



October, 2006
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Central Texas ACS

CentralTexasACS.org

Newsletter of the Central Texas Section of the American Chemical Society

Saturday, October 7, 9:30 am:

Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center Tour and Lunch



Lunch \$10 Student Lunch \$5

RSVP by Oct 5 at (512) 232-0680
or chair@centraltexasacs.org

Wildflower Center Directions From downtown Austin

1. Head west on Sixth Street.
2. Enter the entrance ramp for Loop 1 South (Loop 1 is also known as MOPAC Expressway).
3. Continue south past the traffic light at Slaughter Lane.
4. Turn left at the next traffic light at La Crosse Avenue.
5. The Center is on the right near the end of La Crosse.

Wednesday, October 25

National Chemistry Week Event

The Central Texas Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) will observe National Chemistry Week (NCW) with a public event at the Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado Street, on Wednesday October 25th from 6:00 – 9:00PM. The 2006 theme for NCW is "**Your Home – It's All Built on Chemistry**". This annual celebration is an opportunity for children of all ages to have fun learning about the chemistry they come in contact with every day. Hands-on activities will include materials used to build homes, home safety and preparedness, recycling and conservation in the home.

To **VOLUNTEER** for this event, contact:
Betsy McGrew, NCW Coordinator
512.636.1905c / 281.667.3390f
NCW@CentralTexasACS.org

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Chair's Page

Dear Colleagues,

It was wonderful to see so many of you last month at the Alamo Drafthouse. I first would like to thank the speakers that took time out of their busy schedules to give us their presentations. They did a terrific job. It seemed to me that everyone had an enjoyable time; I know I did. There certainly were a lot of new faces, and I hope that you will all continue to attend more local section events in the future.

The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, October 7th at 9:30 in the morning at the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center. We are going to take a guided tour of various facilities on the grounds of the center and learn about using native plants for both landscaping and conservation. There are several gardens to see, including a botanical garden, a butterfly garden and a home demonstration garden. We are going to learn why founders Mrs. Ladybird Johnson and the acclaimed actress Helen Hayes decided to establish the National Wildflower Research Center. There is a short movie we get to watch, and we can check out their B.I.G. Bugs exhibit, a collection of big wooden sculptures of ants, spiders and a praying mantis. We wind up the day by having a boxed lunch at the café, and you can go enjoy the gift shop too. I would like to thank the Chemistry Department at Southwestern University for coming up with this idea and getting us reservations. They have been a tremendous help in coordinating this event.

We are also going to have an opportunity to give back to the community during October. The week of October 22nd through October 28th has been designated National Chemistry Week by the ACS. This annual celebration is an opportunity for children of all ages to have fun learning about the chemistry that they come in contact with every day. The theme for 2006 is "**Your Home – It's All Built on Chemistry.**" Our local section coordinator, Betsy McGrew, has been hard at work getting events ready for this special week. A list of events and activities will be in this newsletter and posted on our website shortly. If you would like to volunteer for anything or would like for your school to participate in some of the various activities, please contact her. Her contact information is on the last page of this newsletter.

I think that about covers it for this month. October has a chance to be a very special month for the local section and I hope that you will want to be a part of it. We run the gamut of activities from getting to see beautiful scenery at the Wildflower Center and learning about conservation to helping children learn about science. That sounds like fun in my book. Hope to see you there.

Kenneth Pavlat, Chair

Councilor's Corner

Election of the President of the American Chemical Society and of several members of the Board of Directors is coming soon. You will be receiving ballots in the mail. I hope you will take time to examine the qualifications of the candidates and VOTE.

The ACS President is the voice of chemistry in this country, representing 160,000 members when he or she speaks to Congress and other public agencies. The ACS President can have a great influence on the future of the profession if he/she is an effective speaker and aware of the nuances of politics. VOTE!

The Board of Directors is responsible for governing an organization with an annual income of \$429,000,000. Most of this comes from the publication program of ACS and is directed back into that activity, which, of course has a major influence on the science and practice of chemistry worldwide. However, a substantial amount coming from the publication program is spent on member benefits. These include support of local sections, technical divisions, national and regional meetings, etc. The newly elected Directors will join the continuing members of the board in the serious business of governing this large business organization. VOTE!

Jim Boggs

National Chemistry Week Poster Contest

This year's theme is "**Your Home-It's All Built on Chemistry.**" Information about the Poster Contest at:

http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DOC=new%5cncw_06_poster.html

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Calendar of Events

October 12

“Stem Cell: from Hype to Reality”

A live panel discussion by webcast from Georgia Public Broadcasting.

Contact Kimberley Elcess for details: 748-1438

October 19-22

ACS Southwest Regional Meeting

“Nano Scale and Giga Vision”

Houston Westchase Marriott

See details at

<http://www.chem.uh.edu/swrm06/>



October 25

Central Texas ACS National Chemistry Week

Celebration at the Austin Children's Museum,

6:00 pm – 8:00 pm

201 Colorado Street, Austin

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THIS EVENT

October 27-29

XXII Southwest Theoretical Chemistry Conference

The purpose of this conference is to bring together the various theoretical chemistry groups from Texas and surrounding states. The conference will feature plenary talks by distinguished theoretical chemists, as well as contributed talks from regional participants. All areas of theoretical chemistry are welcome. See details at <http://swtcc.cm.utexas.edu/>

November 9

Central Texas ACS Meeting, 6:30 pm – 9:30 pm
“How Three Texans, a Chemist and a Tree Saved the South during the Great Depression”

by Dr. Don Hicks

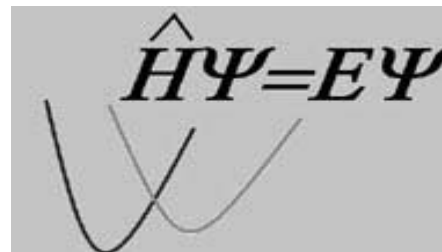
The County Line Restaurant on the Hill
6500 Bee Cave Road, Austin

Top 10 Reasons to Volunteer for National Chemistry Week at the Austin Children's Museum

From your Chair Elect: Jackie Padilla

10. You might learn something about your home. After all, it's built on chemistry!
9. You like chemistry, and sharing your interest in the subject with others.
8. Children might learn something from you, or you from them.
7. Volunteering is fun & rewarding!
6. There's nothing good on TV Wednesday night anyway.
5. If you are concerned about missing Lost you can DVR it.
4. Minimal time commitment, and it's time well spent!
3. Getting more kids interested in science ensures the future success of our profession.
2. NCW is the only major event to volunteer at this fall, so don't miss out!
1. All volunteers get a free patch!

XXII Southwest



Theoretical Chemistry Conference
at <http://swtcc.cm.utexas.edu/>

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2006 Executive Committee: Officers and Program Directors

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