



Green Mountain Section of the American Chemical Society

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Green Mountain Section website:
<http://membership.acs.org/g/greenmt>

Officers 2005

Chair..... Beth Medeiros
Chair-Elect..... Fiona Case
Secretary Michele Johnson
Treasurer Beth Medeiros
Councilor..... Willem Leenstra
Alternate Councilor Martin Case

Committee Chairs

Awards..... Michele Johnson
PR/Web Master Fiona Case
NCW Coordinator... Larry Marzec-
..... Gerrior
Newsletter Editor.. Willem Leenstra

Upcoming Events

October, 2005 – Tour of Marble
Museum and Winetasting (date
TBD)

October 16-22 – National
Chemistry Week whose theme is
"The Joy of Toys" (see story on
next page)



ACS website: www.Chemistry.org

GMLS September Meeting

"Atmospheric Chemistry"

Date: Thursday, September 22, 2005

Time: Talk at 7:30 p.m.
Dinner with the Speaker at 5:45 p.m.

Speaker: Prof. William Zoller
University of Washington

Bill Zoller received his Ph.D. from MIT in 1969, shortly thereafter commencing his academic career at the University of Maryland, where he initiated his research program in atmospheric chemistry. In 1984 he moved to the University of Washington. Because of a serious auto accident in 1986, Prof. Zoller has had to modify his teaching approach to include PowerPoint presentations comprising more than 500 slides. These are now used nationwide in conjunction with the introductory chemistry textbook by Silberberg (McGraw-Hill)

Title: "Atmospheric Chemistry in Hawai'i:
Long-Range Transport of Dust and
Pollutants across the Pacific Ocean"

Abbreviated Abstract: Atmospheric aerosol samples were collected at the Mauna Loa Meteorological Observatory (Hawaii) from 1979 to 1992. The filter samples were analyzed by neutron activation analysis for approximately 35 trace elements. Pollutant transport from the surrounding continents (e.g., Al, Fe, Sc) could occasionally be observed, and traced back to the source region using air mass trajectories. The combustion of oil from the Exxon Valdez in the Gulf of Alaska was also measured in Hawaii, as the largest signal in the vanadium record over the entire collection record

Location: McCardell Bicentennial Hall 220
Middlebury College

For directions to the talk's venue use the Middlebury College link: www.middlebury.edu. At their homepage, click on "Campus Map" at the lower bar, followed by selecting McCardell Hall in the Building Index in the upper right of the campus map screen.

Dinner: Tully and Marie's, on Bakery Lane in
Middlebury, 5:45 p.m.

Please RSVP Willem Leenstra at 656-0273 or via e-mail by
Wednesday, September 21 to willem.leenstra@uvm.edu

Last Month's Talk on Lake Champlain Fisheries Management and Research by Shawn Good

On May 18th Shawn Good presented a talk on the work he has conducted on Lake Champlain, working as a Fisheries Scientist for the Vermont Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The talk comprised two main subjects: Walleye Management, and Sea Lamprey Control. Shawn gave a very articulate account of these topics in a spell-binding presentation. A number of interesting facts came to light. Walleye research uses otolith-somatic growth relationships to age the fish. Their tiny ear bones grow successive layers not unlike tree rings are formed season-by-season. This information then is used to evaluate size-at-age data, in turn shedding light on the health of the overall Walleye population. Also, Sea Lamprey control has been in the news quite often in recent times. Shawn presented the details of the life cycle of these pests. It turns out that the Lamprey spends a number of years in the larval stage, almost entirely buried in the river bottom. It is because of their immobile state that lampricide chemicals are effective.

After Shawn's seminar, over 30 chemists and their guests enjoyed an evening of cruising on Lake Champlain while dining on lobster and other delicacies.



Three tables of chemists enjoying lobster



Fiona enjoying lobster, and Beth dancing

More photos can be found at our website, and if anyone has additional ones, please send them along for use in our annual report.

National Chemistry Week: October 16-22

We have planned several activities to coincide with National Chemistry Week:

- On Saturday, October 15 we will have a kick-off event at ECHO: two chemical demonstration shows (11 a.m. and 2 p.m.) by Willem Leenstra and the UVM Chem Cats.
- On Saturday, October 22 there will be a mall event at the Burlington Town Center, where Fiona Case and volunteers will lead kids through some hands-on chemistry experiments. In line with this year's NCW theme of "The Joy of Toys" the properties of plastic will be explored, "slime" will be made, etc. If you would like to be a volunteer, please contact her ASAP at fiona@casescientific
- During NCW, we will be holding a contest in which the most creative passage (in English) is to be constructed by stringing together symbols from the Periodic Table. The contest will award prizes, and will be publicized in the Burlington Free Press. More on this next month.

NERM-2008

The nucleus of the Organizing Committee for NERM-2008 was constituted at our first meeting on July 20: Willem Leenstra as General Chair, Martin Case as Program Chair, Beth Medeiros as Treasurer, Michelle Johnson as Social Events Coordinator, Fiona Case as Public Relations Chair. Although the meeting is about three years out, some initial planning (such as site selection) has to be done early in the process. We will report on progress as it happens.

Planning for 2006

Our Chair-Elect, Fiona Case writes: As the leaves start to change color and the evenings become cooler it is time to start planning events for our 2006 program. I am very much looking forward to serving as your Chair, and I hope to organize a program that will interest every section member to attend at least one event in 2006. I have already received some great suggestions - including Kayaking on Lake Champlain, a golf event, a presentation about legislative action on chemistry-related issues (including a tour of the State Capitol), and a presentation about chemistry publishing (by one of the editors of Nature Materials). We have also secured two speakers from the ACS Tour Speakers program. Do these ideas sound interesting to you? Can you suggest other topics or activities for our group? What are your opinions about the location and timing of our meetings? Please let me know over the next month.