

April 2013

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



**Southern California
Section
Tolman Award Dinner
Thursday, April 18, 2013**

**Recipient of the 2012
Tolman Medal:
Prof. John Bercaw
California Institute of
Technology**
See Page 3



**San Gorgonio Section Meeting
6th Annual Goldstein
Distinguished Lecture**

May 10, 2013 at 12:00 pm

**Distinguished Lecturer:
Dr. Robert Cave
Harvey Mudd College**
See Page 12

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Southern California Section

Chair's Message



2013 is well underway, and our Section has experienced highpoints and lowpoints so far. On a sad note, Ken Edwards, a local chemical entrepreneur and a staunch supporter of our local section passed away last month. Ken was a great example of what it means to be a chemist, and how to be involved in your community. We will miss him.

On the brighter side, the Women Chemist's Committee just gave us a great dinner meeting with Dr. Sarah Reisman on "The Epidisulfide Natural Products: an Exciting Platform for the Development of New Reactions" on March 27th at Beckham Grill in Pasadena.

In addition, we are pleased to announce **Prof. John Bercaw** as this year's **Tolman Award recipient**, and we are looking forward to another great dinner meeting to bestow the award. Prof. Bercaw will speak on "Hydrocarbon Upgrading to Fuels and Chemicals: Progress towards Homogeneous Catalysts". See page 3 for more details. Hopefully we will be adjusted to daylight savings time by then.

In another bright spot, the Section hosted over 1,400 students for the 2013 High School Chemistry Olympiad. Seventeen qualified for the National Exam on April 13th, and we wish all of them luck.

We also have more highpoints coming. The Women Chemists Committee is putting on another great event on April 20th at ELAC. It's a panel discussion for women entitled "How I Got Here"; see page 7 for details.

Also, the Undergraduate Research Conference in Chemistry and Biochemistry will be held this month on April 27th at Pomona Claremont College. See page 6 for more details. In addition, we have lots of events for Chemists Celebrate Earth Day. It's the 10 Year Anniversary of CCED! See page 4 and our website, www.scalacs.org. for details.

Thanks to all the Section members for making these events a success.

Brian Brady, Chair



Southern California Section

Tolman Award Dinner Meeting

Thursday, April 18, 2013

The Athenaeum

551 S. Hill Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91106

**“Hydrocarbon Upgrading to Fuels and Chemicals:
Progress towards Homogeneous Catalysts”**

**John Bercaw,
2012 Tolman Award Recipient
Centennial Professor of Chemistry
California Institute of Technology**

Check-in and hosted reception: 6:00 pm

Dinner: 7:00 pm

Presentation: 8:00 pm

The Award: The Richard C. Tolman Medal is awarded each year by the Southern California Section of the American Chemical Society in recognition of outstanding contributions to chemistry in Southern California. The Tolman Medal recognizes broad accomplishments in chemistry rather than a single fundamental discovery. These contributions may be of several kinds, including seminal research of widely regarded influence, achievements of broad impact in chemical technology, significant contributions to chemical education, and outstanding leadership in science on a national level. To be eligible for the Medal, the recipient must have accomplished a major portion of his or her work while a resident of Southern California.

Abstract: Current technologies for conversion of natural gas and petroleum to fuels and commodity chemicals are energy intensive and polluting. New catalytic processes that are more efficient and “greener” are required to reduce CO₂ emissions and to more effectively utilize our fossil fuel reserves. Fundamental research efforts directed towards developing (1) a selective, homogeneous catalyst for direct, partial oxidation of light alkanes, and (2) a homogeneous catalyst system for converting syngas (a mixture of CO and H₂), obtained by steam reforming of light alkanes, to C_{n>1} products will also be discussed. See Prof. Bercaw’s Biography on Page 5.

(Continued on Page 4)

Southern California Section

Tolman Dinner Meeting (Continued from Page 3)

Reservations: There is a garlic roasted chicken dinner. Vegetarian meal is available upon request. **The cost is \$50 which includes the hosted social hour, the meal, wine with dinner and valet parking. Please call Nancy Paradiso in the Section Office at (310) 327 - 1216 or email office@scalacs.org by Monday, April 15, 2013.** *Note: Please honor your reservation. If you make a reservation and do not attend, you will be liable for the cost of the dinner.*

Directions: A map and directions are available on the Athenaeum website: <https://www.athenaeumcaltech.com>

Outreach Activities and Chemists Celebrate Earth Day Theme: "Our Earth: Handle with Care!"

The **Expanding Your Horizons Conference** for middle school girls will take place on **April 6th, 2013** from 8:45 am to 2:45 pm at Mount St. Mary's College Doheny Campus, Los Angeles. Since this is a conference for girls, women volunteers to help out for the day are very welcome. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Dr. Eleanor Siebert at esiebert@msmc.la.edu.

April 26, 2013—CSUDH Science Society CCED Event in Bldg. SBS, Room E122 at 12:00 noon. Complimentary light lunch provided. Park in Parking Lot #2. Dr. Catherine Jacobs' talk on "Mass Extinction: Human Driven Loss of Biodiversity". For more information, call Dr. Sofia Papatheodorou at 310 217-8163.

CCED Science Showcase Outreach! - Hosted by the Student Member Chapter at **Cal State Long Beach April 26, 2013 from 8-11am, at the George de la Torre Elementary School in Wilmington, CA.** For further information or to volunteer please contact CSULB SMACS president Hannah Pham at: Hannah.Pham@student.csulb.edu.

Late April 2013 - Chemists Celebrate Earth Day Activities at the California Science Center. Chemists Celebrate Earth Day 2013 at the California Science Center, 700 Exposition Park Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90037, website: <http://www.californiasciencecenter.org>. Join volunteers at the California Science Center for CCED activities. Dates and Times for this event will be listed on the SCALACS website. For more information, or if you would like to volunteer please contact Henry Abrash at: abrash8@aol.com.

June 1st—Chemistry Merit Badge Activity. SCALACS Younger Chemists Committee will have a booth at the Boy Scout Expo at Santa Anita Park Infield. We need volunteers to work with the Scouts on the Chemistry Merit Badge from 9 am to 4 pm. Contact Gerald Delker at delker@earthlink.net, or (626) 622-7776 or Derek Marin at Derek.Marin@DunnEdwards.com.

Southern California Section

John E. Bercaw 2012 Richard C. Tolman Award Recipient

John Bercaw received his B. S. degree from North Carolina State University in 1967, his Ph. D. from the University of Michigan in 1971, and undertook postdoctoral research at the University of Chicago. He joined the faculty at the California Institute of Technology as an Arthur Amos Noyes Research Fellow in 1972, and in 1974 he joined the professorial ranks, becoming Professor of Chemistry in 1979. From 1985 to 1990 he was the Shell Distinguished Professor of Chemistry, and in 1993 he was named Centennial Professor of Chemistry. Bercaw has been a Seaborg Scholar at Los Alamos National Laboratory (2004), the Robert Burns Woodward Visiting Professor at Harvard University (1999), The George F. Baker Lecturer at Cornell University (1993), Visiting Miller Professor at the University of California, Berkeley (1990), and a Royal Society of Chemistry Guest Research Fellow at Oxford University (1989-1990). From 2009-2012 he was also KFUPM Visiting Chair Professor at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals. He has served on numerous panels for the Department of Energy and the National Research Council, and beginning in 1999 has been a member of the Science and Technology Committees for national laboratories: Los Alamos National Security and Lawrence Livermore National Security.

Bercaw is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (1986), a member of the National Academy of Sciences (1990), a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences (1991), and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Science from the University of Chicago in 2001. He has received the American Chemical Society awards in Pure Chemistry (1980), for Organometallic Chemistry (1990), for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Inorganic Chemistry (1997), the George A. Olah Award for Hydrocarbon or Petroleum Chemistry (1999), and an Arthur C. Cope Scholar Award (2000). He held the Sir Edward Frankland Prize Lectureship of the Royal Society of Chemistry in 1992, received the Basolo Medal (Northwestern, 2005), and the Bailar Medal (University of Illinois, 2003).

His research interests are in synthetic, structural and mechanistic organotransition metal chemistry. Investigations include catalysts for polymerization of olefins, investigations of hydrocarbon hydroxylation with transition metal complexes, and the development of catalysts for syngas and light alkane conversions to chemicals and fuels. He has published over 285 peer-reviewed scientific articles.

Southern California Section

Undergraduate Research Conference

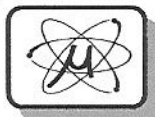
The 2013 Undergraduate Research Conference in Chemistry and Biochemistry will be held on **Saturday, April 27th** at Claremont McKenna-Pitzer-Scripps Colleges. The deadline for submissions of either oral or poster presentations is **April 1st. The conference registration deadline is April 15th.** For information, please contact Kayla A. Kaiser, at (909) 607-9606 or KKaiser@kecksci.claremont.edu or Patrick Fleming at (909) 607-8272 or pfleming@kecksci.claremont.edu. A website for the conference is available at: <http://faculty.jsd.claremont.edu/kkaiser/acsscurrecb>.

High School Olympiad

Local competition for the ACS High School Chemistry Olympiad was held on March 13th and 14th for over 40 high schools around Los Angeles County. Harvard-Westlake High School finished first overall while North Hollywood High School edged out Arcadia High School by 1 point to finish first for first year students. The winners of the local exam are invited to participate in the National Exam on April 13th at Occidental College for a chance to be part of the International Olympiad in July in Moscow, Russia. The High School Awards Banquet is May 17th at Mount St. Mary's College. We hope to see you there! For more information, visit our website at www.scalacs.org.

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Southern California Section

Women Chemists Committee Panel Discussion “How to Become a Successful Female Chemist”

**Saturday, April 20, 2013
9:00 – 11:00am**

**East Los Angeles College
Room G1 301 A/B/C**

1301 Cesar Chavez Avenue
Monterey Park, CA 91754

Parking is available in Structure 4, floors 3-5

“How to become a successful female chemist” will feature a dynamic panel of distinguished women chemists. The panelists will describe their life and academic pathways they undertook to reach their current position. They will also talk about achieving a healthy and successful work-life balance. Panelists include:

Angela Ashton, Ph.D., Senior Manager Clinical Quality Control, Amgen Corporation

Barbara Belmont, M.S., President and Laboratory Director, American Research and Testing; Lecturer, CSU, Dominguez Hills

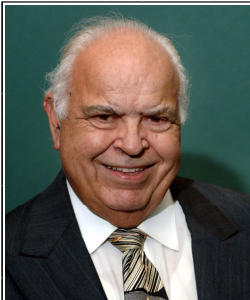
April Jewell, Ph.D., NASA Postdoctoral Program (NPP) Fellow, Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL)

Sarah Reisman, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Chemistry, California Institute of Technology

Dr. Arlene Russell, Senior Lecturer, SOE, Director, General Chemistry Laboratory Program, Faculty Director UCLA California Teach, Director, Science Teacher Education Program, University of California, Los Angeles

A Q&A will follow the panel in which panelists will be answering questions related to their careers and what has influenced the choices they have made. We strongly encourage all female students to attend and enjoy this event. Light refreshments will be provided by ELAC Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement (MESA) Program. For more information, please contact Veronica Jaramillo, Ph.D., at vjaramillo@pasadena.edu.

Southern California Section



In Memoriam Kenneth N. Edwards, Dunn-Edwards Paint Corporation

Kenneth Neil Edwards, retired CEO, Dunn-Edwards Paint Corporation and one of the country's leading polymer chemists, passed away peacefully in his Glendale, California home on February 20, 2013. He was 80.

Born June 8th, 1932 in Hollywood, California, Ken was the eldest son of the late Arthur Carl Edwards and Ann Vera Gomez. Kenneth attended Hollywood High School, where he graduated in 1950. He received his Bachelor's degree in Chemistry from Occidental College in 1954 and his Master of Science in Chemical and Metallurgical Engineering in 1955 from the University of Michigan. He attended UCLA's Graduate School of Business, Executive Program in 1964.

Ken was employed as a Principal Chemist in the Coatings division of Battelle Memorial Institute in Columbus, Ohio (1955-1958). In 1958, Ken joined the family owned Dunn-Edwards Paint Corporation in Los Angeles, California as Director of New Products Research & Development until 1971. He later went on to serve as Corporate Secretary, Board Member, and CEO (2001-2011). He taught as a Senior Lecturer- Organic Coatings and Pigments, in the Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Southern California (1976-1980). From 1971-2000, Ken also pursued his passion for coatings and plastics technology as an independent consultant and researcher, publishing a wide variety of important industry books and papers. In this period, he was awarded numerous technology and process patents and received a range of related citations and awards, including the ACS Industrial Innovation Award (2003), the Don Quixote Award for Technology (1998), the ACS/PMSE Distinguished Service Award (1996), among many others. His achievements were widely recognized in various publications including Who's Who in America, Who's Who in Science and Engineering, and Who's Who in the World.

Throughout his professional career, Ken was also particularly active in his many roles with the American Chemical Society (ACS), holding numerous key positions in a period spanning five decades. These included: Chairman, ACS Southern California Section (1999); Chairman, Division of Polymeric Materials, Science & Engineering (1970); Member Executive Committee (1962-1995); Founding Member, Division of Chemical Health & Safety (1977-2013); Founder and Charter Representative (1970-1995) and Secretary General (1976-1977), Macromolecular Secretariat among many others.

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Southern California Section

In Memoriam, Ken Edwards (Continued from Page 8)

Ken was proud of his long association with the professional chemical fraternity Alpha Chi Sigma, where he also gave generously of his time. He was a devoted supporter of California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. On July 10, 2007 Cal Poly recognized Ken's significant contribution to the University by naming its newly constructed technology center "The Kenneth N. Edwards Western Coatings Technology Center".

Charismatic and intellectually curious, Ken had an unusually wide range of sometimes esoteric interests. His lifetime passion for cooking led to the installation of a restaurant quality kitchen and cooking library in his home and the opening of a restaurant in Sandpoint, Idaho to test his recipes. His love of fishing led to an expertise in tying flies for fly fishing and later, annual expeditions to West Vancouver, Canada and Alaska in pursuit of salmon and halibut. Love of sailing led to the acquisition of his prized 32 foot Down Easter and a proficiency in celestial navigation by handheld sextant. He was an instrument rated pilot in his Cessna 182 and hunted pheasant with his beloved, superbly trained Labrador "Nige" (named after the chemical compound "nigrosene", which he developed). He achieved the extraordinary level of "6th degree" Black belt in Judo through a combination of competition and study and financed the opening of several martial arts studios. He painstakingly constructed detailed ship and aircraft models, played a passable guitar, loved Spanish Segovia style playing and New Orleans Jazz, collected wildlife carvings in jade and would get lost for hours in his basement laboratory. The list goes on and on, but the pattern was consistent in that he pursued to an uncommon degree those things which held his interest.

Ken was supportive of his family and took great interest in the progress of his nine grandchildren. His greatest personal commitment and resolve, however, was the success and product excellence of the Dunn-Edwards Paint Corporation, and his determination that its best course was to remain a family enterprise through the generations. To this end he dedicated the best of himself and his considerable talents. He will be missed.

In lieu of flowers, the Edwards family suggests that donations be made to support the Kenneth N. Edwards Western Coatings Technology Center (WCTC) at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. The WCTC will be housed in the new Center for Science and Mathematics, which is under construction on campus and expected to be completed in May 2013 as a LEED Gold Certified building. The WCTC will be home to the only polymers and coatings program at an American university west of the Mississippi River. Checks should be made out to "Cal Poly Foundation" with a memo line indicating "Ken Edwards Memorial Fund."



This Month in Chemical History

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

A correspondent recently reminded me about other significant historical anniversaries that we should celebrate in 2013, and I will take his advice and do so in this column. The correspondent is Eric Scerri, distinguished historian and philosopher of chemistry at U.C.L.A., and author of the very best recent books about the periodic table. Here is what he wrote:

“I wonder if you are aware that it is also the 100th anniversary of Moseley's groundbreaking paper on the use of X-rays to 'count' the elements and also of Bohr's famous trilogy paper in which he introduced the Bohr model for the H atom and had a pretty good stab at listing electronic configurations for several many-electron atoms? I realize that these are not quite chemistry discoveries but of course they had a huge impact on chemistry.

I also see that you did mention Moseley in passing.”

Yes, Moseley deserves much more than a reference in passing. His is one of the most uplifting and yet poignant stories in science. Henry Gwynn Jeffreys Moseley was born in Dorset, England in 1887. Both his father, a Professor of Anatomy at Oxford, and his grandfather, a mathematician, were Fellows of the Royal Society. It was an impressive scientific tradition that Henry Moseley was heir to. After the “usual” progression of the sons of comfortable county family members through Eton and Oxford, he broke away from the pattern and went to Manchester to work with Ernest Rutherford. There after investigating the beta emission from radium he began the X-ray work that occupied the rest of his career. Using a photographic recording method of his own he investigated the X-rays that the Braggs had worked with a couple of years earlier, and demonstrated in a 1913 paper that the frequencies of the K emission lines from different metals arranged in order of increasing atomic mass changed in a regular way.

Always ingenious as an experimenter, Moseley invented an X-ray tube in which the target could be changed with minimal increase of the necessary very low pressure in the main tube. This innovation speeded up his work. Following van den Broek's suggestion of a little earlier, Moseley agreed that the fundamental quality that governed his observations was not the atomic mass of the target but rather its ordinal position in the periodic table, which he called the atomic number. Moseley moved back to Oxford in 1913 continuing his work in Townsend's laboratory. He soon published a paper on X-ray spectra of some 30 elements including predictions as to where in the periodic table new elements were to be discovered. As Soddy later put it “Moseley, as it were,
(Continued on Page 11)

This Month in Chemical History

(Continued from Page 10)

called the roll of the elements.” Soon some of the “missing” elements were discovered and the connection between atomic number and nuclear charge was established.

As the son of a county family Moseley did what was expected and, after the Great War broke out in August 1914, obtained a commission in the Royal Engineers in late 1914. In June 1915 he sailed with many others on the ill-fated expedition (one of Winston Churchill's worst wartime blunders) to Gallipoli. Just a few weeks later Moseley along with hundreds of others was killed in battle. It took the British government many months before it realized that there were much better things to do with talented scientists and engineers than use them as cannon fodder.

A reminder: I have just published “A Chemical Chrestomathy: Chemical History Sketches, Vol. 1: Chemists” . It is available (at a modest price!) from Amazon.com. Just search for the title. The book contains many short sketches of the careers of chemists, slightly modified from the forms in which they first appeared in a number of ACS Local Section journals.

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San Gorgonio Section

Chair's Message Some Thoughts on the Passing Parade

The Section's certificates for our fifty and sixty year members arrived last week. Congratulations to the class of 1964!

Dr. Nancy G. Adlin
Dr. Walter Joseph Farmer
Mr. Don W. Long
Dr. Denny Nelson

Dr. Edward James Faeder
Dr. George M. Lessard
Mr. Earl Lee Miner

I mentioned at our Executive Board meeting that we didn't have any sixty year members this year. Someone commented that we do have a sixty-five year member. That reminded me that our Section is almost sixty-five years old and **Dr. James Hammond** has been a member of our Section since ACS President Linus Pauling presided over its inception. Jim is still a very active participant, serving as a Councilor, attending almost every Section event and attending all National meetings. What a tremendous accomplishment! Thanks and congratulations, Jim!

The Section held its local Olympiad exam last week, an event which requires significant volunteer effort to be successful. It is a well-established event with a new twist: UC Riverside volunteered to serve as a testing site this year, increasing the number of sites to three. Sincere thanks to Chemistry Department Chair **Cindy Larive** for supporting this venture and **Michael Christopher Young** for serving as site coordinator at UCR. Our Section is very large geographically and adding UCR as a testing site made for a shorter commute for participants. I would like to express sincere gratitude to **Dr. Dennis Pederson**, who has managed the testing at Cal State San Bernardino for several years and has the event there running as smooth as a well oiled machine. And many kudos to the team at Cal Poly Pomona; **Dr. Michael Page**, **Dr. Joelle Opotowsky**, **Dr. David Srulevitch** and **Dr. Laurie Starkey**. Each one of them contributed a significant piece to the puzzle to make exam go smoothly.

JPL Geochemist **Dr. William Smythe**, self proclaimed "newest ACS member in the room" enthralled the audience at the Section's March meeting with his discussion of "Chemistry of Mars". Martian topics included a discussion of whether canals really do exist, where did the CO₂ in the atmosphere come from, and if there is oxidation occurring on Mars, what is the oxidizing agent? Jim Hammond was in the audience as were local college students. It made me aware of the amazing scientific and technological advances that Jim has seen during his sixty-five years of ACS membership. It also made me wonder what future scientific breakthroughs the students would experience during the next sixty-five years?

- Eileen DiMauro, San Gorgonio Section

San Gorgonio Section

6th Annual Goldstein Distinguished Lecture

May 10, 2013 at 12:00 pm

Kellogg West Conference Center
Cal Poly, Pomona

**“What makes for fast electron transfer in biology,
and why should you care? One theorist's point of view”**

Distinguished Lecturer: Dr. Robert Cave

VP Academic Affairs and Professor of Chemistry
Harvey Mudd College

Lunch 12-12:45 pm
Student Awards 12:45-12:55 pm
Distinguished Lecture at 1 pm

“Upon arriving at Harvey Mudd College I was quickly invited to speak at Cal Poly Pomona and met Dr. Chevy Goldstein. That began a fruitful collaboration from which I benefitted immensely because of her interesting research questions and her passionate love of electronic structure theory. In addition to presenting some of this work, I will also describe work from our group on photo-initiated solvent-to-solute electron transfer and discuss how high-accuracy calculations on model systems can help us understand biological electron transfer processes.” Dr. Robert Cave

The Goldstein endowment was created to honor the memory of Professor Elisheva "Chevy" Goldstein. A recognized researcher in computational and theoretical chemistry, Goldstein developed courses in those fields that helped lay the foundation for the Chemistry Department's molecular modeling and simulation option. After completing her master's in 1977 at Cal Poly Pomona, Goldstein earned her Ph.D. at USC, she taught at Cal Poly for 25 years before her untimely death in 2007. After her death, family and friends established the Chevy Goldstein Distinguished lecture Series. The funds underwrite the cost for the Chemistry Department to host an annual lecture and to award talented undergraduate and graduate students with research scholarships in her honor.

Reservations: There is no cost to attend the event, but reservations are a must! **RSVP by April 10, 2013.** By email: goldsteinaward@csupomona.edu. By phone: 909-869-3653

Directions to Kellogg West at Cal Poly, Pomona: Link to campus map: <http://www.csupomona.edu/maps/dynamic>.

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA SECTION
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**

14934 S. FIGUEROA STREET
GARDENA, CA 90248

***IMPORTANT
Do Not Delay!***

Contains Dated Meeting Announcement

PERIODICAL

Bi-Section Chemists' Calendar

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