



November 2008  
Vol. 92, Issue 6

# Central Texas ACS

Established 1917

Newsletter of the Central Texas Section of the American Chemical Society

Thursday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM

## The Serious and Delirious Use of Chemistry in Movies

Dr. John J. Fortman

Professor Emeritus of Chemistry, Wright State University

**Alamo Drafthouse Theater, 1120 S. Lamar Blvd.**

(see p. 3 for directions)

\$10 for members/adults, \$5 for students, FREE for 2008 volunteers

Please RSVP to (512) 636.1905 or email [retrosynthesis@gmail.com](mailto:retrosynthesis@gmail.com)

### Talk Abstract

This presentation will begin with illustrations of brief mentions of chemistry in films where you might not expect it, like *The Graduate*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *1776*, and *Bells on Their Toes*. Movies which feature science will then be contrasted between: then (the past) and now (the present); the real and the impossible; drama and comedy; and similar scenes in multiple movies. Featured clips will be selected from such films as *Apollo 13*, *Dante's Peak*, *Chain Reaction*, *It Happens Every Spring*, *The Man in the White Suit*, and *Smoke*. Several live chemical demonstrations related to the movie scenes will be interspersed with the videos.

### Dr. John J. Fortman

John Fortman received the 2007 Helen M. Free Award for Public Outreach. He is Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at Wright State University, where he retired in 2001 after 36 years of teaching freshman and inorganic chemistry. He won seven different teaching awards over the years at Wright State, and in 1998 he was appointed the Robert J. Kegerreis Distinguished Professor of Teaching and received the CMA Catalyst Award for Outstanding Teaching of College Chemistry. Dr. Fortman received his B.S. from the University of Dayton in 1961 and his Ph.D. in physical inorganic chemistry from the University of Notre Dame in 1965. He has published over 50 papers in chemical education in addition to his research publications. With Ruben Battino, he has produced a seven-DVD set which includes ten hours of chemical demonstrations for use in middle school through college level classes in addition to a live show and blooper outtakes. For over 30 years he has done chemistry demonstration outreach shows for middle and high school students in the Dayton area, and he continues to inspire and fascinate over 8000 students each year with at least 17 shows. He has done workshops on teaching and demonstrations around the country. He has designed alternative courses for general chemistry, elementary chemistry, and chemistry for elementary education majors. His course for non-science students was cited as a model in the 1990 American Association for the Advancement of Science report "The Liberal Art of Science: Agenda for Action." The alternative general chemistry course was developed while he was a member of the General Chemistry Task Force of the ACS Division of Chemical Education. It starts with organic and biochemistry, moves through materials and finishes with energy. The course emphasizes applications and stresses bringing in principles only as they are necessary. The course has been characterized as being taught inside-out, upside-down, and backwards. Dr. Fortman's interests, in addition to demonstrations, 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 310 section talks, visiting 163 of the 190 different local sections while doing 65 tours including all 29 different tours at least once. He has presented in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

# Central Texas ACS: November 2008

## Chair's Page

### **The Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct**

The American Chemical Society expects its members to adhere to the highest ethical standards. Indeed, the Federal Charter of the Society (1937) explicitly lists among its objectives "the improvement of the qualifications and usefulness of chemists through high standards of professional ethics, education and attainments." The chemical professional has obligations to the public, to colleagues, and to science.

The original "Chemist's Creed" was approved by the ACS Council in 1965. The principles of the Chemist's Code of Conduct were prepared by the Council Committee on Professional Relations, approved by the Council (March 16, 1994), and replaced the Chemist's Creed. They were adopted by the Board of Directors on June 3, 1994 for the guidance of Society members in various professional dealings, especially those involving conflicts of interest. The Chemist's Code of Conduct was then updated and replaced by the Chemical Professional's Code of Conduct to better reflect the changing times and current trends of the Society. It was approved by Council on March 28, 2007 and adopted by the Board of Directors on June 2, 2007.

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#### **Chemical Professionals Acknowledge Their Responsibilities to the Public**

Chemical professionals have a responsibility to serve the public interest and safety and to further advance the knowledge of science. They should actively be concerned with the health and safety of co-workers, consumers and the community. Public comments on scientific matters should be made with care and accuracy, without unsubstantiated, exaggerated, or premature statements.

#### **To the Science of Chemistry**

Chemical professionals should seek to advance chemical science, understand the limitations of their knowledge, and respect the truth. They should ensure that their scientific contributions, and those of their collaborators, are thorough, accurate, and unbiased in design, implementation, and presentation.

#### **To the Profession**

Chemical professionals should strive to remain current with developments in their field, share ideas and information, keep accurate and complete laboratory records, maintain integrity in all conduct and publications, and give due credit to the contributions of others. Conflicts of interest and scientific misconduct, such as fabrication, falsification, and plagiarism, are incompatible with this Code.

#### **To Their Employer**

Chemical professionals should promote and protect the legitimate interests of their employers, perform work honestly and competently, fulfill obligations, and safeguard proprietary and confidential business information.

#### **To Their Employees**

Chemical professionals, as employers, should treat subordinates with respect for their professionalism and concern for their well-being, without bias. Employers should provide them with a safe, congenial working environment, fair compensation, opportunities for advancement, and proper acknowledgment of their scientific contributions.

#### **To Students**

Chemical professionals should regard the tutelage of students as a trust conferred by society for the promotion of the students' learning and professional development. Each student should be treated fairly, respectfully, and without exploitation.

#### **To Associates**

Chemical professionals should treat associates with respect, regardless of the level of their formal education, encourage them, learn with them, share ideas honestly, and give credit for their contributions.

#### **To Their Clients**

Chemical professionals should serve clients faithfully and incorruptibly, respect confidentiality, advise honestly, and charge fairly.

#### **To the Environment**

Chemical professionals should strive to understand and anticipate the environmental consequences of their work. They have a responsibility to minimize pollution and to protect the environment.

# Central Texas ACS: November 2008

## Calendar of Events

**Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 PM-9:00 PM**

**Alamo Drafthouse, 1120 S. Lamar Blvd.**

**Dr. John J. Fortman**

**“The Serious and Delirious Use of Chemistry in Movies”**

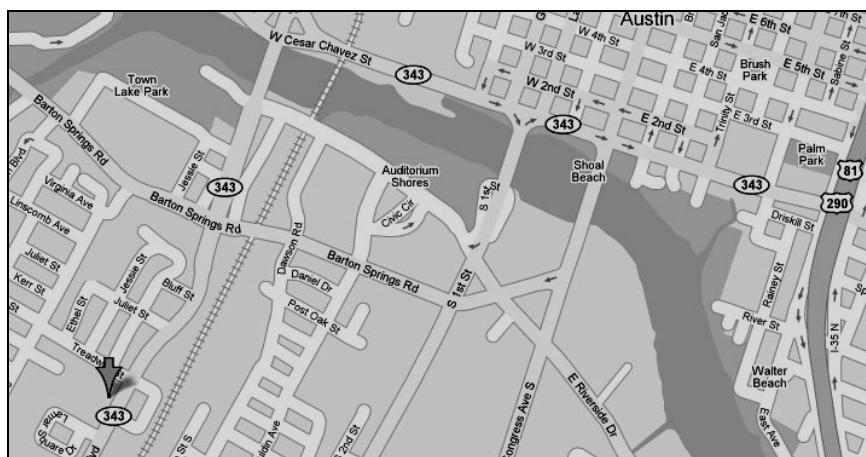
### DIRECTIONS:

#### **From Loop 1/MoPac:**

Take **W. 5<sup>th</sup> St. Exit**, then take a **right** onto S. Lamar. Alamo Drafthouse will be on your **right** just after Treadwell St.

#### **From I-35:**

Take **Exit 233** (Riverside Dr.) and go **west** on Riverside for about 1 mile. Take a **left** onto Barton Springs Rd. and continue 0.5 mi to S. Lamar Blvd. Take a **left** on S. Lamar. Alamo Drafthouse will be on your **right** just after Treadwell St.



### **2008 National Chemistry Week Event at Austin Maker Faire**

Central Texas ACS held its annual NCW event on October 18<sup>th</sup> at the Austin Maker Faire. Thank you to all our volunteers for helping to make it such a success! With about 70 volunteers and over 350 visitors to the Maker Kids' tent, we had the opportunity to share our love of chemistry with a lot of eager young minds. Special thanks go out to Education Manager Cybil Gustafson and the Austin Children's Museum for collaborating with us on this event.

Adriana Pavia	Jackie Padilla
Alejandro Parres	Jacqueline Pope
Alexandra Long	James Lin
Ali Khorasani	Jen Hernuzdez
Alicia Jones	Jennifer Hernandez
Anna Ferrero	Jessica Momb
Ben Martin	Joel Abdullah
Bill Dower	Jon Sanders
Bradly Schuster	Jonathan Ginn
Bryant Chambers	Jonhavi Das
Carissa Teer	Joseph Hu
Cassidy Terrell	Josh Robins
Celia Fryar	Kristen D'Ann Gould
Christina Bogar	Kyralyssa Hauger
Christina Flores	Lauren DePue
Christine Fryar	Lauren Song
Cody McMeans	LeAnn Rowe
Conor Fryar	Leila Henley
Cooper Fryar	Malcolm Prouty
Cori Atkinson	Majedur Chowdhury
Craig Allen	Michael Beebower
Craig Fryar	Morgan Baima
David B. Walker	Nicholas Krudy
David Myers	Paul Yi
David Rosas	Robert Hudson
De'Andrea Jones	Robert Payne
Diane Kneeland	Robert Reza
Dodie Wells	Russell Seguin
Don Wharry	Sara Sutcliffe
Evelyn Goss	Shuchi Bhatia
Gale Mandapat	Stephanie Jiang
Gene McDonald	Susen Kanchi
Griffin Sadousky	Wenling Lin
Ivette Zamaripa	

### **Birth Announcement**



Congratulations to Central Texas ACS Chair Betsy Shelton and her husband Todd on the birth of their son, Julian Douglas Shelton, on September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2008!  
(8 lb. 1 oz., 20 in.)

## Central Texas ACS: November 2008

### 2008 Executive Committee: Officers and Program Directors

Chair	Betsy Shelton	Applied Nanotech, Inc.	chair@	centraltexasacs.org	636-1905
Chair-Elect	Dr. Malcolm Prouty	SMRC	chairelect@		968-4750
Past-Chair	Jackie Padilla	URS	pastchair@		653-6311
Secretary	Dr. Deborah A. Hess	Signature Science	secretary@		586-6314
Treasurer	Dr. Stan Hajost	Applied Analytical, Inc.	treasurer@		339-1462
Councilor 1	Dr. Barry Streusand	Applied Analytical, Inc.	councilor1@		339-1462
Councilor 2	Prof. Jim Boggs	University of Texas	councilor2@		466-9145
Alt. Councilor 1	Dr. Linette Watkins	Texas State University	altcouncilor1@		245-3125
Alt. Councilor 2	Dr. Denny Wagoner	AnalySys Inc.	altcouncilor2@		385-5886
National Chemistry Week	Dodie Wells	Retired	NCW@		369-3668
Public Relations Chair	Jackie Padilla	URS	media@		653-6311
Women in Chemistry	Larisa Watson	University of Texas	wic@		471-7680
Awards Chair	VACANT		awards@		
Membership Chair	Dr. Linette Watkins	Texas State University	membership@		245-3125
Nominations Chair	Dr. Diane Kneeland	University of Texas	nominations@		232-0680
Chemistry Olympiad	Dr. Neal Grice	Dept State Health Service	chemolympiads@		926-7844
Girl Scout Program	Betsy Shelton	Applied Nanotech, Inc.	girlscouts@		636-1905
Boy Scout Program	Dr. Barry Streusand	Applied Analytical, Inc.	boyscouts@		339-1462
High School Coordinator	Dr. Neal Grice	Dept State Health Service	webmaster@		926-7844
Webmaster	Dr. Neal Grice	Dept State Health Service	webmaster@		926-7844
Newsletter Editor	Leila Henley	Applied Analytical, Inc.	editor@		339-1462

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