



# ACS Newsletter

The Newsletter of the Southern Arizona Section of  
the American Chemical Society

Spring 2008



## 2008 Section Officers and Committee Chairpersons

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## Letter from the Past Chair

With the arrival of 2008 comes a new Local Section Chair and fresh ideas. We welcome our new chair, Dr. Anne Padias, and look forward to her guidance as we ring in the New Year. As is always prudent, we look at the previous year for insight and goal-setting. To that end, let us recap the events and goals of 2007.

One of my goals for 2007 was to explore different formats for our dinner meetings. We tried new venues at Championship Dining and the U of A, and a new format of appetizers, no need to R.S.V.P., and lower costs. The reactions were mixed. Several members like the flexibility of making the decision to attend at the last minutes and enjoyed bringing their families when cost was an issue. Topics ranged from forensic science to educational demonstrations. We saw some new faces, but also missed some of our regular attendees. All in all, in a year of experimentation, we had respectable turn-out and a lot of fun!

We also launched our new "e-Bulletin," submitted an updated version of our Bylaws, and revised our Operating Guidelines (both thanks to Roger Caldwell, Past Chair).

As we celebrate the New Year, let us also reflect and learn from 2007. Please join me in welcoming our new Executive Committee officers and the new ideas that will come from them. Thank you for all of your support last year. I look forward to another year of growth and expansion of our support to you, our loyal Southern Arizona Local Section members.

## Spring 2008 National Meeting

New Orleans, LA April 6 - 10, 2008

Online registration and accommodations are now open. Learn more about the spring 2008 national meeting at [www.chemistry.org](http://www.chemistry.org).

## Letter from the Chair

I am delighted to be the incoming Chair of the ACS Local Section in Southern Arizona. The American Chemical Society organization is alive and well in our region.

The aim of the Local Section is to serve the local community, so I will be happy to receive your suggestions and comments. Feedback is great, because it gives us an idea of what you want.

Looking across the spectrum of the Southern Arizona population, many retired chemists live in our region; we also have many chemists active in the workforce, both in industry and at the university; many educators belong to our organization, and teach our children; graduate students participate actively at the local and national level in ACS; and undergraduate students belong to our organization through SAACS and are very active.

In our programming and activities we try to organize activities which will appeal to all levels of members. I am interested in showcasing achievements and activities of local members through some dinner meetings. This Newsletter highlights some of our activities for the coming year.

I would like to draw attention to an initiative the Local Section started last year, namely the Science Café. Science Café is meant to highlight specific subjects of interest to local members in a very relaxed and open atmosphere. Dr. John Osterhout has been organizing these get-togethers every month, usually on the third Tuesday of the month. One or two experts on a specific topic give a very short talk on background before opening it up to an open discussion by the participants. Various subjects such as valley fever, water, and the use of green tea in chemical applications, were discussed last year. Look for details about upcoming Science Cafés in this Newsletter and on the web site for the Local Section, [www.sazacs.org](http://www.sazacs.org).

This year I would like to pay special attention to the students at the Pima Community College campuses. Many of these students will choose careers in chemistry or related fields, but at this time they are very isolated both from their peers on the University campus and from the community of Southern Arizona chemists as a whole. The idea is to get these students to join the Student Affiliates of the ACS at the U of A, which hopefully will make their transition to the campus easier when the time comes. It will put them in contact with students on the main campus and they will be able to attend the activities and talks currently organized by the student organization.

Looking forward to a great year!

## Future Dinner Meetings

Our first dinner meeting will be on Tuesday February 19 at the Red Sky Café. The speaker will be *Dr. Carolyn Fisher* of the McCormick Co. and she will talk to us about “Spices and Herbs: Chemistry and Health”. This should be a very interesting subject with the current emphasis on healthy eating and the effect of food on our health.

Other dinner meetings are being scheduled:

*Professor Bonner Denton* of the Chemistry Department at the U of Arizona will talk about his adventures as a hot rod driver at the Bonneville Flats in Utah, as well as the chemistry of these dry lakes.

*Dr. Bronco Gordon*, founder of Polymer Chemistry Innovations, will describe his experience starting a chemical company while a faculty member, and moving this company to Tucson.

*Dr. E. Charles Galloway*, Edison Polymer Innovation Corp. (retired) will talk about “Polymers: Who Invented Them?” on Monday September 15, 2008.

Further details about these interesting talks will appear in future newsletters and at [www.sazacs.org](http://www.sazacs.org).



**Southern Arizona Section  
Of the  
American Chemical Society**

*Cordially invites you to the first dinner meeting of 2008.*

**Spices & Herbs: Chemistry & Health**

Dr. Carolyn Fisher  
McCormick and Co., Inc.

Tuesday, February 19

At the

**Red Sky Café**

2900 N. Swan Road, Suite 100

Palomino Plaza

(note new location)

5:30 p.m. Reception with Cash Bar

6 p.m. Dinner

**Choice of Las Cruces Chili Spiced Chicken, Grilled Herb Chicken salad,  
or Veggie Penne Pasta** (non-alcoholic beverage and dessert included)

\$20.00 members

\$10.00 students

7 p.m. Speaker

*Please RSVP to Pat Schumann specifying your dinner choice  
by Wednesday February 13, 2008*

*At 770-1259 ext. 137 or [pschumann@imarx.com](mailto:pschumann@imarx.com)*

## Call for Nominations for Local Section Awards

We are requesting nominations for local section awards to be presented during the awards reception that will be held on Thursday, April 24, 2008. The awards include the College Educator Award for Excellence in Teaching, High School Chemistry Teaching Award, and H. Wayne Adickes Member Service Award. We have also inaugurated a new award in 2007: Craig Aspinwall Undergraduate Student Travel Award, and the Salutes to Excellence, an award program created in 2000 and sponsored by the ACS Office of Community Activities (OCA) to recognize “achievements in chemistry and the positive impact of chemistry on everyday life in our communities by a practitioner, a product, or a place of importance in chemistry”.

Please contact Kathryn Louie, Ph.D. by email at [klouie@email.arizona.edu](mailto:klouie@email.arizona.edu) or refer to our website at [www.sazacs.org](http://www.sazacs.org) for further details.

### Craig Aspinwall Undergraduate Student Travel Award

This award is to help subsidize travel for an undergraduate student to present a paper or poster at a National or Regional American Chemical Society meeting. The award is available to any undergraduate in chemistry, biochemistry or a chemistry-related field. The applicant must provide a proposal for the request. Greater consideration will be given for meetings located closest in proximity to the Section. Awards will be used only for expenses to attend a meeting (i.e., travel, lodging, meals, registration). The award amount will be up to \$1000.

### College Educator Award for Excellence in Teaching

This award is given for excellence in teaching chemistry, biochemistry, or a chemistry-related field at a post-secondary institution that does not offer a Ph.D.-granting program in that field. The nominee shall be currently teaching a chemistry-related discipline. The nominee must reside within the Southern Arizona section of the American Chemical Society. The award will include \$1000 and a plaque.

For more details, please see our website at [www.sazacs.org](http://www.sazacs.org)

**Dinner meetings in 2007** were a lot of fun. We heard from several speakers, including Dr. Ariel Fenster (forensic science), Dr. Ron Fortman (chemistry demonstrations), Dr. Robert Bates (chemistry of beer-making), and Dr. Ron DeLorenzo (mysteries in science).



At El Parador, we learn about the alchemy and chemistry of beer-making.



Science Café was a huge hit in 2007. Sponsored by a grant from ACS, Dr. John Osterhout launched the Science Café program in which many noted speakers were spotlighted to discuss topics ranging from Kissing Bugs to Scientific Small Businesses. Watch for notices as Science Café continues in 2008.

Preliminary Schedule for Spring 2008:

February 26	Women in Science
March 18	Sustainability
April 15	Global Warming
May 20	Biofuels

Send ideas, suggestions or questions to [johnno@email.arizona.edu](mailto:johnno@email.arizona.edu)

## Chemists Celebrate Earth Day

Theme: “Streaming Chemistry”

April 22, 2008



The American Chemical Society observes Earth Day with the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) program. ACS offers a suite of events, contests and educational resources that can be used by ACS members, chemical educators, and chemistry enthusiasts to illustrate the positive role that chemistry plays in the world.

The 2008 community event for Chemists Celebrate Earth Day is “Adopt-A-Stream”. In an “Adopt-A-Stream” program, groups register with the “environmental protection” office of their state or local government to clean up and keep clean a section of a stream or aquifer. In addition to clean up efforts, volunteers may be asked to monitor water quality and/or pollution sources. Responsibilities vary slightly from one municipality to the next. Provide water quality information at your event and document it with a photograph that you will submit to ACS!

The K-12 event is a haiku contest and the college contest is an “Adopt-A-Stream” community service project. Look for hands-on activities, safety guidelines, correlation with science education standards, and related articles on the chemists celebrate earth day website at [www.acs.org/earthday](http://www.acs.org/earthday).

### COMPUTER AND ELECTRONIC DISCOUNTS FOR ACS MEMBERS

The American Chemical Society and Dell have come together to provide you with great technology solutions at excellent prices!

Get discounts on desktop and notebook computers and a complete range of reliable and affordable software and peripherals like printers, projectors and TV's.

To take advantage of this ACS member benefit, call your dedicated sales team at 1-888-506-3355. Mention “Dell is my technology partner” to receive \$20 off your next order over \$500.

For more information, please visit [www.dell.com/assn](http://www.dell.com/assn).



Visit us on the web at  
<http://www.sazacs.org/>

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telephone them 8:30 - 5:00 pm ET at  
800-333-9511

## 2008 NORM/RMRM American Chemical Society Regional Meeting

Joint Northwest/Rocky Mountain Regional Meeting of the  
American Chemical Society

June 15-18, 2008 Park City, Utah

<http://people.chem.byu.edu/safleming/2008-norm-rmrm-ac-s-regional-meeting>

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