting experiences of those working as chemists in the private, public and academic sectors. A topic to probe is what our role is, as ACS members and ACS-friends, in our wider community arena to spread our enthusiasm for STEM topics through education and outreach efforts.

We hope to build upon the zeal and momentum of the Brazosport ACS section of years past by encouraging the participation of chemistry operators and ACS-friends in ACS events and outreach efforts. A continued focus on network and social events is also a goal for this year. I look forward to an exciting 2014!

Regards, Shannon Phillips

Chair of ACS Brazosport Local Section



2013 ACS Annual Awards Banquet

When: Wednesday, Jan. 29, 2014

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Where: The Local

120 That Way Street

Lake Jackson, TX 77566



Please join us as we celebrate another fantastic year. This evening will include award announcements, a seminar by:
Prof. Susan Olesik, PhD – A Chemist's View of the Life of a U.S. Scientist, Past, Current and Future.

Appetizer, Dinner, Dessert, and 1 (alcoholic) drink provided for:
\$15 To Prepay Click [Here](#) (Or scan code below)
\$20 At the Door

RSVP by 1/27 to: Brazosport.ACS@gmail.com or Section Chair, Alexia Finotello @ 979-238-7008 with your choice of:

- Petite Beef Filet
- Shrimp & Grits
- Tuscan Angel Hair Pasta (may add grilled chicken)



For more information: www.facebook.com/BrazosportACSLocalSection

*A vegetarian option will be provided. Please let us know if you have any other food concerns or allergies.

LETTER FROM THE PAST CHAIR

Dear ACS Brazosport Section,

2013 just flew by! The Brazosport local had a very successful year. Let's take a look back and reflect on our previous year's activities. In 2013 we had numerous outreach events in the local community including: Take Your Child to Work Day at Dow Chemical, Chemistry demonstrations at the Lake Jackson Museum in June and in October, and a Festival of Lights booth in November, just to name a few.

Continued on Page 2

LETTER FROM THE PAST CHAIR

Continued

We had a few happy hours to network with local professional from our local section as well as 4 other local professional organizations. We had a career development seminar on motivation and learned about the chemistry of nutrition. Thank you local section volunteers for helping us make an impact in our local community! We will wrap up the year and celebrate the 2013 accomplishments with an Awards Banquet in late January.

As we look forward to 2014 it is the perfect time to reassess our goals, focus on the activities we are passionate about and come up with new and exciting ways to support our members. As we transition our leadership to Shannon Phillips as Chair and Ivan Konstantinov as Chair-Elect, I'm excited to see what this new year bring to our local sections. I am sure that 2014 will be another awesome year!

Regards,

Alexia Finotello

Past Chair of ACS Brazosport Local Section

Nutrition and Physical Degeneration Seminar Presented by Jackie Hunt

On December 10th, several members of our local section and the local community heard a seminar given by Jackie Hunt on Nutrition and Physical Degeneration. Jackie discussed the findings of Dr. Weston A. Price as he traveled the world studying the food that people ate. The relationship between food and chemistry was highlighted with examples of fermented foods, vitamins and the differences between various fats. We also had a nice selection of healthy appetizers to enjoy during the presentation.

Jackie Hunt presents
Nutrition and Physical Degeneration
The work of Dr. Weston A. Price

When: Tuesday, December 10th, 2012
Time: 5:30pm – 6:00pm Networking
6:00pm – 7:00pm Seminar
Where: Lake Jackson Civic Center
333 Highway 288/332 East
Lake Jackson, TX 77566

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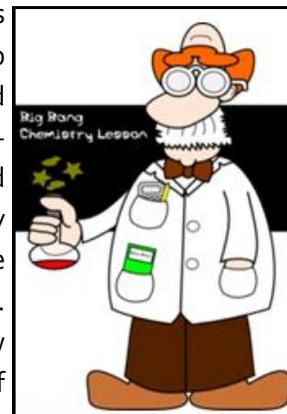
What can a dentist from Ohio who practiced back in the 1920's, 30's and 40's tell us about nutrition today? The scientific findings of Dr. Weston A. Price (sometimes called the Charles Darwin of nutrition) is even more significant today as we are surrounded by processed foods missing most of the elements that Price discovered. Dr. Price figured out the fundamental laws of human diets, which, like the laws of physics, identify certain dietary components the body needs to be built properly and to stay healthy. His investigations lasted ten years and were described in his book Nutrition and Physical Degeneration published in 1939. (P.S. Your grandmother likely knew some of these principles!) We will look at the chemistry of certain vitamins and fats.
For more information: www.facebook.com/BrazosportACSLocalSection.com

relationship between food and chemistry was highlighted with examples of fermented foods, vitamins and the differences between various fats. We also had a nice selection of healthy appetizers to enjoy during the presentation.

By Alexia Finotello,
Chanda Klinker

Chemistry & Physics Experiments at the Lake Jackson Intermediate School

On Oct. 25, ACS members (and IsoTherapeutics Group personnel) Keith Frank and George St. George demonstrated some chemical and physical concepts to every eighth-grade class at Lake Jackson Intermediate School. Dr. St. George showed how chemistry is the science of "change," using an acid-base



indicator cycling through the colors of the rainbow, a Mary Poppins-like "Magic Medicine" giving five different colors when poured from a single bottle, and an "alchemical conversion" of steel into copper. Dr. Frank continued by demonstrating some properties of radiation and extremely low temperatures. The eighth-graders were encouraged to develop hypotheses to explain the phenomena. Question-and-answer periods (often quite animated!) finished each session.

On the previous day, as a part of National Chemistry Week, Dr. Frank spoke to about 100 students and professors at the South Campus of San Jacinto College. His [assigned] topic, "Using a Scientific Mind to Build a Business," was quite well received – people were very engaged and had lots of questions. He discussed aspects of his company's work in the area of radiopharmaceuticals R&D and manufacture.

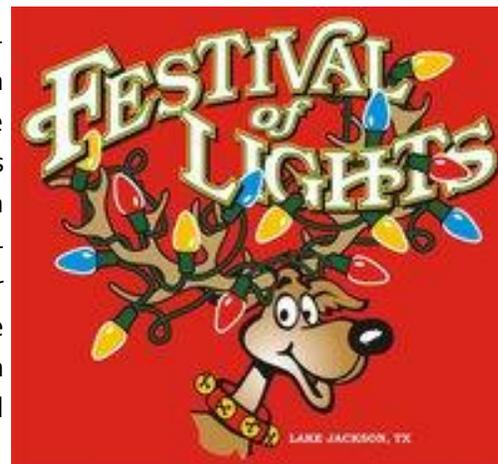
By George St. George



George St. George demonstrating "Science of Change" experiments.
Photo: Brazosport ACS

FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

This year's Festival of Lights was a little soggy and chilly! Our local section brought chemistry to this popular LJ annual event and added a touch of National Chemistry Week (NCW) celebration to the already festive event. We set up our booth to have both hands-on chemistry demos as well as a fun "prize wheel" that the kids could spin after having fun with the demos. The prizes included nan-o-mole erasers, NCW tattoos, nan-o-moles, science books, and pens/pencils. The interactive demos were color changing milk, baking soda volcanoes, and a water tornado. The prize wheel was extra incentive to attract kids to our free, educational booth and allowed us to send home fun NCW booklets in both English and Spanish.



Unfortunately the cold windy rain forced us to close down our booth early, but we did get to interact with some kids. So if you were not able to come see our booth in 2013, plan ahead to add some chemistry to your Festival of Lights experience in 2014. Cross your fingers for some good weather!

Alexia Finotello, Chanda Klinker

All photos: Brazosport ACS



Fall 2013 National Meeting Highlights: Chemistry in Motion

As usual, the 10,840 attendees at the ACS national meeting in Indianapolis were treated to a wide range of technical presentations, keynote lectures, and science-themed social events. The Indianapolis local section arranged a number of fun activities to highlight their city, including “Celebrate Science Indiana!” outreach event, a tour of the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and rides in the pace car. C&EN celebrated their 90th anniversary, Carl Djerrassi celebrated his 90th birthday, and the Committee on Minority Affairs celebrated their 20th anniversary. Our local section was represented by Alexia Finotello, Chanda Klinker, Al Ribes and Carolyn Ribes; see photos of the first three in the [September 30th](#) issue of C&EN.



Alexia Finotello (left) and Chanda Klinker (right) at the ACS National Meeting in Indianapolis.
Photo: Brazosport ACS

At the Open Board meeting, Alan Alda discussed the importance of effectively communicating science with the general public. He recommended keeping the language simple and using a conversational style. At the [Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science](#) at Stony Brook University, workshops, courses, and improvisational training are available for scientists and health care professionals. They sponsor an annual contest for scientists, asking them to respond to a scientific question in 90 seconds; the responses are judged by 11-year-olds. Questions from previous contests include “what is a flame?” and “what is time?”. You can find the rules for the 2014 contest at: <http://www.centerforcommunicatingscience.org/the-flame-challenge-2/about-the-challenge/>

Alton Brown, FoodTV celebrity, helped celebrate the 90th anniversary of Chemical and Engineering News. His lively and entertaining presentation dispelled ten cooking myths and presented a bit of the underlying science. Some recommendations: always wash mushrooms (they do not absorb water), wooden cutting boards are less likely to harbor bacteria than plastic, and searing meat does not seal in the juices (it does add flavor due to the Maillard reaction). Alton also had lively and interactive demonstrations to make a giant smoothie.

Highlights from the Council and Board of Directors Meetings:

- After much debate, a proposed name change for the Division of Colloid and Surface Chemistry to the Division of Colloids, Surfaces, and Nanomaterials was defeated by the Council in a close vote.
- The Board of Directors voted to authorize funding for a new initiative, the National Association of Chemistry Teachers (NACT). This association will be an ACS program to provide teachers a professional home. Through NACT they will have access to specialized resources and the broader ACS community.
- A new activity on the ACS website showcases stories and photos submitted by members describing what best defines their ACS membership experience. If your story is selected, you receive a T-shirt. www.my.acs.org
- ACS offers many ways to get involved at the local, regional, and national levels. There are opportunities for everyone, whether you are a student, just starting your career, or a seasoned professional. www.acs.org/getinvolved
- Visit the Chemistry Ambassadors website for ideas and resources to engage your community with positive messages about chemistry. www.ACS.org/ChemistryAmbassadors

Fall 2013 National Meeting Highlights: Chemistry in Motion

Our local section presented the activities from 2012 in a poster session held on Tuesday September 10, 2013. This poster highlighted outreach events, social events and technical seminars. Our poster was well received by the attendees at the poster session. The evening culminated with the presentation of the ChemLuminary awards and dancing the night away.

The Younger Chemist Committee (YCC) held numerous committee meetings and social events throughout the conference. These events included a happy hour at the Ball & Biscuit, wine tasting at The Tastings and a 5k Fun Run throughout Indianapolis. As a member of the communications committee, Chanda specifically worked on advertisement of various ACS events through social media sites such as Facebook and twitter. For the YCC, social media is one of the main forms of communication and was used in new and exciting ways at this conference. The two happy hour events were marketed as "guerilla" events, with the location not advertised until 24 hours before the event started. We had a great turnout to both events. Another exciting "1st" was the use of Vine's 7 second videos. These fun, quick videos were used to advertise the YCC/Member Insurance Fun Run, the happy hours as well as several other conference events.



Alexia Finotello representing the Brazosport Local ACS Section at the poster session.
Photo: Brazosport ACS

By Alexia Finotello, Chanda Klinker, Carolyn Ribes



The Younger Chemist Committee (YCC) at the ACS National Meeting in Indianapolis; Brazosport ACS was represented by Chanda Klinker. Photo: National ACS

Jason Rogers Wins 2013 Chemical Technician of the Year Award

Jason Rogers has been selected as the winner of the 2013 Brazosport Chemical Technician Award by the Brazosport local section of the ACS. The award is given annually to a chemical technician to recognize outstanding contributions and professionalism in the chemical industry. Jason was nominated and selected for the award based on his work in research and development at IsoTherapeutics Group (ITG) in Angleton, TX in southern Brazoria County.

Jason is a graduate of Brazosport College and a United States Navy veteran with service time aboard nuclear naval vessels. Combining his education and service background, Jason has worked extensively with radioisotopes since joining ITG after his degree completion in 2007. During his time at ITG, Jason has mastered analytical techniques such as HPLC, gel electrophoresis, microwave synthesis, and size exclusion chromatography and has gained expertise in synthetic chemistry. Some highlights of Jason's work include:

- Improving yield and repeatability of antibody labeling with Sn-117 so that the product could be used in human clinical trials.
- Creating new process for Ac-225 labeled material to improve yield sufficiently for Phase II trials
- Generating product that competing company could not produce and enabling clients to enter trials with ITG's material
- Serves as ITG's Radiation Safety officer. This entails radiation training for ITG employees, managing the radioactive isotope inventory, and maintaining compliance with state and federal regulations.
- Coauthor of multiple external publications.

In addition to his professional responsibilities, Jason frequently serves as a mentor to new technicians at ITG. Outside of work, Jason is active in the local community as a Youth Pastor in his church congregation.

Jason will be recognized for his achievements at the 2013 Brazosport Section Awards Banquet in January 2014. His nomination will be passed along to national ACS for consideration for the National ACS Chemical Technician Award. Congratulations to Jason!

By Eric Klinker

Science Outreach for AP Beutel Day

When Susan Buell contacted us in late September with her plans for a special "A.P. Beutel Day" event at A.P. Beutel Elementary School in Lake Jackson, we were able to partner with the APB staff and the School PTA to give the elementary students (grades 3 and 4) a fun and interesting experience with science ... and to learn that Science is Fun! Our first step was to connect Susan with the Dow PR department and the Lake Jackson Historical Museum, both of which added interesting presentations showing the contributions of AP Beutel to Lake Jackson history, and Dow Chemical.

We needed some help with the science program and we got it from parent volunteers and two Dow volunteers, Ed Smolen and Kefu Sun. We trained all of the presenters a week before the event.

The afternoon of November 13, we arrived an hour early to set up demonstrations. These included the always popular Moving Molecules – where we showed the results of freezing polymers, flowers, candy, etc with liquid nitrogen – using a sledgehammer! The laughter from this Gallagher-like demo could be heard all over the yard! Another popular attraction was our alcohol cannon where we taught the kids about the fire triangle. Since our theme was Dow Chemistry – we showed polymer properties with a slime demo and also demonstrated Analytical Chemistry via a titration with Milk of Magnesia.

This event was a huge success with the teachers and students, as demonstrated by the cards and call-outs shown below. By involving parents and volunteers, we were able to present an outstanding program to over 160 students. This was a successful approach that should be considered for future outreach events.

By Bob Zeigler

The Facts
COVERING THE BIRTHPLACE OF TEXAS FOR 100 YEARS

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More Shout Outs for Nov. 28, 2013

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Posted: Thursday, November 28, 2013 2:00 am | Updated: 3:57 pm, Fri Nov 29, 2013

Jane Power and Susan Buell

Many thanks for people like Bob Zeigler, analytical chemist, Ed Smolen, research engineer, and Kefu Sun, analytical chemist, at the Dow Chemical Co. These scientists have huge hearts for kids. They made science come alive for the entire third and fourth grade classes at A.P. Beutel Elementary on the afternoon of Nov. 13. In addition, they spent an evening training PTO parents on how to perform chemistry demonstrations. Their commitment to the education of our community's youth is noteworthy and greatly appreciated.

NEWSLETTER



Newly Elected Brazosport Local ACS Section Board 2014

Chair : Shannon Phillips

Chair-Elect: Ivan Konstantinov

Past Chair: Alexia Finotello

Secretary: Bea Braun

Treasurer: Kaoru Aou

Director: Carla Schmidt, George St. George

Councilor: Carolyn Ribes

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

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

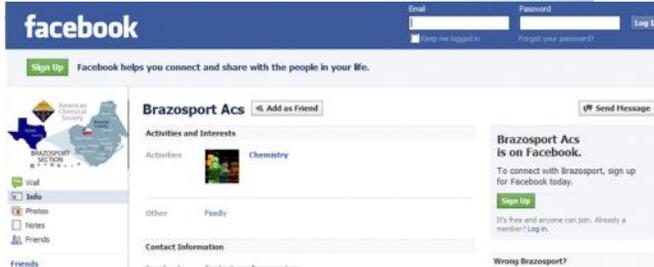


Brazosport Local
Section

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We appreciate your feedback! BrazosportACS@gmail.com

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Editor: Bea Braun — — — bbraun@dow.com

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