

American Chemical Society

Form: Part II - Annual Narrative Report
Organization: Eastern New York
Year: 2007

A. Activities

Please describe and rank up to ten of your section's activities during 2007. Provide (a) the title of the activity, (b) a one paragraph description of the activity, and (c) an indication if this activity was new in 2007. If you wish to provide details beyond these paragraphs, please do so in Appendix 1.

Activity #1

a) Title: National Chemistry Week

Description
(Please limit to
b) one paragraph):

The 2007 National Chemistry Day was one of the most successful events in recent local section history. Over 1000 children and their families (a 100% increase from 2006) enjoyed a day filled with fun hands-on experiments, and a magic show. Eight area colleges and universities and seven industrial and governmental institutions participated. The event was covered extensively by the local area media. The Times Union had a front page article on the event, Channel Nine News (a 24 hour local news TV station) had two segments on NCW and there was also a spot on the local public radio WAMC. People from far and

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #2

a) Title Chose the Buck Whitney Award Winner

Description
(Please limit
b) to one paragraph):

This year's recipient of the Buck Whitney Award is Dr. Alice Ting, Associate Professor of Chemistry at MIT. This award was established by the Eastern New York ACS section executive committee in 1976. The name of the award, Buck-Whitney, was chosen to recognize two of the most eminent research directors in the section Dr. Johannes Buck and Dr. Willis Whitney. The purpose of the award is to recognize excellent original contributions to pure and applied chemistry. The recipient is preferably someone who has not yet achieved national recognition as evidenced by a national award from the ACS. The

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #3

a) Title Focus on Local Entrepreneurs

With the success of including industrial speakers in 2006, the local section continued to have industrial speakers at its local section meetings. Four of the seven talks were by industrial speakers. One of the highlights was the presentation by Dr. Lennard Interrante on polycarbosilanes that were a precursor to silicon carbide. This chemistry led to

- Description
(Please limit
b) to one paragraph):
- the formation of the company Starfire Systems that has been extremely successful in commercializing this technology. It showed the membership that innovative ideas and results can lead to successful businesses. The talk by Dr. E. Todd Ryan also showed how cutting
- c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #4

- a) Title: Meeting at SUNY Albany Nanotech

- Description
(Please limit
b) to one paragraph):
- One of the major thrusts for the ENY ACS Local Section was to have a local section meeting at an industrial or applied research facility. The October meeting was held at Albany NanoTech. Seventy people attended the meeting which had one of the highest attendances in recent local section history. Attendees spanned from students, teachers, professors and professionals from academia and industry. The hot topic on nanotechnology, the venue and the tour of the site proved a major draw for this very successful event. There was a 45 minute tour of the facility, followed by dinner and a talk. Dr. E. Todd
- c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #5

- a) Title Planning for the Science Cafe

- Description
(Please limit
b) to one paragraph):
- A Science Café event has been planned. It will consist of a community interactive session by GE scientists followed by music by the scientists band Global Indecision at a local area coffee house. GE Global Research, the centralized research organization of the General Electric Company, have scientists working to replicate butterfly wings unique properties in the lab to develop man-made, nano-engineered chemical sensors for diverse gas phase detection applications ranging from defense against terrorism to manufacturing to healthcare. GE's research team, led by Dr. Radislav Potyrailo,
- c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #6

- a) Title: Reinvigorating the Education Committee

Historically, the ENY ACS Education Committee has organized a wide range of events targeted at audiences from young children to college students. After the retirement of a long-standing committee chair, this committee continued many of its traditional activities, but without meeting regularly. Instead, tasks were parceled out among the remaining members. This had kept activities alive but didn't provide the necessary dialogue, introspection and growth.

In the fall of 2007, a new member of our section,

Prof. Laura MacManus-Spencer, took on leadership of the committee, and began calling meetings. Two additional new section members and several continuing members now make up the committee. In the 2007-08 academic year, the committee is focusing on the following initiatives:

- * Mini-grants for K-6 teachers
- * Chemistry Olympiad
- * Undergraduate Research Symposium [to be held at Union College in the winter of 2008]
- * High School Teacher Award
- * Coordination of Outreach Activities throughout the ENY ACS section

Each of these initiatives will be led by a different member of the committee, with other committee members contributing significantly to at least two of the activities.

Description
(Please limit

b) to one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #7

a) Title: ENY ACS Career Builders

ENY ACS Career Builders is the new name of the Eastern New York Careers group. This was a result of a cease and desist letter that the section received from a company by the eponymous name in Florida. With the help of the ACS Legal Department in Washington DC, the issues was resolved. The ENY ACS Career Builders is a committee of the Eastern New York ACS local section devoted to helping members advance their careers and find local employment within the Chemical and Chemical Engineering professions. As a self help group, people give each other encouragement and practical advice about

Description:
(Please limit to

b) one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #8

a) Title: 60 and 50 year member recognition night

Twelve members were awarded their 60 and 50 year certificates at an awards and appreciation dinner, held at Skidmore College on May 15th, 2007. The Eastern New York Section was proud to honor the following 60-year members: Mr. Howard Bishop, Dr. Philip Launer, Dr. Robert Summers, Mr. Calvin Wanser. Not in attendance: Dr. Fred Luborsky, Dr. Donald Flam and Dr. Alfred Gilbert. The section was also proud to honor the following 50-year members. In attendance was Dr. Robert Frost, not in attendance were Mr. Sturmis Braun, Dr. Philip Carabateas and Dr. Robert Yunik. We thank them for their service and dedication to the field of chemistry and science.

Description:
(Please limit to

b) one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #9

a) Title: March Meeting at the Brew Pub

The meeting at the brew pub on March 21, 2007 was an opportunity to socialize and network amongst local section members. A tour of the brewery was given to the members by the company owner Neil Evans including a crash course on the chemistry of beer making. About 30 members came out for an evening of fun and socializing. The Evans family was in the commercial brewing business for three generations. The original brewery was built in Hudson, NY in 1786 and continued production until prohibition in 1920. Its award-winning ales were known throughout the Northeast and were even exported to England and France. Production levels peaked in 1915 when 65,000 barrels of beer were produced. The brewery bottled its own beer in Hudson at one of the country's earliest bottling facilities (1889). They later expanded and bottled beer at a plant in New York City. The family also produced much of their own malt at the Hudson facility. Neil Evans revives this rich heritage here at The Albany Pump Station. Surviving C.H. Evans Brewing Company memorabilia, including pictures of the old plant, can be seen in the restaurant.

Description:
(Please limit to
b) one paragraph):

Pictures of the Pump Station as it appeared at the turn of the century are also displayed.

c) This activity was new in 2007

Activity #10

a) Title:

Description:
(Please limit to

b) one paragraph):

c) This activity was new in 2007

B. Summary - Overall Section Activities

Please summarize in *1,000 words or less*, the activities of the section in 2007 which have not been already described. Outstanding events should be described in some detail and appropriate attachments included in Appendix 3. Programs described here may be featured in publications produced by the ACS Membership Division and/or at the Local Section Leadership Conferences.

C. Local Section and Chair Goals

2007 Goal Attainment. The Local Section Activities Committee strongly encourages local section planning. As a result, the 2007 local section annual report should follow-up on the attainment of goals. Please list the goals you set at the beginning of your term for your section and yourself, and report on the attainment of the goals.

a) **Local Section Goals and Assessment:**

2007 was an extremely successful year in involving industrial members. Four of our seven meeting speakers were from the local industry. Almost 50% of

our attendees were from industry compared to 30% in 2006.

The newsletter was not a top priority but will be reinvigorated in 2008.

Local area newspapers, TV Channels, radio stations were contacted regarding programming and National Chemistry Week via e-mail, phone calls, faxes and press releases. Local area schools and colleges were contacted via posters, e-mails and phone calls for

b) 2007 Chair's Goals and Assessment:

Meeting attendance went up 42% from 2006. The average attendance was 40 compared to 25 for 2006. We had one of our highest attendance at the College of Nanoscience and Engineering (70 attendees). Effective and continued communication to members was key.

The membership was surveyed with a small questionnaire at every monthly meeting. This feedback was used for programming, succession planning and volunteerism for National Chemistry Week.

The local media and all areas schools and colleges were contacted via several channels regarding

2008 Goals. (This section should be completed by the 2008 local section chair.) Please list below at least 2. three goals that you and your local section plan to accomplish during your term as local section chair.

a) 2008 Local Section Goals (Include at least three goals):

Theme for 2008: Science Advocacy
Increase attendance at local section meetings
recognize and involve K - 12 teachers
Invite govt officials to attend and/or speak local section meetings
Hold 2 science cafes
Implement Web-based newsletter
Re-establish membership and hospitality committee

b) 2008 Chair's Goals:

Increase membership
Continue growth of Education Committee
Increased involvement with State and Local Govt (advocacy)

D. Suggestions/Concerns

List any suggestions you have for the Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC). How can LSAC specifically help your section?

Continue support for science cafes and innovative activity grants.