



SCALACS

September 2013

A Joint Publication of the Southern California and
San Gorgonio Sections of the American Chemical Society

**Southern California Section
Luncheon Honoring our 50, 60 and 70 Year Members
With a Special Presentation by Our
Project SEED Students
At Stevens Steakhouse**

Saturday, September 21, 2013

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**Save the Date!
High School Chemistry Teachers Meeting at
Occidental College
November 2, 2013**

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**San Gorgonio Section
September Luncheon Meeting
Saturday, Sept. 28, 2013**

**Recognition of 50-Year ACS Members,
College and University Chemistry Clubs**

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SCALACS

A Joint Publication of the
Southern California and San Gorgonio Sections of the
American Chemical Society

Volume LXVI

September 2013

Number 5

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SCALACS (ISSN) 0044-7595 is published monthly March through May, September and October; and Bi-monthly January/February and November/December along with a special ballot issue once a year. Published by the Southern California Section of the American Chemical Society at 14934 South Figueroa Street, Gardena CA 90248. Subscription price is \$12.00/year. Make checks payable to Southern California Section, ACS. Second Class postage paid at Gardena, CA 90247, email: office@scalacs.org.

ADVERTISERS: Advertising rates on application. Mail COPY, CONTRACTS and CHECKS to Southern California Section, ACS, 14934 South Figueroa Street, Gardena, CA 90248.

CONTRIBUTORS: Send all copy to Editor, SCALACS, 14934 South Figueroa Street, Gardena, CA 90248, email: editor@scalacs.org.

POSTMASTER: Send change of address to SCALACS, 14934 South Figueroa Street, Gardena, CA 90248.

Website address: www.scalacs.org

Southern California Section



Chair's Message

It is my pleasure to welcome everyone back from what has hopefully been a pleasant summer. There is no time to waste now though, as we have a full schedule of activities planned for the fall. Our section will open the fall program with a recognition of our 50, 60, and 70 year chemists on September 21. We will also have presentations from our Project SEED students on that day.

On the broader stage we have the 44th ACS Western Regional Meeting coming up on October 3rd through 6th in Santa Clarita, CA. The theme this year is "The Many Elements of Chemistry." More information on the Western Regional Meeting can be found at <http://www.wrm2013.org/>. The weather in the bay area is often best in October.

On a broader stage yet we have the 246th ACS National Meeting & Exposition on September 8th through the 12th in Indianapolis, IN. The theme of the Fall National Meeting is "Chemistry in Motion," and more information on the National meeting can be found here <http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/fall-2013.html>.

In October and November we will have more local section activities; look here, on our website www.scalacs.org, on our facebook page, or our twitter feed for more information on upcoming activities.

- Brian Brady,
Chair

Southern California Section

September Luncheon Meeting

**Honoring our 50, 60 and 70 Year Members
With a Special Presentation by
Our Project SEED Students**

on

Saturday, September 21, 2013

at

**Stevens Steakhouse
5332 Stevens Place
Los Angeles, CA 90040**

11:30 a.m. Check-in and Students' Poster Session

12:30 p.m. Luncheon

Presentation of Certificates immediately following luncheon

We are celebrating our 50, 60 and 70 year members and having our Project SEED students present a poster of the research they completed this summer. Project SEED takes high school students and places them in a laboratory environment to provide them an opportunity to engage in an authentic research experience. We hope our veteran members will enjoy hearing about their research.

Our 50 year members are:

Mr. Gholam Reza Falsafi

Dr. David Holtz

Dr. Jean C. Kertesz

Dr. Wo Kong Kwok

Mr. John A. May

Dr. David H. Moore

Dr. Raymond L. Schmidt

Dr. Harold R. Sobel

Dr. Kenneth M. Solovy

(Continued on Page 4)

Southern California Section

50/60/70 Year Member Luncheon (Continued from Page 3)

Our 60 year members are:

Dr. Kurt Baum
Dr. Joseph Casanova, Jr.
Dr. Glen Russell Crabbs
Dr. Richard Taylor Keys
Mr. Robert G. Pilmer

Our 70 year members are:

Mr. Louis Caldarelli
Dr. Robert R. Chambers
Mr. Richard D. Oppenheim
Dr. Robert L. Scott
Dr. Alexander Weir, Jr.

The students who took part in our Project SEED Program this summer are Betsy Garcia, Alfredo Arroyo, Edgar Ayala and Zachary Perez. There will be a poster session of their research prior to lunch.

Reservations: There is a choice of King Salmon or Prime Rib Sandwich for luncheon. The cost of the luncheon is \$23 per person including tax, tip, and wine with luncheon; cash or check at the door. Please call Nancy Paradiso in the Section Office at 310 327-1216 or email office@scalacs.org by Monday, September 16, 2013 for reservations.

Directions: To access Google maps from their website, go to http://www.stevenssteakhouse.com/home/driving_directions. **From the 5 Fwy. Northbound**, exit Atlantic South. Make a right turn off exit. Stay in the middle lane and go under the bridge. Stay in the left lane and Stevens will be on your right. **From the 5 Fwy. Southbound**, exit Atlantic-Eastern Avenue. The restaurant is straight ahead off the exit. **From the 710 Long Beach Fwy. North**, exit Atlantic North. Continue north on Atlantic. Pass Washington Blvd., go 3 lights. The next street is Stevens Place. Turn right to Stevens. There is free parking in the rear of the building.

Southern California Section

Save the Date!

Saturday, November 2, 2013
SCALACS High School Chemistry Teacher Meeting
Occidental College
Mosher Room 1
1600 Campus Road
Los Angeles, CA 90041

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. (lunch included)

2013 theme of National Chemistry Week is
“Energy: Now and Forever!”

For many years the Occidental Chemistry Teachers Meeting sponsored by the Southern California Section was the premier place in Los Angeles for teachers to learn from teachers. Please consider coming and sharing your favorite lesson, demo, or trick with us. Already confirmed speakers include Richard Erdman, Caroline Morgan, Debbie Bennett, Paul Groves, Michael Morgan, and more! Anyone interested in presenting please contact the program chair, Michael Morgan at mmorgan@lausd.net. A detailed presentation of the reworked AP Chemistry courses will be included. Registration will open shortly at www.scalacs.org.

Cost: There is a \$25 cost for the program which includes lunch (cash or check). Because it is a weekend, there is free parking on campus.

Registration: To register, please contact Nancy Paradiso in the Section Office at office@scalacs.org or call 310 327-1216 by Thursday, October 31st.

**Sponsored by SCALACS, Occidental College and
TOPS Program**

Southern California Section

Congratulations to our ACS Fellows!

There are those special people, rare elements all, who are the epitome of our science and dedication to ACS (Bob de Groot, 2009). This year, three Southern California Section members, one Orange County Section member, and one San Geronio Section member were named as part of the ACS Fellows Program. We would like to congratulate:

Barbara Belmont, of American Research and Testing Inc.,
and our esteemed Executive Committee colleague.

Carlos G. Gutierrez, California State University, Los Angeles

Charles Knobler, University of California,
Los Angeles (Emeritus)

Jerome S. Schultz, University of California, Riverside

Douglas J. Tobias, University of California, Irvine

Congratulations to all the ACS Fellows on their fine achievement.

- Brian Brady, Chair,
On behalf of the Executive Committee of
the Southern California Section

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/scalacs, and on Twitter:
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Southern California Section

In Memoriam John R. Holmes

Dr. John R. Holmes died of natural causes on July 7th, 2013. John Ryland Holmes was born in Santa Monica, California in 1932, near the beach he loved so much. Like many men of his generation, Dr. Holmes served capably in the military, working as an intelligence analyst in post war Germany. He married Ella Mae Sheesley in Santa Monica in 1954. John attended UCLA where he earned his undergraduate and graduate degrees, receiving his Doctorate in chemistry in 1960.

John and Ella and their young family left California for the New Jersey countryside where he worked in private industry for several years before returning to UCLA to resume research and teach. He left UCLA in 1968 for the California Air Resources Board. Shortly thereafter Dr. Holmes was appointed by then Gov. Jerry Brown to be the first Director of Research for the ARB. Dr. Holmes became a renowned pioneer in the field of atmospheric science regarding photochemical smog and the effects of both indoor and outdoor air pollution. Over a span of three decades he and his research collaborators presented and published numerous papers and articles. Dr. Holmes gave critical testimony at state and federal hearings regarding air quality issues, before retiring in 2001. His work and spirit are fondly remembered by his many colleagues at the California Air Resources Board, the California Environmental Protection Agency and other state and national agencies. Dr. Holmes was honored with the inaugural Haagen-Smit award in recognition of his decades of research and leadership in his field.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years Ella Mae, children Janet (Al), Robert (Gail), John (Sandra) and Elizabeth (Greg) and his grandchildren Hannah, Anthony, Keagan and Kiora and Cousin Jane Long, of Carmel Valley.

NCW Outreach Activities

October 20-26, 2013 (Varying Times) **National Chemistry Week Activities at the California Science Center**, 700 Exposition Park Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90037, website: www.californiasciencecenter.org. Join volunteers at the California Science Center for NCW activities throughout the week. The theme for NCW2013 is “**Energy: Now and Forever!**” For more information visit: www.acs.org/ncw. If you would like to volunteer or have questions, please contact Henry Abrash at: abrash8@aol.com.



This Month in Chemical History

Harold Goldwhite, California State University,
Los Angeles
hgoldwh@calstatela.edu

In my last pre-summer column I wrote about Claude Frederick Walker, the youngest Yale Ph.D. in chemistry up to his time (1897), who worked with the distinguished analytical chemist Frank Gooch at Yale, and later became a chemistry teacher at a State Normal School in Minnesota. The source of my material on Walker has been the Walker memoirs, kindly sent to me by John Fatherlee, a descendant of the Walker family.

After a year at the Normal School, where a change of School President led to Walker not being retained, he began in the Fall of 1899 “my career as a public high-school teacher amid the bizarre setting of a copper mine on a bare peninsula far out on the waste of our greatest lake: Superior.” He taught chemistry, physics, physical geography, and botany to the children of Cornish, Welsh, and Scandinavian miners at Calumet and Hecla High and Manual Training School. He was pleased with the facilities and equipment available. In chemistry his teaching was a simplified version of his Normal School courses, but in physics the course was enriched by connections to the local mining industry. The Calumet and Hecla Copper Mine was one of the largest and deepest in the world with very powerful engines, pumps, and hoists. Boys in Walker’s classes (he says little about girls at this time) were trained in many practical tasks that would serve them well when they joined their fathers and brothers in the mine after graduation.

Walker took a keen interest in the politics of high school education in this region. He writes in his memoir: “ This American question of the public high school, at the turn of the century, had moved... into a new ‘pedagogics’ whose professors ... were researching, lecturing, and writing.” “ I launched myself on a project in authorship (a college textbook in chemistry) in long-distance collaboration with my university professor [Gooch].”

Walker left the copper country in June 1900 returning to New England. High School teaching continued to be his vocation for four more years in New Britain, Connecticut, and Montclair, New Jersey. He began attending meetings of the local chapter of the American Chemical Society, and he completed his work on the college chemistry text (the book that I picked up at a local flea market). In September 1904 he
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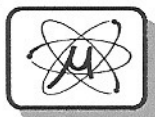
This Month in Chemical History

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joined the faculty of the High School of Commerce in Manhattan and stayed there for ten years. There, in collaboration with the Chairman of the chemistry department, Joseph S. Mills, he learned how to individualize instruction for his students “to my lasting betterment as a teacher.” With Mills and other colleagues he adapted and simplified his college text for high school work under the title “Inductive Chemistry”. He also began a new phase of his career as a public lecturer. He put together ten lectures on “Our Country’s Resources” including his knowledge of the copper country, and talks about wheat farming in Minnesota, and the oil, gas, and iron resources of Pennsylvania. The lectures had printed syllabi and were accompanied by exhibits and lantern slides.

In 1914 Walker moved to his final post at Boys High School in Brooklyn where he taught until 1940. He taught physics – but in cramped and unsuitable laboratories which he rapidly reorganized and improved. His students were encouraged to work on individual projects. He was a very successful physics teacher but in 1940, when the physics department was consolidated with chemistry, he retired from Boys High School. He had moved with his wife to Darien, Connecticut (he commuted to Brooklyn) and after retirement his interests turned to local and family history. He died in 1966 at the age of 92.

In researching these columns I came across an article Walker wrote that was published in the New York Times on April 27, 1918. It is headed “Schools for adults. Free lectures to give the people moral enthusiasm for the war”. It is a plea for moral education delivered to adults via popular lectures. It is, I think, a reflection of the ethical and moral creed of this impressive science educator.



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San Gorgonio Section

Chair's Message

It's Time to Start Planning for National Chemistry Week!

Before getting to the main topic, I wanted to mention a local employment opportunity. Cal Poly Pomona has an opening for a **tenure-track position in Analytical Chemistry** at the rank of Assistant Professor to begin Fall 2014. First consideration will be given to completed applications received no later than **September 16, 2013**. For more information, go to the Cal Poly faculty and staff home page (<http://academic.csupomona.edu/faculty/positions.aspx>), click "College of Science" and then "Assistant Professor Chemistry".

September is the perfect time to begin planning for **National Chemistry Week** (October 20 – 26). Mole Day falls on Wednesday, October 23rd from 6:02 am – 6:02 pm. This annual event provides a excellent platform to showcase the beauty of chemistry to the community. The theme this year is "**Energy: Now and Forever!**" If you have children in school, consider scheduling a visit to their classroom during NCW. Not sure what to talk about? Explore the "Students and Educators" page on the ACS website. It has downloadable PowerPoint presentations on various types of energy as well as free age-appropriate activities on the "Terrific Science" page.

The community event for NCW this year is "**Recycling Batteries**". ACS is asking local sections to sponsor a battery recycling drive. This seems like a good way to remind people that dry cell batteries (AA, AAA, C, D, 9-Volt), rechargeable batteries (cell phones and power tools) and button batteries (watches, cameras, and hearing aids) contain toxic metals such as mercury, lead, cadmium, and nickel. They should not be thrown into regular trash.

If you are planning a NCW activity, consider including something about battery recycling. It can be as simple as preparing and distributing a flyer about where to drop off used batteries in your community or as ambitious as staging a battery collection event. The San Gorgonio Section encompasses portions of three counties and each has its own parameters for recycling batteries. A list of relevant website follows on page 12. Happy planning! Please let the Section know if we can provide any assistance for your event (edimauro@mtsac.edu).
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San Gorgonio Section

**San Gorgonio Section
September Luncheon Meeting
Saturday, Sept. 28, 2013**

**Recognition of 50-Year ACS Members,
College and University Chemistry Clubs**

**ACC Executive Conference Center,
Board Room,
Claremont University Consortium,
101 S. Mills Avenue,
Claremont, CA 91711.**

Check-in and Social: 11:30 am
Luncheon: 12:00 pm
Program: 12:30 pm

This gathering showcases American Chemical Society members with the longest and shortest tenures in the organization. The San Gorgonio Section currently has fifty-six chemists with fifty or more years of ACS membership. This year, seven Section members have achieved the major milestone of 50 years of ACS membership. Please join us in celebrating this remarkable accomplishment!

Dr. Nancy G. Adin	Mr. Don W. Long
Dr. Edward James Faeder	Mr. Earl Lee Miner
Dr. Walter Joseph Farmer	Dr. Denny Nelson
Dr. George M. Lessard	

At the other end of the spectrum, many newer members of ACS have taken advantage of undergraduate and graduate student plans, sometimes through Student ACS clubs. We have invited representatives from Section college and university Chemistry Clubs to share their activities. Please help us welcome our newer members! Information will be available for anyone interested in starting a Chemistry Club.

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San Gorgonio Section

September Luncheon Meeting (Continued from Page 11)

Lunch: served buffet style. Choice of one wrap: barbeque chicken, roast beef or roasted vegetables. Includes side salad, chips, dessert and a non-alcoholic beverage.

Cost and Reservations: The cost (meal, tax and tip) is \$15.00 members, \$20.00 non-members, \$10 seniors and retirees, \$10 students, free for ACS members receiving their 50-year certificates. Cash or checks only please, at the door. Please make your reservations no later than Wednesday, September 18 by 12:00 noon by contacting Eileen DiMauro (edimauro@mtsac.edu, 909.274.4533). Include names of persons attending and their choice of beef, chicken or veggie wrap. Please be certain to honor your reservation.

Parking: Free in the attached Administrative Conference Center parking lot. Here is a link to a campus map:
<http://www.cuc.claremont.edu/maps/TCCmap.pdf>.

Directions From the 210 Freeway: Exit Towne Ave. and go south, turn left on Foothill Blvd., turn right on Indian Hill Blvd., turn left on First St., continue to Mills Ave., turn right on Mills Ave.

From the 10 Freeway: Exit Indian Hill Blvd., go north on Indian Hill Blvd., turn right on First St., continue to Mills Ave., turn right on Mills Ave.

Chair's Message (Continued from Page 10)

Recycling Batteries Websites:

Los Angeles County: <http://dpw.lacounty.gov/epd/HHW/Batteries/index.cfm>

Riverside County: http://www.rivcowm.org/opencms/landfill_info/pdf/FactSheets/88665-Batteries-HouseholdandRechargeable.pdf

San Bernardino County: <http://www.sbcfire.org/hazmat/hhwcollection.aspx#ABOP> Facilities

- Eileen DiMauro, San Gorgonio Section

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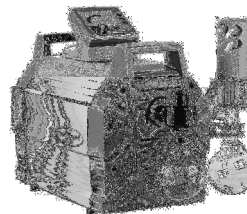
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***IMPORTANT
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Contains Dated Meeting Announcement

PERIODICAL

Bi-Section Chemists' Calendar

September

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October

- 20-26 National Chemistry Week—Theme “Energy: Now and Forever!”
SC event at California Science Center—see page 7

November

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