

September 2015 Newsletter

- I “Eat More Chocolate: Are You Kidding Me?” - Monday, September 28 in Albuquerque
- II Local Section Receives ACS ChemLuminary Award
- III Rio Grande Symposium on Advanced Materials, October 2, 2015
- IV NMAS and NM EPSCoR Symposium, November 14, 2015
- V ACS Scholars Program
- VI Councilor Report from ACS Fall National Meeting
- VII 2015 National Chemistry Week
- VIII ACS National Elections
- IX Local Section Officer Elections
- X Local Section Officers for 2015
- XI Control those ACS e-mail messages
- XII Changes of Address

I. “Eat More Chocolate: Are You Kidding Me?” - Monday, September 28 in Albuquerque

Dr. Joe A. Vinson (Department of Chemistry at the University of Scranton) will make a presentation on “Eat More Chocolate: Are You Kidding Me?” on Monday, September 28 in Albuquerque at Yanni’s – a few blocks east of the UNM main campus on Central Avenue. The presentation will be at 6:30 pm with an earlier reception starting at 5:30 pm. There is off-street parking available on the north side of Yanni’s.

Food and beverages derived from cocoa beans have been consumed by humans for 1500 years, and the beverage was originally used as a currency and in religious rites by the Mayans and Aztecs. A short history of chocolate will give some perspective to the science of chocolate. Cocoa pods from the cacao tree *Theobroma cacao* are harvested and the beans removed from the pods and fermented. Dried and roasted beans contain about 300 chemicals including unique fats, alkaloids, and simple and complex polyphenols. The manufacturing process results in the production of the various types of chocolate including white chocolate, milk chocolate, dark chocolate, and cocoa powder. Chocolate is purported to have aphrodisiac properties and one ingredient acts on the cannabinoid (marijuana) receptor. Chocolate’s antioxidant properties will be outlined and compared with other foods. How chocolate’s fat and antioxidants are related to heart disease will be discussed in terms of epidemiological, animal and human supplementation, and mechanistic studies. New studies indicate that chocolate improves brain function. Recent animal and human studies will be described to determine whether chocolate should be considered a guilt-free food.

This Local Section meeting will be held in the banquet room of Yanni’s (3109 Central Avenue NE) in Albuquerque (<http://www.yannisandlemoni.com/>). Our Local Section will be providing a selection of

Mediterranean cuisine appetizers, chocolates, and non-alcoholic beverages for reception attendees. As well other beverage choices will be available for purchase from Yannis' lounge bar. The ACS Student Chapter at UNM is working with our Local Section on the arrangements for this meeting.

Dr. Joe Vinson was born in Arkansas and grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area. He attended college at the University of California at Berkeley where he received his B.S. in Chemistry in 1963. He received a joint PhD in Physical Organic Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry (two theses) in 1967 at Iowa State University. After a stint in industry at J.T. Baker Chemical Company, he is now Professor of Chemistry at the University of Scranton in Northeast Pennsylvania. His research interests include drug analysis in physiological fluids, and the effect of foods, vitamins, and antioxidants on nutrition and health. His research has been featured in USA Today, Prevention, Psychology Today, Consumer Reports, AARP, Chronicle of Higher Education, Tufts Health & Nutrition Newsletter, US News & World Report and lampooned in a cartoon in Time magazine. He has appeared on Good Morning America Sunday, NPR All Things Considered and The Peoples' Pharmacy and as well being mentioned by Jay Leno and Rush Limbaugh. Dr. Vinson is the author of over 100 publications and his proudest achievement besides his students is that of being a National Tour Speaker for the American Chemical Society.

II. Local Section Receives ACS ChemLuminary Award

Our Local Section was the proud recipient of the 2015 ACS ChemLuminary Award for Outstanding Kids and Chemistry activity. The basis for the award is support of our Local Section for "CSI: Dognapping Workshop" held at Sandia National Laboratories and which partners with multiple professional organizations. The award was received at the recent ACS fall national meeting in Boston by Bernadette Hernandez-Sanchez of Sandia National Laboratory in behalf of the many responsible for the organization and support of the annual workshop over the last decade. Five hundred fourth grade students are annually invited to see a chemistry magic show, only to find that the chemistry dog went missing. Students clear their name and are sworn in as official "Junior Scientist" who save the day by solving the mystery by analyzing clues at various hands on stations ranging from chemistry to physics.

III. Rio Grande Symposium on Advanced Materials, October 2, 2015

The 2015 Rio Grande Symposium on Advanced Materials will be held at the beautiful Hotel Albuquerque in historic Old Town Albuquerque on Friday, October 2, 2015. Both oral and poster presentations will be made in all areas of materials science and engineering.

At the core of this meeting is the Kreidl Memorial Lecture, honoring the career achievements of Norbert Kreidl, a remarkable and indefatigable glass scientist who spent his final years as a consultant based in Santa Fe, New Mexico. This year's Kreidl Memorial Lecture will be given by Prof. Michael J. Cima on "Historical Overview of 3-D Printing: Do inventors know what they are doing?"

More information on the 2015 Rio Grande Symposium on Advanced Materials is available at the following URL: <http://www.nm-materials.org/joomla/>

IV. NMAS and NM EPSCoR Symposium, November 14, 2015

The New Mexico Academy of Science (NMAS) and New Mexico's Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (NM EPSCoR) are inviting the submission of abstracts for their annual symposium on Saturday, November 14, 2015 at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Albuquerque. The organizers are most interested in oral and poster presentations on energy, water, the environment, and related topics but abstracts are welcome on other research topics. The deadline for abstracts is Monday, October 5, 2015.

More information on the 2015 New Mexico Academy of Science Research Symposium is available at the following URL: <http://www.nmepscor.org/events/2015-nmas-research-symposium>

V. ACS Scholars Program

A number of our Local Section members recently had the opportunity to speak to Madeleine Jacobs (our recently retired ACS Executive Director), Mary Bet Dobson (ACS Development Office), and several current and past ACS Scholars in New Mexico regarding an effort to increase the number of students that can be assisted. The ACS Scholars program (www.acs.org/scholars) provides for renewable scholarships to underrepresented minority students who want to enter the fields of chemistry or chemistry-related fields. African American, Hispanic, or American Indian high school seniors or college freshman, sophomores, or juniors pursuing a college degree in the chemical sciences or chemical technology are eligible to apply. It was very inspiring to hear the life stories of both current and past ACS Scholars and how the support of the ACS has allowed them to pursue their chemistry interests. We regret that more of our members weren't able to participate in these conversations. A future newsletter will provide more information on how more of our members can support that program which celebrates 20 years of success this year.

VI. Councilor Report from ACS Fall National Meeting

The Council voted to fill a number of positions on elected Committees of the Council. The Council also voted to approve petitions on Preferential Voting and Member Expulsion contingent upon confirmation by the ACS Board of Directors.

Council voted to approve the establishment of ACS International Chemical Sciences Chapters in Australia, Brazil, Nigeria, Peru, and United Arab Emirates subject to confirmation by the ACS Board of Directors.

Announced candidates for the fall 2015 ACS national elections include:

Candidates for President-Elect, 2016

- G. Bryan Balazs, Associate Program Leader, Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory
- Allison A. Campbell, Associate Laboratory Director, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory

Candidates for District V Director, 2016-2018

- John E. Adams, Curators' Teaching Professor, University of Missouri-Columbia, Columbia, MO
- Kenneth P. Fivizzani, Retired, Nalco Company, Naperville, IL

VII. 2015 National Chemistry Week

National Chemistry Week (October 18-24, 2015) has the theme of “Chemistry Colors Our World”, focusing on the chemistry of food colors and fireworks, rainbows, natural dyes and pigments, and more. NCW encourages chemists and chemistry enthusiasts to build awareness of chemistry at the local level. Local Sections, businesses, schools, and individuals are invited to organize or participate in events in their communities with a common goal: to promote the value of chemistry in everyday life.

More information on NCW and several resources are available at the following URL:

<http://www.acs.org/ncw>

VIII. ACS National Elections

By this time you will have likely received an e-mail from VR Election Services (“ACS_Election_Admin@vres.us”) allowing you to choose the E-ballot option for the 2015 American Chemical Society national election. All ballots will be mailed on Oct. 2. The deadline for voting or return of marked ballots, which may be done online or by paper ballot, respectively, is close of business on Oct. 30.

Statements of the candidates for the positions to be filled can be found in the September 14, 2015 issue of Chemical & Engineering News and at the following URL:

<http://cen.acs.org/articles/93/i36/CandidatesElection-Statements-Backgrounds.html>

Additional information on the ACS national elections will be available at the following URL:

<http://www.acs.org/elections>

We hope that you will use this opportunity to help guide the future of your Society as you see fit.

IX. Local Section Officer Elections

Our Local Section will be holding elections this fall for the positions of 2017 Chair (2016 Chair-Elect), Secretary, Treasurer, and Advisors (3 positions). Please contact our Past-Chair with any questions about these positions, self-nominations, or nominations of others: Kristin Omberg, komberg@lanl.gov.

X. Local Section Officers for 2015

The following are our 2015 Local Section Officers. Please feel free to contact them for information or suggestions regarding the Local Section or ACS in general.

Position	Name	E-mail
Chair	Donivan Porterfield (LANL)	dporterfield@lanl.gov
Chair-Elect	Karen Schultz Paige (LANL)	ksp@lanl.gov
Past-Chair	Kristin Omberg (LANL)	komberg@lanl.gov
Secretary	Fu-Sen Liang (UNM)	fsliang@unm.edu
Treasurer	Andrea Ambrosini (SNL)	aambros@sandia.gov
Advisors	Steven Showalter (SNL)	skshowa@sandia.gov
	Kristin Omberg (LANL)	komberg@lanl.gov
	Rudolph Magyar (SNL)	rjmagya@sandia.gov
Councilors	Kristin Omberg (LANL)	komberg@lanl.gov
	Donivan Porterfield (LANL)	dporterfield@lanl.gov
Alternate Councilors	Ron Clark (Cycad Products)	cycadp@gmail.com
	Rudolph Magyar (SNL)	rjmagya@sandia.gov

XI. Control those ACS e-mail messages

Through the ACS web page you can unsubscribe or even subscribe to more e-mail messages from Society offices regarding various activities and membership benefits. Once you have logged into the ACS web site using your member information you will notice a small link on top right hand that is labeled as "My Account". Clicking the "My Account" will open up a page with a number of additional links among which you will find "Manage Email Subscriptions". Clicking that link will present a web page through which you can control your receipt of a number of different Society offices e-mail messages.

XII. Changes of Address

The distribution of our Local Section newsletter is dependent on accurate e-mail and US mail addresses being supplied to the ACS. Address changes can be submitted to ACS through the following means: service@acs.org, (800) 227-5558, or logging in to www.acs.org.

