

The Syracuse Chemist

Volume 101/Issue 4



May 2009

Adopt-a-Stream

SUNY-ESF leads the way for another successful day of stream clean-up and water quality surveys.

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June Dinner Meeting

Come to the zoo and stay for a celebration of Education.

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Teacher Workshops

Final Teacher workshop held. All in all the series was a huge success with area teachers.

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Leadership Development Event Scheduled for June 6.

Through a small grant from National, a leadership development symposium is being offered on June 6th. We need a minimum of 8 people to sign up to have the event and tuition is free to members.

This symposium will be lead by professionals from the Washington office and will focus on “thinking outside the box”. As problem solvers, chemists are often asked to do this but frequently the road blocks encountered are “well, we’ve always done it this way”. Learn new methods and approaches to break away from the same old same old and motivate yourself, your organization or your coworkers to find their inner innovation.

June 6th
from
10AM - 2PM
at the
Doubletree Hotel Syracuse
6301 State Route 298
East Syracuse, NY.

More information about the Workshop can be found at
www.acs.org/professionaldevelopment

For additional information please contact
Robert Stankavage at stanky@twcny.rr.com

Save The Date!!!



A Celebration of Education
will be held
June 18th
at the
Rosamond Gifford Zoo.

The indoor zoo will be open
from 4:30 PM - 8 PM and we
will have hors d'oeuvres
starting at 4:30 with dinner
at 5:30. The menu can be
found on page 2.

Come hear about how the
education committee
supports chemical education
and the larger role the
Syracuse Local Section can
play in educational outreach!

Plus - we'll lay out next
year's calendar!!

2nd Annual Adopt-a-Stream Event Held

On April 25th, approximately 150 streamkeepers comprised of SUNY-ESF students, ESF faculty members, area citizens and local Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts took to the streams to clean-up and conduct water quality surveys.

This year organizers partnered with Manlius Pebble Hill School to use their parking lot for easy access to the Butternut Canal and other area streams. The Canal was in the most need of clean-up and participants removed several tires, lots of trash, chairs, stools and a small table.

The centralized location of MPH's parking lot, allowed the streamkeepers to survey 4 sites in the area, Meadow Brook at St. Mary's Cemetery and by home owner request in a residential neighborhood on Morton Road. Butternut Creek at the Golf Course as well as Butternut Canal were also surveyed. All creek surveys indicated good water quality and looked great after the teams were done.

A second team of streamkeepers returned to Chittenango Creek and found to their delight that the trash that was removed last spring had not returned and that the water quality there remains good.

This on-going project is a joint effort between the General Chemistry class at ESF, Project Watershed and the Syracuse Local Section. Surveys are generally conducted annually in the spring. If you would like to have Streamkeepers visit your property or if you know of a creek or stream that needs trash removal please contact Kelley Donaghy at kdonaghy@esf.edu.

Finally the organizers wish to thank our corporate sponsors, Syracuse Section of the ACS, Wegmans, P&C, ESF's Undergraduate Student Association, Starbucks and ESM's bakers!

Zoo Details!

The indoor zoo will be open from 4:30-8 for our private party. Anyone wishing to come to the zoo earlier and walk through the outdoor exhibits earlier is welcome to do so for free, please contact Kelley Donaghy for special tickets. (kdonaghy@esf.edu)

Menu:

Fruit and Vegetable Trays
Wild Field Greens Salad
Mediterranean Tortellini Pasta Salad
Garlic Mashed Potato
Herbed Risotto
Green Beans Almandine
Honey Glazed Carrots
Macadamia Nut Encrusted Mahi Mahi
Oven Roasted Jerk Chicken
Pasta Primavera
Assorted Desserts
Water, coffee and Soda



Teacher's Workshops A Success

The last of the teacher's workshops were held this month. Sally Mitchell's highly successful Bridge workshops culminated with a morning spent focusing on how to help your students review for the Regents, AP test and final exams.

Overall, the series took a close look at both the High School curriculum, how to prepare students for standardized exams without them realizing it and how to work through the testing conundrum created by today's standards. Also, it broached the topic, of what do college professors expect students to have as background materials as they enter the college classroom.

Many new teachers had opportunities to ask important questions and to learn that the challenges they face everyday are faced by experienced teachers as well. The mentoring focus of the workshops was extremely well-received.

Thank you Sally for working on this project and to the Local Section Activities Grant that made the whole thing happen.



Sally's Challah Bread Recipe

This recipe makes 2 loaves.

15 mL of yeast
300 mL of warm water
45 mL of sugar
5 mL of salt
40 mL of oil
2 eggs
bag of bread flour (use ~1/3 of bag)

1. Dissolve yeast in warm water in a very large bowl (allows yeast to come out of its spore formation and begin to reproduce)
2. Add sugar, salt, oil, eggs and 750 mL of flour, stir and mix thoroughly (sugar feeds the yeast, salt is flavoring, oil and eggs help create the smooth texture)
3. Gradually add more flour until the dough is still (don't add too much, dry to touch so kneaded, err on the side of less flour)
4. Knead dough until it is smooth and flour is absorbed, dough elastic and doesn't stick to table. (kneading forms gluten via a dehydration condensation polymerization reaction)
5. Grease a bowl of Crisco. Add bread and roll to coat all sides (keeps dough moist)
6. Cover and allow to rise for 90 minutes (first rise is to build up yeast cells)
7. Punch down and let rest 15 minutes (redistributes yeast take a minute and smell the bread - is that alcohol?)
8. Knead the dough again for 5-10 minutes
9. Shape dough - Traditional Challah is braided
10. Place on greased pan and allow to rise 45 minutes
11. Preheat oven to 180 C
12. Bake for 39 minutes, remove and brush with butter on all sides.

Syracuse Local Section invites you to:



Education Night!

Come celebrate our education outreach events. Winners of the Haiku Contest, the National Chemistry Week Poster Contests and the Chemistry Olympiad will be our invited guests. Also, find out how you can get involved.

When: June 18th

Where: Rosamond Gifford Zoo

Who: Education Committee and Invited Lecturer:
Dr. Melissa Fierke

Details:

Zoo will be open 4:30-8:00 PM

Snacks at 4:30

Dinner at 5:30

Awards at 6:30

Speaker at 7:15

Members \$15/Children (welcomed and encouraged): \$5

Non-Members \$20

RSVP by 6/10 to
Kelley Donaghy
kdonaghy@esf.edu

About the speaker: Dr. Melissa Fierke is from SUNY-ESF and she will be speaking about insects and pheromones. Dr. Fierke is a Forest Entomologist whose current research interest includes the emerald ash borer, a wood-boring beetle. The emerald ash borer is thought to be responsible for the death of many ash species in Michigan, Ohio and Canada and is a leading cause of the demise of Fraxinus, an ash species in North America. The importance of ash to riparian zones in New York State has been well documented and Dr. Fierke and her group are investigating ash-specialist, focusing on Lepidoptera, moths and butterflies. In addition she is biomonitoring a native digger wasp who uses wood boring beetles to provision its nests.

Dr. Fierke received her B.S. in Environmental Chemistry from Arkansas Tech University, her M.S. Fisheries Science from Oregon State University and her Ph.D. in entomology from the University of Arkansas. She joined the faculty at SUNY-ESF in the fall of 2007.



Syracuse Chemist

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Deadline for material:

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Please send submissions to
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Upcoming Schedule of Events

JUNE

Fostering Innovation - June 6th

Education Night Meeting - June 18th

OCTOBER

National Chemistry Week - 10/18-10/25

Have an idea for a great event? Please contact a member of the Executive Committee or join us at a meeting!

Winner of last month's challenge:
Geoff Beckwith of Indium Corporation
Answer: Caffeic acid or 3,4-dihydroxy-trans-cinnamic acid. Congratulations Geoff! Tickets will be in the mail to all our winner soon...

Here's this month's challenge:

What element am I?

This metal is silver-white in color, developing a slightly yellow/pink color upon exposure to air. It is widely distributed on earth, and occurs in over 800 known minerals. Its oxide is used in the production of high intensity lights.

Playing for Free MOST tickets with IMAXMovie!

THE SYRACUSE CHEMIST

Syracuse Section of the American Chemical Society

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