



# Central Texas ACS

CentralTexasACS.org

September, 2006  
Vol. 90, Issue 4

Newsletter of the Central Texas Section of the American Chemical Society

Tuesday, September 26, 6:00 – 9:00 pm:

## CSI Dissected: Fact or Fiction?

Darrell L. Davis, Forensic Laboratory Director  
Tamara Keller, Senior Forensic Chemist  
of the South Central DEA Laboratory

---



---

Alamo Draft House  
1120 South Lamar, Austin

Member Dinner \$10 Student \$5

RSVP by Sept 22 at (512) 232-0680 or [chair@centraltexasacs.org](mailto:chair@centraltexasacs.org)

## Central Texas ACS: September 2006 Chair's Page

### Hello Colleagues,

Well that hot Texas summer has finally turned into fall as the nighttime temperatures have started to get a bit cooler. I said a bit, not a whole bunch. After all, we are in Texas, and hot is a relative thing. Hopefully everyone had an enjoyable summer. The start of fall means the start of another season of Central Texas ACS events.

We have many events planned for the upcoming months. We start things off in September with an event that I hope will become an annual event. It is a look at how the public media portrays chemistry in both a positive and negative way. This year we will watch an episode of the television show CSI. During the show we will have a dialogue with two forensic chemists from the Drug Enforcement Agency. It will be a fact versus fiction look at forensic chemistry.

In October we will take a guided tour of the Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center and learn about using native plants to reduce the use of water, pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers. During the week of October 22nd, we will celebrate National Chemistry Week. We have a children's event scheduled for Wednesday, October 25th, and a poster contest for grades K-12 that runs from October 22nd to December 1st. Please be sure to see our website for more information about National Chemistry Week events and the poster contest. We can always use more help for the children's event. If you want to volunteer please contact our National Chemistry Week coordinator Betsy McGrew. Her contact information is on the back page of this newsletter.

The last event for the fall will take place the first full week of November with a presentation by Don Hicks about how Texans and chemistry helped the South during the Great Depression. This will also be our night to thank all of the volunteers who have been such a great help during the past year. They have been a wonderful group to be around and are very deserving of a night in the spotlight.

I encourage you to attend as many of the events as possible and hope to see you at the Alamo Drafthouse on Tuesday, September 26th.

Regards,  
Kenneth Pavlat, Chair

### National Chemistry Week

As the National Chemistry Week Chair for the Central Texas Local Section of the ACS, I would like to inform you about the NCW Poster Contest that our section is sponsoring for students in grades K-12.

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

[http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DOC=ncw%5cncw\\_06\\_poster.html](http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DOC=ncw%5cncw_06_poster.html)

There are \$100 and \$200 gift certificates to amazon.com up for grabs for the winners and the teachers of winning students will receive a "Periodic Table of the Elephants" poster!

All posters must be submitted to me by December 1, 2006. Posters will first be judged by the ACS Local Section members and the winners will be sent to Washington DC to compete against students nationwide.

Please contact me if you would be interested in participating in this or any of the other National Chemistry Week activities.

Best Regards,  
Betsy McGrew, NCW Chair



# Central Texas ACS: September 2006

## Calendar of Events

### September 26

Central Texas ACS Meeting, 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
 “CSI Dissected” at the Alamo Draffhouse  
 1120 South Lamar, Austin

Bring your spouse, kids or a friend for a fun night out.

### October 7

Central Texas ACS Saturday morning tour of the  
 Ladybird Johnson Wildflower Center, starts at  
 9:30 am  
 4801 La Crosse Avenue, Austin

### 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

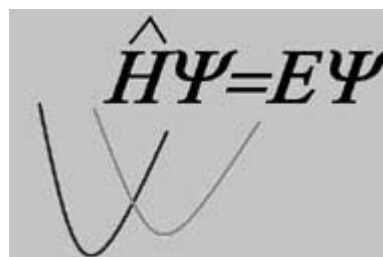
Central Texas ACS National Chemistry Week  
 Celebration at the Austin Children’s Museum,  
 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm  
 201 Colorado Street, Austin

### 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 Countr Line Restaurant on the Hill  
 6500 Bee Cave Road, Austin

### 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/>

### Seeking Analytical Chemists

Qualifications: BS degree in chemistry from an accredited University or equivalent related degree with one years experience performing quantitative analytical procedures using GC-MS. MS degree in chemistry and five years experience performing quantification analytical procedures using GC-MS with one-year supervisory experience preferred.

Full-time, 12-month appointment with benefits.  
 Closing for applications: December 1, 2006.  
 Contact:

Dr. Kenneth D. Casey  
 Assistant Professor of Air Quality Engineering  
 Texas Agricultural Experiment Station  
 6500 Amarillo Boulevard, West  
 Amarillo, TX 79106-1796  
 (806) 677-5600  
[kdcasey@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:kdcasey@ag.tamu.edu)