

THE OCTAGON

→ ACS 2024 PRESIDENT-ELECT DOROTHY PHILLIPS!

Wednesday, March 27th, 5:00-8:30pm

"Crossing Roads: Risk and Opportunities" Muhlenberg College, 2400 West Chew St., Allentown, PA 18104



5-6 pm - social hour/6-7 pm - dinner/7-8 pm - talk and Q&A

All events in Moyer Miller Forum (#8 on <u>Campus Map</u>) Street parking on N. 26th Street and Chew Street and in the staff lot near building #5 on the map and near building #44.

Social Hour/Dinner: \$30/\$15 students & retirees Menu

<u>REGISTER</u> by March 20th



Hosted by Muhlenberg College WiSTEM and chemistry and biochemistry clubs



Speaker Biographical Information: Dr. Dorothy J. Phillips is the American Chemical Society (ACS) President-elect 2024. She served three terms on the ACS Board of Directors, Director-at-Large, 2014-2019. She holds a B.A. degree from Vanderbilt University in chemistry and a Ph.D. from the University of Cincinnati in biochemistry. Dr. Phillips began her industrial career at Dow Chemical Company in 1974 and continued it at Waters Corporation from 1984-2013. She retired as Director of Strategic Marketing with extensive business travel experience. Among her honors are the Roland H. Hirsch Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Analytical Chemistry from the Division of Analytical Chemistry, 2023; The Percy L. Julian Award, from National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) 2022; the Vanderbilt University Dr. Dorothy J. Wingfield Phillips Endowed Chair, 2015 with investiture of Professor Renα Robinson in the chair, 2023; Vanderbilt University Trailblazer, Class of 2019; American Chemical Society Fellow, Class of 2010; and Distinguished Alumni, University of Cincinnati, McMickens College of Arts and Sciences, 1995 and Center for Women Studies, 1993. Dr. Phillips is a co-editor and a co-author of a chapter in <u>Responsible Conduct in Chemistry Research and Practice: Global Perspectives</u> (2018), an ACS symposium series book. Dr. Phillips is featured in African American Women Chemists in the Modern Era by Jeannette E. Brown (2018). She is the co-author of an editorial for the special virtual issue of Langmuir honoring the work of Dr. Bettye Washington Greene (https://go.acs.org/7lh).

Share event on your SM: <u>https://www.facebook.com/events/789057079909195/?ref=newsfeed</u> **POST** <u>Flyer</u> **everywhere!** CONTACT: Sherri Young, sherriyoung@muhlenberg.edu

LVACS Events Calendar

March 2024

Section Meeting Wednesday, March 27th, 5–8:30 pm



Muhlenberg College, 2400 W Chew St, Allentown, PA 18104 All events in Mover Miller Forum

Speaker: Dorothy Phillips, PhD, 2024 ACS President-elect 5-6 pm - social hour/6-7 pm - dinner/7-8 pm - talk and O&A Social Hour/Dinner: \$30/\$15 students & retirees **REGISTER by March 20th** co-sponsors: Muhlenberg College WiSTEM

and chemistry and biochemistry clubs CONTACT: Sherri Young, sherriyoung@muhlenberg.edu

Reading-Berks Science & Engineering Fair Tuesday-Thursday, March 12-14

Albright College, Bollman Gym, N. 13th St. & Richmond St. Reading, PA Annual Berks county 6-8 & 9-12 grade Information Register



Lehigh Valley Science & Engineering Research Fair Saturday, March 16, 2024 Lehigh University, Goodman Campus Rauch Field House.123 Goodman Drive Bethlehem, PA 18015 Annual Lehigh & Northamption county 6-12 grade Information Register

April 2024

Section Meeting and **Undergraduate Poster Session** Thursday, April 18th, 4:30-9:00pm



DeSales University, 2755 Station Ave, Center Valley, PA 18034 All Events in DeSales University Center Speaker: Luke Roberson. NASA **Event Details and Registration HERE** Please post flyer! CONTACT: Sara Hayik, Sara.Hayik@desales.edu

Stay tuned to www.lvacs.org for all the latest! CONTACT: Nigel Sanders, LVACS secretary, newsletter editor and webmaster, nigel53.sanders@gmail.com

Also In This Issue...

3. April 18th Meeting **Undergraduate Poster Session: Call** for Posters!

4-5. February 15th Section Meeting **Report: Tom English of Evonik Corporation on Career Preparation.**

6. WCC Spring Webinar is March 7th.

7. PJAS Meeting Report and upcoming science fairs.

8. MARM 2024 Program.

9. LVACS Awards 2024: Second Call for Applicants and Nominees!

10. Career Page: Is Grad School **Right for Me? April 4th.**

11. Black History Page: George Washington Carver and Percy Lavon Julian.

12. Da Vinci Science Center begins transition to new center, opening in May 2024.

13. ACS Spring Council Agenda and Call for ACS Committee Members.

14. 2024 Executive Committee.



April 18th Meeting Undergraduate Poster Session: Call for Posters!

Undergraduate Research

Poster Session

Sponsored by: The Lehigh Valley Section of The American Chemical Society

Thursday, April 18, 2024

DeSales University Center Trexler Room 4:30-6:00 PM

Preceding the April meeting of the Lehigh Valley Section of the ACS (Meeting details will be published in the April Octagon and at http://www.lvacs.net/)

Who may participate?

Undergraduates attending a college or university within the Lehigh Valley section of the ACS. Research may have been done at the student's home institution with a chemistry or chemical engineering faculty member, during a summer research experience elsewhere, or as a summary of the work done by an ACS Student affiliate club.

To participate

Students wishing to present their work must submit an abstract <u>themselves</u> at <u>https://forms.gle/DYx52XHDkXPjTNR56</u> by Monday, April 8, 2024. Please email <u>sara.havik@desales.edu</u> with any questions. Early submission is encouraged.

Abstract requirements (filled out in Google Forms at <u>https://forms.gle/DYx52XHDkXPjTNR56</u>

Title (in sentence case) Authors names and institutions Abstract text (maximum of 150 words)

Dr. Luke B. Roberson from NASA's Kennedy Space center

Dr. Roberson's current research focuses on water and wastewater processing for planetary habitats, interplanetary space, and terrestrial launch systems. Dr. Roberson employs bioreactors and physical-chemical systems to treat wastewater and provide unique water systems for potable, thermal, hydroponic, and aquaculture systems.

Other requirements and information

- <u>ALL</u> students must register by April 8, 2024 via <u>https://forms.gle/DYx52XHDkXPiTNR56</u> but only one per poster need submit an abstract.
- The poster session is held before the dinner meeting (\$25 for full members, \$15 for students, retired, and unemployed guests) and our annual student awards night.
- Poster presenters will be provided with pins, poster boards, and easels for displaying the posters.
- DeSales University encourages persons with disabilities to participate in its programs and activities. If you anticipate needing any type of accommodation, have any questions regarding physical accessibility or would like more information, contact Sara Hayik, <u>sara.hayik@desales.edu</u>



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February 2024 Section Meeting: Career Preparation

Lafayette College Joint Meeting with AIChE Lehigh Valley Local Section Speaker: Tom English, Evonik Corporation



Speaker Tom English of Evonik Corporation (left) and AIChE LVLS Chair Jeremy Schweitzer

John Freeman, Lorena Tribe and Matt Sonntag enjoying the social hour



Many thanks to Deb Bastinelli, Mike Bertucci and Chip Nataro of Lafayette College for hosting this fascinating and enjoyable meeting!



February 2024 Section Meeting: Career Preparation

Lafayette College

Joint Meeting with AIChE Lehigh Valley Local Section

Speaker: Tom English, Evonik Corporation

EVONK Leading Beyond Chemistry

The Global Home of Chemical Engineers

The February 15th LVACS Section Meeting at Lafayette College was a joint affair with the Lehigh Valley Local Section (LVLS) of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) participating. Speaker Tom English of Evonik nicely bridged the two fields with his talk "Knowledge and Skills Expected in Fresh Graduates in Industry," appealing to about 25 students in both chemistry and chemical engineering-related majors and an equal number of regular members coming from both organizations. Tom is Head of Pilot Operations in the Global Process Research Group with Evonik Industries AG based in Allentown PA. There was not only a narrative of what chem/chem E jobs in industry are like but a few 'quiz questions' that prospective employees might face to test their knowledge and skills during an interview. Tom and AIChE LVLS Chair Jeremy Schweitzer also summarized some of the history of Chemical Engineering and described the current structure and operations of AIChE as "The Global Home of Chemical Engineers." So take a look at the first joint LVACS - AIChE meeting in quite a few years - let's see if we can change that situation in the future! Many thanks to Mike Bertucci, Chip Nataro and Deb Bastinelli of Lafayette for arranging the meeting and to Philip Elias for inviting the speaker.



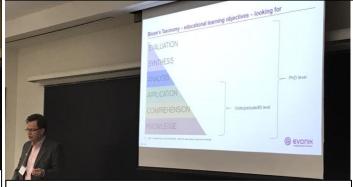
Tom English tells the audience about AIChE







Tom claims 'street cred' on the (London) street where it (that is, Chemical Engineering) all began!



So what does Industry look for in a candidate?

ACS



Thursday, March 7th | 2-3pm ET The Art of Self-Reinvention: How to Future Proof Yourself Co-produced with the ACS ACS Women Chemists Committee **Register for Free**

Are you ready for a change? Successful transformations in work and life don't just happen...selfreinvention is a skill to be cultivated like any other and learning how to reinvent yourself could be the key to taking your career to the next level.

Alexa Dembek, Chief Technology & Sustainability Officer for DuPont and Fanny Frausto, Senior Scientist of The Clorox Company have been right where you are and made successful transitions in their careers. Gain valuable insights into how they accomplished successful reinvention in the chemical industry as they delve into the strategic approaches they used, share personal anecdotes from their career journeys, and provide tips for identifying when it might be time for you to reinvent vourself.



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Pennsylvania Junior Academy of Sciences **Region 3 90th Annual Meeting Report**

ACS

On Saturday, February 24, 2024, the PJAS Region 3 Meeting was held at Northampton Community College with approximately 500 7-8 grade and 150 9-12 grade papers presented. There were about 100 judges of whom ten were LVACS members. The fields of study included behavioral science, biochemistry, biology, botany, chemistry, computer science, earth & space, ecology, engineering, mathematics, microbiology, physics and zoology.



There were 14 chemistry sessions for 7th and 8th grade with topics ranging from "How salty does the water have to be to make an egg float?" to "Does charcoal effectively remove toxins from drinking water?" and 4 for high school with topics ranging from "What effect does pH have on the accuracy of lead detection?" to "Does oil-free makeup actually contain no oil?" A grand total of 165 papers in our favorite subject! From the viewpoint of your Octagon editor, it was remarkable to experience the energy and preparedness of the students as they presented their projects. As a singular judge in my session, I can say without reservation: 'we need more judges!' How about you? See below for more opportunities. Your LVACS supports these competitions and offers special prizes to the winners.

LVACS asks for a few hours of your time to encourage our Local Student Researchers by being a ...

Science Fair Judge

Lehigh Valley Science & Engineering Research Fair

Information Saturday, March 16, 2024

Lehigh University, Goodman Campus Rauch Field House, 123 Goodman Drive Bethlehem, PA 18015

Register



Reading-Berks Science Engineering Fair

Information



Tuesday, March 12, 2024

Albright College, Bollman Gymnasium Schumo Center for Fitness and Well-Being N. 13th St. and Richmond St. Reading, PA

Judging from 7:45 am to 4:15 pm with breakfast/lunch

Register



NEWSLETTER OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

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MARM 2024 Celebrating Discovery

Mid-Atlantic Regional Meeting June 5 - 8 | State College, PA

Be sure to attend the **2024 Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM)**. The theme, **Celebrating Discovery**, will be at the core of programming for the event. The Central Pennsylvania Section of the American Chemical Society welcomes you to beautiful Happy Valley, home of the Penn State Nittany Lions, for the 52nd MARM from June 5 - 8!

As scientists, discovery is at the forefront of everything we do. We build upon the discoveries of other scientists, make new discoveries ourselves, and publish those discoveries to complete the cycle. In recognition of the quarter-millenial anniversary of one of the most important discoveries of our time, the meeting's theme is "Celebrating Discovery." Through this theme, we will honor and celebrate the groundbreaking work of Joseph Priestley on the discovery of oxygen in 1774, including a screening of Roald Hoffman's play, *Oxygen*, with the author in attendance. We hope that MARM 2024 inspires you to make brand new discoveries and foster professional connections with scientists from all over the Mid-Atlantic!

Visit the website to find a list of the programming divisions and planned symposia. <u>ABSTRACT SUBMISSION</u> DEADLINE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO MARCH 11TH!

Call for MARM Award Nominations Nomination deadline April 1st 2024!

The William "Bill" Suits Undergraduate Middle-Atlantic Regional Award for Outstanding Student Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society is intended to recognize an outstanding undergraduate student who has provided exemplary volunteer service in the Mid-Atlantic Region of the ACS. Academic records, volunteer service in the region, and a student's application statement will be considered. ACS Division of Chemical Education Region Awards for Excellence in High School Teaching recognizes, encourages, and stimulates outstanding high school chemistry teachers in the Middle Atlantic Region. E. Emmet Reid Award in Chemistry Teaching at Small Colleges in the ACS Middle Atlantic Region celebrates outstanding achievements in teaching chemical sciences at small colleges within the Middle Atlantic Region. E. Ann Nalley Middle Atlantic Region Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society recognizes the volunteer efforts of individuals who have served the American Chemical Society, contributing significantly to the goals and objectives of the Society through their Regional Activities.

→→→NOMINATE YOUR COLLEAGUES TODAY!



JOSEPH PRIESTLEY, B. 1733–d. 1804 A. D.



LVACS Competitions and Awards: 2nd Call for Nominations

John Freeman, jcf2@rcn.com, LVACS Awards Committee Chair, along with the Section's Executive Committee invite members and the local community to recognize outstanding achievements in chemistry and chemical education by our colleagues. More on these awards, including past winners and forms can be found on our website, https://www.lvacs.org/education-and-student-awards.

Chemagination Competiton

ACS

Chemagination is a great learning experience for students. In addition to increasing their knowledge of science and chemistry, they can improve their creative, teamwork and public speaking skills. High school students are asked to imagine that they are living 25 years in the future and are writing for ChemMatters, a magazine for high school students that focuses on the role of chemistry in everyday life. The editor chooses them to them to write the cover article for the next issue of the magazine describing a recent breakthrough or innovation in chemistry and its applications that improve the lives of those living in 2049 and design the magazine's cover. The article must be written to fit in one of four categories: Alternative Energy, Environment, Medicine/Health, or New Materials. The winners of the LVACS local section competition will advance to the MARM 2024.

Foundation in Chemistry Scholarship Award

The Lehigh Valley Section of the American Chemical Society (LVACS) is delighted to announce the 2024 Foundation in Chemistry Award. The award, designed to promote the chemical sciences at the college level, will be given to a high school senior who will be majoring in chemistry, biochemistry, or chemical engineering and attending a college or university in the Lehigh Valley Section. This scholarship award consists of \$1000 and a plaque, which will be presented to the winner at the Awards meeting of the Lehigh Valley Section of the American Chemical Society.

Excellence in High School Teaching Award

The award is designed to promote excellence in Chemistry instruction at the high school level within the membership boundaries of the LVACS (Lehigh, Northampton, Berks, Monroe, Schuvlkill, and Carbon Counties in PA, and Warren County in NJ. The award consists of \$500 and a certificate of recognition. We hope that members will identify an outstanding teacher at their school and support them for the award. Additionally, we hope that members will share this with your neighborhood schools to increase awareness of the award. Winners of this award will be nominated by the Section for the ACS Division of Chemical Education Middle Atlantic Region Award for Excellence in High School Teaching.

Outstanding Achievement in Teaching Chemical Sciences at Small Colleges

You are cordially invited to nominate a colleague to be recognized at the annual awards program of the Lehigh Valley Section of the American Chemical Society (LVACS). We are seeking to recognize, encourage, and stimulate high quality teaching and research at small colleges. Please send the nominee's short curriculum vitae, list of publications, and evaluation of the nominee's achievements as a teacher in a small college. This document should clearly demonstrate the candidate's attributes: the quality of the candidate's teaching; organization and efficiency of lab work; research and/or development work; ability to challenge and inspire students; extra-curricular work in chemistry; courses, meetings, presentations, awards, etc. Winners of this award will be nominated by the Section for the Mid-Atlantic region's E. Emmet Reid Award.

George Ruger Student Travel Award

Any college or university student in the Lehigh Valley Local Section presenting at an ACS National or Regional meeting is eligible. Preference will be given to first-time attendees. Award is based on merit as judged by the local section Executive Committee.

LEHIGH VALLEY ACS CAREER PAGE

Check out the Career page on our website <u>lvacs.org/careers</u> for a wealth of information on the services provided by LVACS and ACS to chemists at all stages of their careers. Online courses, 1-on-1 consulting, professional development grants and the <u>ACS Career Navigator™</u> package are some of the benefits offered to ACS members to assist in planning and executing your career. Greglynn Gibbs, our local section ACS Career Consultant, would be happy to assist any member seeking more information at <u>greglgibbs@gmail.com</u>

ACS Virtual Office Hour – Is Grad School Right for Me?



Chemists: Thinking about what's next after your baccalaureate?' ACS is offering a FREE virtual career guidance session, titled 'Is Grad School Right for Me?' **Thursday, April 4th 2024** at 12pm EST. Open to ACS members and non-members, this session will be led by an ACS Career Consultant and offers participants **personalized career advice** and **small group networking sessions**. This event is free and open to ACS members and non-members, but you must <u>register</u> to save your seat. Register for 'Is Grad School Right for Me?' and get your message out there to prospective employers! Please pass this along to friends and colleagues in your network who would be interested.



Linked in Learning

Advance your professional and career development! Access thousands of expert-led courses, available to ACS Members with a Premium Package.

S T O

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Society Honors Noteworthy and Inspiring Black Scientists

March marks the end of Black History Month. As a send-off, we draw inspiration from two Black scientists who developed processes and medicines to benefit society: George Washington Carver and Percy Lavon Julian. Both men were honored with ACS National Historic Chemical Landmark designations.

George Washington Carver: Groundbreaking Agriculture

George Washington Carver (1864-1943), a pioneering Black scientist and inventor, made significant contributions to agricultural science during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. His groundbreaking research focused on crop rotation and soil conservation methods, revolutionizing farming practices in the American South. Carver's innovative work with peanuts and sweet potatoes led to the development of more than 300 products, including dyes, plastics, and adhesives, which greatly benefited the agricultural industry and helped to alleviate poverty among farmers. His legacy as a scientist, educator, and humanitarian continues to inspire us, highlighting the profound impact of Black excellence in science and innovation.

Read more about George Washington Carver >>>

Percy L. Julian: Synthesizing Physostigmine

Black Chemist Percy L. Julian (1899-1975) achieved a monumental breakthrough in organic chemistry with his synthesis of physostigmine in the early 20th century. Despite facing immense racial discrimination, Julian's pioneering work in chemical synthesis paved the way for advancements in medicine and pharmacology. His synthesis of physostigmine, a compound used in the treatment of glaucoma and other conditions, marked a significant milestone in pharmaceutical research, demonstrating the potential for organic chemistry to address critical medical needs. Julian's perseverance and scientific brilliance not only transformed the field of chemistry but also shattered racial barriers, inspiring future generations and underscoring the invaluable contributions of Black scientists to scientific progress and human welfare.

Read more about Percy L. Julian and the synthesis of physostigmine >>>





Image credit: Library of Congress George Washington Carver, 1906





Image credit: DePauw University Archives Percy Julian works as a research fellow in the Minshall Laboratory, DePauw University.

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Dear friend of Da Vinci Science Center,

We are pleased to be able to provide the answer to the frequently asked question: What will happen to the Cedar Crest facility once the new science center opens in downtown Allentown?

The Science Center's current location on the campus of Cedar Crest College will be the new home to <u>CAI Learning Academy</u>, a private elementary school founded by <u>CAI</u>, a global technology services firm based in Allentown. The move will take place in June 2024.

We are excited that CAI Learning Academy will be relocating to the facility where we've fostered a vibrant science community for nearly two decades. CAI's commitment to providing quality education for every child closely aligns with our mission.

Da Vinci Science Center at Cedar Crest College will be open through Monday, April 1st so get those final visits in soon! The new downtown facility will be opening in May 2024 – stay tuned for an exact date to be announced in the coming weeks. In the interim, summer camp <u>registration</u> is open and family memberships can be <u>purchased</u> that include members-only preview access to the new science center prior to Grand Opening.

We are grateful for the longstanding partnership we have with Cedar Crest College, which really took root during our first Women In Science and Engineering (WISE) Forum and has since flourished. Our collaboration extends to include numerous Cedar Crest alumni among our science center staff, alongside Dr. Meade, President of Cedar Crest College, who graciously serves as a valued member of Da Vinci Science Center's Board of Trustees. Cedar Crest College is part of the science center's DNA and that won't change.

The Science Center is fortunate to have enduring partnerships with both Cedar Crest College and CAI Learning Academy and looks forward to continued collaboration to advance our mutual goal of expanding educational opportunities in our community.

Further details on the new Da Vinci Science Center at PPL Pavilion can be found at www.davincisciencecenter.org

In appreciation of your ongoing support.

Sincerely,

Lin Erickson (she/her) Executive Director & CEO Da Vinci Science Center





AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Council Agenda Wednesday, March 20, 2024 8:00 AM CT Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel Grand Ballroom and Online

	<u>ITEM</u> I.	RE	SOLUTIONS HONORING DECEASED COUNCILORS	PAGES
	П.	AP	PROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES from August 16, 2023 (attached)	5-21
	III .	RE	PORT OF INTERIM ACTION, COUNCIL POLICY COMMITTEE (attached)	22
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	v .	A. B. C. D.	Immediate Past President (attached and oral)	

VI. REPORTS OF ELECTED SOCIETY COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL

To view the full Spring 2024 Agenda and Fall 2023 Council Minutes click HERE

NOW OPEN: Online Preference Form for Committee Assignments in 2025

If you are interested in serving on an ACS Committee, the <u>online committee preference form</u> for committee assignments is the key way to let us know your committee preferences, your background and your interests. The online preference form will be open March 1 thru July 1, 2024 (ACS member login required) at http://www.cmte.acs.org.

When assembling recommendations for appointments by the ACS President and/or Board Chair, and the Committee on Committees (ConC) seeks to identify and involve individuals from across the Society. Members with a wide range of experiences, backgrounds and perspectives helps ensure that ACS remains relevant, innovative, and effective. Therefore, we are also encouraging local section and divisions officers to circulate online preference information throughout their membership to encourage participation in the Society through committee service.

REGISTER FOR THE MARCH 11TH WEBINAR WHICH EXPLAINS THE WHOLE PROCESS!



LEHIGH VALLEY SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY 2024 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

OFFICERS

Chair: Philip Elias philipjelias@gmail.com



Chair Elect: Chester Crane <u>crane@musselpolymers.com</u>



<u>COUNCILORS</u>

Jeanne Berk (term ends 12/31/24) jrberk@cedarcrest.edu



Matt Sonntag (term ends 12/31/26) msonntag@albright.edu



Immediate Past Chair: Steve Boyer <u>sboyer11@esu.edu</u>



ALTERNATE COUNCILOR

Ned Corcoran (term ends 12/31/24) ewc777@gmail.com

Secretary: Nigel Sanders <u>nigel53.sanders@gmail.com</u>



Treasurer: Sherman Cox <u>shermdc51@gmail.com</u>



The Octagon Newsletter is published by the Lehigh Valley Section of the American Chemical Society to provide information to section members and the public about activities and programs which support the section mission "To elevate the chemical sciences in the Lehigh Valley section for the benefit of our members and our community." Send all queries to the editor at: <u>nigel53.sanders@gmail.com</u>

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