

September 2011 Newsletter

- I National Chemistry Week Celebration at the National Museum of Nuclear Science
- II WCC Hosted Presentation on the Life of Madame Marie Curie
- III Los Alamos County Next Big Idea Festival
- IV ACS 2011 Fall National Meeting in Denver
- V Explora Museum
- VI Project SEED
- VII Defiant Technologies at ACS exposition in Denver
- VIII ACS Fellows
- IX ACS President Elections
- X Local Section Elections
- XI Local Section Innovative Project Grant
- XII Chemist Scarecrow for Los Alamos Main Street Halloween Festivities
- XIII 2012 ACS Rocky Mountain Region Meeting – Westminster, CO
- XIV Online Access to ACS National Meeting Content
- XV Local Section Officers
- XVI ACS Network Group
- XVII Changes of Address

I. National Chemistry Week Celebration at the National Museum of Nuclear Science

Our Local Section is once again planning to hold a National Chemistry Week outreach event at the National Museum of Nuclear Science in Albuquerque on Saturday, October 22 from 10 am to 4 pm. Attached to this newsletter is the promotional flyer for this event.

We are actively soliciting Local Section members to assist in demonstrating different chemistry activities to visiting members of the public. All of our Local Section members who participated last year had a great time so we expect to have several returning participants. However, given the significance of the 2011 International Year of Chemistry (IYC) we would like to have a great variety of chemistry activities to share with the public.

In partnership with the National Museum of Nuclear Science and others we will have the needed items for several different chemistry activities. We also welcome participation by those who have chemistry related activities they wish to share with the public. We are also interested in those within commercial firms and the national laboratories in our Local Section who would like to demonstrate the chemistry behind products or technologies the public would find relevant. Among the goals of the 2011 IYC are to increase the public appreciation of chemistry in meeting world needs, to encourage interest in chemistry among young people, and to generate enthusiasm for the creative future of chemistry.

Those interested in assisting with this Local Section activity can contact Donivan Porterfield <dporterfield@lanl.gov> and Malva Knoll <mknoll@nuclearmuseum.org> for more information.

II. WCC Hosted Presentation on the Life of Madame Marie Curie

Our Local Section Women Chemists Committee in partnership with the Chemistry Division of Los Alamos National Laboratory will host a presentation by Pnina Abir-Am (Brandeis University Resident Scholar, Women's Studies Research Center) on "The Centennial of Mme Curie in 2011: What her Public Memory can tell us about the Changing Status of Women in Science". This presentation will be open to our Local Section members – men included – and the general public.

The Centennial of Marie S. Curie's Nobel Prize of 1911 (her 2nd, for the discovery of radium) is being observed during 2011, which is why IUPAC and UNESCO proclaimed it the International Year of Chemistry. Commemorative events held so far include special issues of scientific journals, exhibitions, and conferences held by scientific and historical societies. Based on events that took place in the first half of 2011, Dr. Abir-Am will explore how this centennial provides a unique opportunity for shaping societal and professional perceptions of women in science, so as to improve the under-representation of women in science.

The presentation will be on Wednesday, October 12 at a Los Alamos location. Further details will be sent out to our membership or check our web site: <http://acs.nm.org/>

III. Los Alamos County Next Big Idea Festival

On Saturday, September 17 our Local Section provided a booth during the Next Big Idea Festival organized by the Los Alamos Chamber of Commerce. Our Local Section booth was joined by two others booths hosted the University of New Mexico Department of Chemistry and the Chemistry Division of Los Alamos National Laboratory. The above three booths were staffed by the following individuals who took time from their Saturday to share the joy of chemistry and celebrate the International Year of Chemistry 2011 with many families: Dana Brabson (UNM), Gabe Avilucea, Evelyn Bond, Magen Coleman, Loan Le, Donivan Porterfield, Jurgen Schmidt, Laura Smilowitz, Joshua Smith, and Laura Wolfsberg – all at LANL.

The Next Big Idea is a festival of discovery, invention, and innovation and is an annual event that highlights Los Alamos' unique creative heritage while providing an opportunity for inspiring young people from throughout the state about possible futures in science, technology, engineering, math, and innovation. The weekend of family friendly events is designed to educate, illuminate, inspire, and entertain by celebrating discoveries, inventions, ideas, and innovations in science, technology, arts, food, and music.

IV. ACS 2011 Fall National Meeting in Denver

Our Local Section assisted the following four students from the University of New Mexico and New Mexico Tech to attend the 2011 fall national ACS meeting in Denver. Each of these students made the listed poster presentations during the meeting:

- “Pathways for methanol steam reforming involving adsorbed formaldehyde and hydroxyl intermediates on Cu(111): Density functional theory studies,” Ryan S Johnson, UNM.
- “Spectroscopic and electronic structure studies of a DMSO reductase catalytic intermediate: Implications for electron and atom transfer reactivity,” Benjamin W Stein, UNM.
- “Insights into the phosphoryl transfer mechanism of cyclin-dependent protein kinases from ab-initio QM/MM free-energy calculations,” Gregory K Smith, UNM.
- “Chemical carbon mitigation: Photochemical reduction of CO₂ to methanol via dye-doped ZnS nanoparticles,” Virginia Chang, NMT.

V. Explora Museum

The Explora Museum in Albuquerque is a participant in the Search for the Elements Science Center Network. This network is a part of a National Science Foundation funded project to produce a two-hour documentary, “The Mystery of Matter: Search for the Elements,” about one of the great adventures in the history of science, the long (and continuing) quest to answer the question: What is the world made of?

Our Local Section looks forward to working with the Explora staff and student interns to develop activities for the 2012 National Chemistry Week and leading up to the broadcast of the above documentary. In addition, Explora is looking for volunteers to assist in the Experiment Bar during National Chemistry Week, Oct. 16-22, 2011. Please contact Armelle Casau acasau@explora.us for more details.

VI. Project SEED

Sean Lujan, a Robertson High School student in Las Vegas, New Mexico spent ten weeks this summer working as a Project SEED researcher in the laboratory of Dr. Carol Linder at New Mexico Highlands University. He worked on a project involving GOLGA3 protein chemistry. He learned about laboratory safety, protein isolation and analysis, and gel electrophoresis among other techniques.

Project SEED was started by the American Chemical Society in 1968 to encourage disadvantaged high school students to become involved in chemistry. The program has grown considerably in the past 40+ years and involves students from all over the country. Students spend 8 to 10 weeks during the summer working in an academic, government or industrial research laboratory on a real research project. They receive a stipend of \$2,500 for the summer. Over 400 students were supported nationwide this past summer through the support of the members of the American Chemical Society.

To apply, a prospective mentor must fill out a one page, online, application that identifies the project, the project mentor, and place of work. Project SEED is entirely funded by donations to the American

Chemical Society. Members may donate by checking off a box on their annual dues statement. Any size donation is greatly appreciated. For more information, go to www.acs.org or contact Ron Clark at cycadp@zialink.com.

VII. Defiant Technologies at ACS exposition in Denver

Among the many organizations exhibiting at the recent ACS fall national meeting in Denver was Defiant Technologies (www.defiant-tech.com) of Albuquerque. Among the products they were showing was the FROG-4000 which is used to determine the concentration volatile organic compounds (VOCs) in water and soil. The FROG-4000 system has a micro preconcentrator for VOC collection, micro gas chromatography column that separates compounds for individual detection, and a photoionization detector. The system also scrubs ambient air to use as the carrier gas to provide a very portable and effective measurement system.

VIII. ACS Fellows

With the 2011 additions the following is a list of our Local Section members who have been recognized as ACS Fellows:

Chris Enke	UNM
Anton J. Hopfinger	UNM
Tina M. Nenoff	SNL
Kathleen M. Schulz	Business Results, Inc.
Wallace W. Schulz	Westinghouse Hanford (retired)
Mary F. Singleton	LLNL (retired)
Ellen B. Stechel	SNL
Kimberly W. Thomas	LANL
David G. Whitten	UNM

Through the ACS Fellows program these distinguished scientists are recognized and honored for their significant contributions to the science and for providing excellent service to the ACS. For those interested in nominating a colleague information on the nomination process is available at the following web site: www.acs.org/fellows

IX. ACS President Elections

This Fall each of our members will have the opportunity to vote for one of two for 2013 President of the American Chemical Society: Dr. Dennis Chamot (National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, DC) and Dr. Marinda Li Wu (Science is Fun!, Orinda, CA).

The following web site features statements from the two candidates for ACS President. The deadline for online voting or return of marked paper ballots is close of business on Nov. 18.

<http://pubs.acs.org/isubscribe/journals/cen/89/i37/html/8937election.html>

X. Local Section Elections

Our Local Section will be conducting elections this fall for the positions of: Chair-Elect 2012, Secretary, Treasurer, Advisors (3 positions), Councilor, and Alternate Councilor.

If you would like to nominate a Local Section Member for any of these positions or have questions about the duties of these positions please feel free to contact <dporterfield@lanl.gov> for more information.

XI. Local Section Innovative Project Grant

Our Local Section is being recognized by the ACS Local Section Activities Committee with grant funding to conduct a pilot with some northern New Mexico schools to assist their students with instrumentation that would assist them in executing excellent science and engineering fair projects in chemistry. For more information on this pilot project please contact <dporterfield@lanl.gov>.

XII. Chemist Scarecrow for Los Alamos Main Street Halloween Festivities

Our Local Section is interested in creating a chemist scarecrow for the Los Alamos Main Street Halloween festivities. If you're interested in contributing some effort and ideas for a chemist scarecrow to help celebrate the 2011 International Year of Chemistry please contact <dporterfield@lanl.gov>.

XIII. 2012 ACS Rocky Mountain Region Meeting – Westminster, CO

October 17-20, 2012 will be the dates for the 2012 ACS Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting in Westminster, CO at the Westin. Reach new heights with the latest research & newest innovations in biotech, energy, nanotechnology, forensic science, chemical education, organic, analytical, physical, inorganic, and biochemistry.

For more information on this upcoming ACS regional meeting you may contact the Colorado Local Section organizing committee: Connie Gabel (General Chair - cgabel@mscd.edu), Elisabeth Mansfield (Co-Program Chair - acs.colorado@gmail.com), and Kim Pacheco (Co-Program Chair - kimberly.pacheco@unco.edu).

XIV. Online Access to ACS National Meeting Content

At the two recent ACS national meetings (Denver and Anaheim) the audio content for a wide selection of talks was recorded and is available online with presenter audio synchronized to the presented Power Point content. This content is available without cost via the following web site:
<http://www.softconference.com/ACSchem/am.asp>.

XV. Local Section Officers

The following are our 2011 Local Section Officers. Please feel free to contact them about any of the opportunities mentioned in this newsletter or other ways you would like to become involved in the Local Section or ACS in general.

Position	Name	E-mail
Chair	Mr. Donovan Porterfield (LANL)	dporterfield@lanl.gov
Chair-Elect	Dr. Michael Heagy (NM Tech)	mheagy@nmt.edu
Past-Chair	Dr. David Hobart (LANL)	dhobart@lanl.gov
Secretary	Dr. Changjian (Jim) Feng (UNM)	cfeng@unm.edu
Treasurer	Dr. Andrea Ambrosini (SNL)	aambros@sandia.gov
Advisors	Dr. Merritt Helvenston (NMHU)	merritt@nmhu.edu
	Dr. David Hobart (LANL)	dhobart@lanl.gov
	Dr. Kristin Omberg (LANL)	komberg@lanl.gov
Councilors	Dr. Steve Showalter (SNL)	skshowa@sandia.gov
	Mr. Donovan Porterfield (LANL)	dporterfield@lanl.gov
Alternate Councilor	Dr. Ron Clark (Cycad Products)	cycadp@ziadial.com

We are also in the process of revising our Local Section bylaws to bring them up to date with ACS policies. We hope to have approval of revised Local Section bylaws on this upcoming officer election ballot. Anyone interested in participating in the revision process can contact <dporterfield@lanl.gov> for more information.

XVI. ACS Network Group

Our Local Section has created its own group on the ACS Network. The ACS Network is a benefit of membership and allows you to connect to other ACS members with similar interests.

www.acs.org/network

Our group name is "Central New Mexico Local Section" and all our members are welcome to join. You can also see what other of the many ACS Network groups may be of interest to you. And if you don't find one already in existence you can go ahead and create it yourself. If you create a new ACS Network group let us know and we can mention in forthcoming Local Section newsletter.

XVII. 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.

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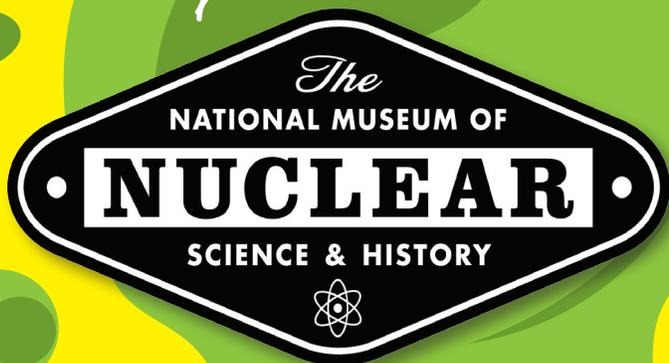
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Mole Day

6.02×10^{23}

Saturday, October 22



**National Chemistry
Week 2011**

Activities
from
10am-4pm

Find out:

- How liquids act like magnets
- Why shampoo is pH balanced
- And much more!

Sponsored by:

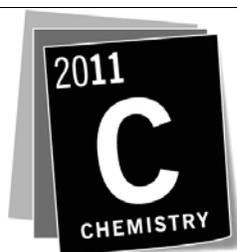


ACS

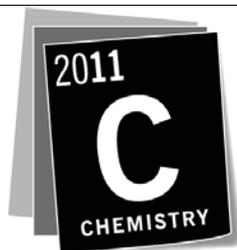
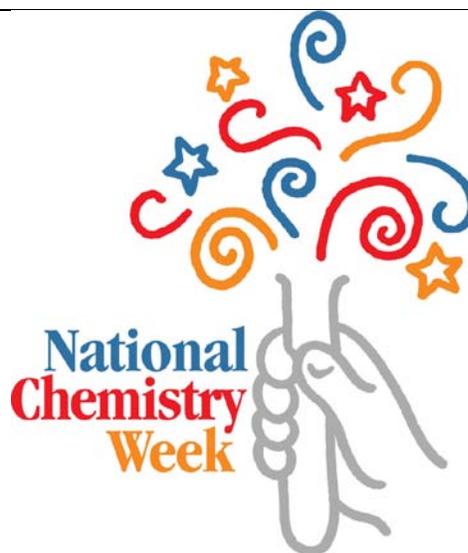
Chemistry for Life®

Kids FREE with paid adult 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

601 Eubank Blvd SE • www.nuclearmuseum.org • (505) 245-2137



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