



The Newsletter of the  
Central Arizona Section of the  
American Chemical Society

Web Page:

<http://membership.acs.org/C/CentralArizona/>



## Americas Funniest Chemical Videos: Dazzling Demos and Videotaped Bloopers

**Dr. John Fortman**  
**ACS Tour Speaker**  
**Wright State University**

### Abstract

Through the years, Dr. Fortman has collected and edited many misadventures that he and Ruben Battino experienced in doing demonstration shows that were videotaped live. Difficulties encountered in the studio preparation of their three hour set of videotaped demonstrations were also saved. These will make up one part of the presentation. Gil Haight has given permission to show portions of his Haightful Perils of Teaching which are spectacular in spite of technical problems. A videotape of Hubert Alyea doing his Old Nassau demonstration will be shown along with some tapes of others such as Bassam Shakhshiri and Ron Perkins caught in live demonstrations that presented problems. Portions of demonstrations by the Weird Science group will also be shown.

### Speaker Biography

Dr. Fortman is Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at Wright State University where he retired in 2001 after 36 years of teaching freshman and inorganic chemistry. He has published over 50 papers in chemical education in addition to his research publications. With Ruben Battino he has produced three sets of videotapes which contain over ten hours of chemical demonstrations for use at middle school through college levels. For over 25 years he has done chemical demonstration outreach shows for middle and high school students in the Dayton area and continues to inspire and fascinate over 7500 students each year with at least 15 shows. He has done workshops on teaching and demonstrations around the country. His interests in addition to demonstrations and course content and organization include the use of analogies and videotaped material. John has been an ACS member since 1962 and was Councilor for the Dayton Local Section from 1996 to 2004. Since he became an ACS Tour Speaker in 1991 he has given over 280 section talks, visiting 161 of the 189 different local sections while doing 57 tours including all 28 different tours at least once. He has presented in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

**When:** Wednesday, October 3, 2007

6:30 p.m. Appetizers and Desserts

7:30 p.m. Lecture

**Where:** Glendale Community College  
Student Union Room 104E  
6000 W. Olive Avenue  
Glendale, AZ 85302  
(623)845-3000

RSVP to Christine Pruis at (480) 663-3772 or [Christine.Pruis@asu.edu](mailto:Christine.Pruis@asu.edu). For directions to GCC and a campus map, point your browser to:  
<http://www.gccaz.edu/VisitorsAndFriends/MapsAndDirections/>

## 2007 50- and 60-Year Awards Luncheon

The Central Arizona Section will honor the 2007 recipients of 50 and 60 year membership awards in the ACS at a luncheon in their honor on Saturday, November 3, 2007 from 12:00 – 2:30 P.M.

Carver's Steakhouse  
8172 W. Bell Road (just east of Loop 101 in Glendale)  
623-412-0787

Please join us to honor the following 2007 awardees:

### 50 Years

John F. Brown  
Wayne A. Cassatt  
Adrian S. Fox  
Eugene H. Gans  
Melvin M. Goldstein  
Donald E. Hardesty  
William L. Hunter  
Kyle E. Lemons  
James R. Price  
Richard L. Talbott

### 60 Years

Jack Brous  
Glenn L. Cook  
David L. Dennison  
Norman A. Meinhardt  
Riley Schaeffer  
Victor Tullio

The cost for the luncheon is \$12 per person payable at the door. Reservations are required. You will have your choice of several menu items. After lunch, our awardees will reflect on their careers in chemistry. This is always one of the year's most enjoyable events. Reservations should be made NO LATER THAN OCTOBER 26 by calling Doug Sawyer at 480-423-6196. Please leave your name, phone number, and the number of people in your party.

## National Chemistry Week

National Chemistry Week is rapidly approaching, October 21 – 27, 2007. This is the 20<sup>th</sup> year that ACS is celebrating National Chemistry Week!

This year's theme is "The Many Faces of Chemistry." We'll be emphasizing the diversity of chemistry and how individuals utilize their chemistry backgrounds in a wide range of careers.

The Central Arizona Section will be sponsoring a program for students to shadow "chemists" on-the-job from all walks of life (teaching, product development, quality assurance, process engineering, patent law, sales, forensics, etc.) **And we need your help!**

How? If you would like to host a student (with a parent or guardian) for a few hours of shadowing at your workplace, sometime during the week of October 22nd, please contact Regina Miskewitz at 602-448-0684 or [regina\\_miskewitz@yahoo.com](mailto:regina_miskewitz@yahoo.com) by Friday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. This is a terrific way to help students learn how chemists contribute to society. Imagine how fun it will be for students to see first-hand how some chemists *invent* new types of household products, make-up, medicine, or healthier food. While others work to *analyze* "things" or *sell* materials (chemicals) that go into products we buy. While still others *develop processes* for manufacturing products or work in the *patent law* field.

We hope you can get involved! Thank you!

## Chemistry Olympiad

The Central Arizona Section will be participating in the US National Chemistry Olympiad next spring. Encourage your local high school students and teachers to participate in this event and begin planning early. Teachers can contact Rich Bauer (602-496-0620) with any questions.

## Western Regional Meeting, October 9 – 13, San Diego, CA

WRM promises great chemistry and memorable events, starting with dinner, a plenary talk, and a tour on the SS Midway overlooking San Diego Bay. Their meeting theme is "Frontiers in Chemistry, Biopharmaceuticals, and Biotechnology" and the presentations should offer timely information because this meeting is in the center of a region that specializes in these areas! See what they have planned on their website, <http://www.wrmacs.org/>.

## Recognizing Premier Chemical Professionals in Extraordinary Ways

The American Chemical Society (ACS) is proud to be the association of choice for a diverse community of highly-skilled chemical professionals empowered to excel in their careers and dedicated to improving the quality of life. The ACS Awards Program is one of the means by which the Society meets its obligation "to encourage...the advancement of chemistry in all its branches, the promotion of research in chemical science and industry, [and] the improvement of the qualifications and usefulness of chemists."

The ACS national awards recognize individual or team accomplishments in diverse fields of the chemical sciences from Analytical Chemistry to Environmental Science, from Organic Chemistry to Polymer and Material Science, from Diversity and Emerging Chemists to Interdisciplinary Science, from Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Science to Chemical Education and more.

The scientists honored by ACS awards each serve as a reminder of the positive impact a single individual can make and of the great influence chemistry has on the world around us.

The continuing excellence of the ACS awards program requires that a number of highly qualified chemistry professionals be nominated. To assure that no outstanding nominee is overlooked, the Society urges you to submit nominations for the national awards administered by the ACS to be presented in 2009.

Forms for nominations and supporting information, and a detailed description of ACS national awards are available at <http://chemistry.org/awards>. The deadline date for all nominating material for 2009 ACS Awards is **November 1, 2007**. Earlier transmittal is encouraged.

Any individual may submit a nomination for an award, unless that individual is a member of the selection committee for the same award. However, selection committee members may submit nominations for other awards.

For more information about the ACS Awards Program, please visit our website <http://chemistry.org/awards> or contact the Awards Office at 202-872-4408 or by email at [awards@acs.org](mailto:awards@acs.org).

## Southwest Regional Meeting, November 4 – 8, Lubbock, TX

SWRM takes place in Lubbock, the home of Texas Tech, and is well known for cotton-growing, fine wines, and being the birthplace of Buddy Holly. Visit his museum and stop by his statue in the center of town. Their website, <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/chemistry/SWRM07/>, describes a unique meeting that includes time to visit the restaurants, museums, and shops in downtown Lubbock, as well as offering a winery tour and tasting. “Fueling the Future” is their theme, reflecting presentations on new frontiers in electrochemistry and much more.

## Local Section Contacts

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