

The Syracuse Chemist

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December 2011

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Meet your new executive committee!

After our first electronic election, the Syracuse Section saw the biggest voter turn-out in years! We are delighted to introduce to you the 2012 Executive Committee of the Syracuse Section of the American Chemistry Society:

Chair: Bill Ayling
Chair Elect: Neal Abrams
Past Chair: Sally Mitchell
Councilor: Alyssa Thomas
Alternate Councilor: Kestutis Bendinskas
Treasurer: Robert Fleischman
Secretary: Jamie Cucinotta
District Delegates:
Nicole Snyder - 2 year term
John Fleischman - 1 year term
District Delegates at large:
Donald Dittmer - 2 year term
Elizabeth Mitchell - 1 year term

The committee wants to thank everyone who voted. They look forward to working with you and making 2012 a fantastic year for the section!

Calling all College and University Faculty -

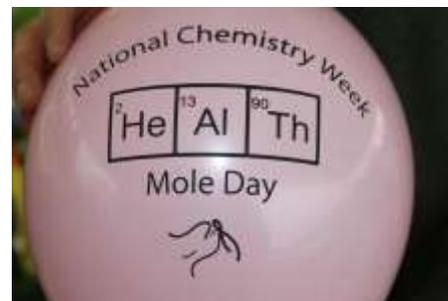
Do you have an exceptional junior or senior who would benefit from having a membership to the American Chemical Society?

If so, please contact our Awards Chair, Alyssa Thomas, who is organizing the Student Affiliate Awards for this year. To nominate a student for the award, send an e-mail with the subject - ACS Syracuse Student Affiliate Awards to acthomas@utica.edu and include the name of the student, the institution, and the student's e-mail address. For more details or any questions, send an e-mail to the above address. Deadline for nominations this year is **April 21st**.

National Chemistry Week 2011!

By: Neal Abrams

The Section's 2011 National Chemistry Week celebration took place on Sunday, October 23rd at Manley Field House in Syracuse, NY. This year, the Section teamed up with the 1st annual Carol M. Baldwin 'A Run for Their Life' event, which included a 5K/15K walk/run, followed by a full day of chemistry demonstrations and giveaways. This year's theme "Chemistry, Our Health Our Future" was the cornerstone of the event, with more than 10 members from the Syracuse Section participating in the run to support breast cancer research. With over 1000 runners at the event plus family and friends, this was a great experience and a first-time collaboration between the Section and a local organization. The Section had more than 50 volunteers including participants from SUNY ESF, Syracuse University, Onondaga Community College, Hamilton College, and Utica College as well as high school Chemistry Clubs from East-Syracuse Minoa High School, Jordan-Elbridge High School, and Fayetteville-Manlius High School.



The theme of HEALTH was exemplified through hands-on demonstrations and informational content including the health benefits of ginger (tasted through Sally Mitchell's famous MOLEasses cookies) and acid-base chemistry in our bodies, iodine in salt, and water cleanup through the Pennies for Pur project. There were demonstrations on crosslinking polymers, chemical lava lamps, marbling shaving cream, marshmallow chemistry, and dry ice bubbles. The event also featured face painting from ESM Cosmetology students and the Periodic Table of Cupcakes.

The Section is also incredibly appreciative of the helium donations from Haun Welding Supply, tables, chairs and a tent from East-Syracuse Minoa School District, and other tent donations from Dr. Mark Teece and Mr. Robert VanSchaick. We are also grateful of all the past efforts of Dr. Kelley Donaghy (SUNY ESF) for all of her prior contributions to NCW, which made it what it is today! Let's hope for another year of ChemLuminary awards!



Some of the Syracuse Local Section runners prepare for the 5K on a brisk Sunday morning and the famous periodic table of cupcakes from ESM!

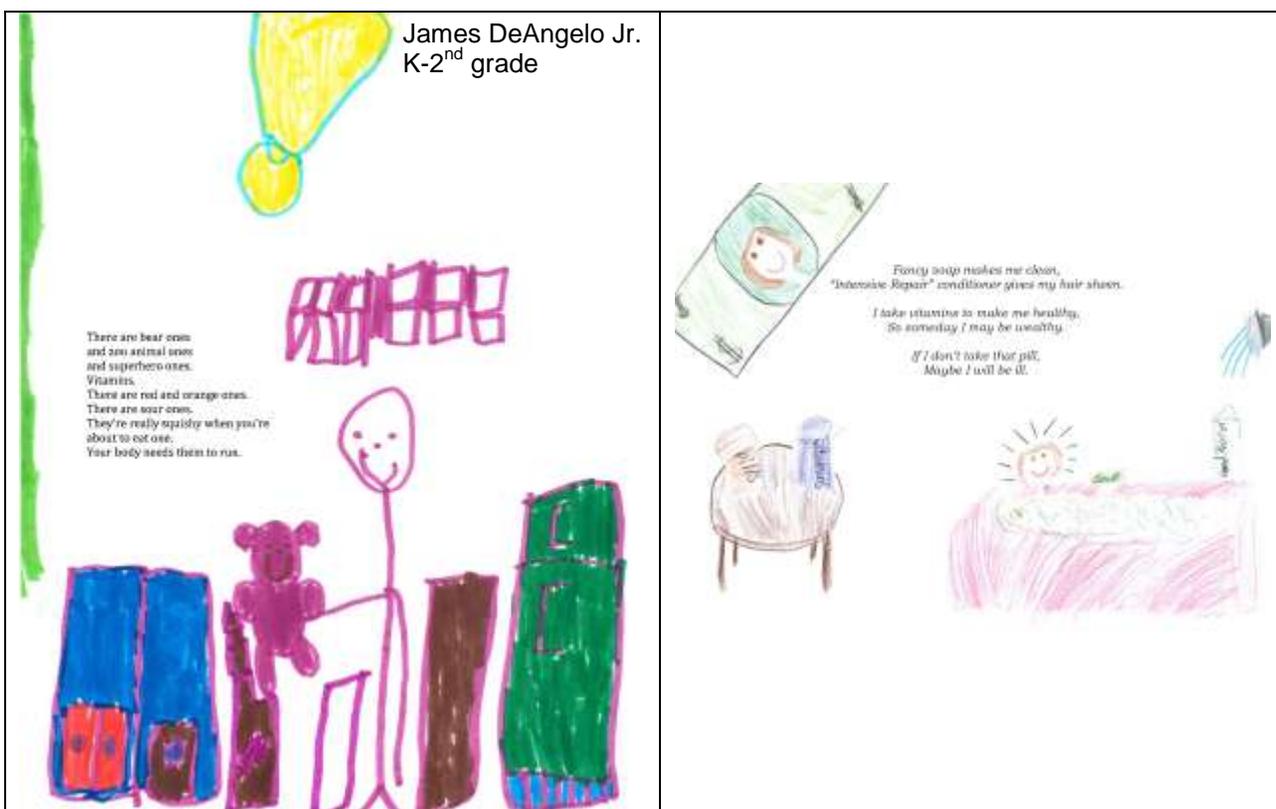
National Chemistry Week Poetry Contest

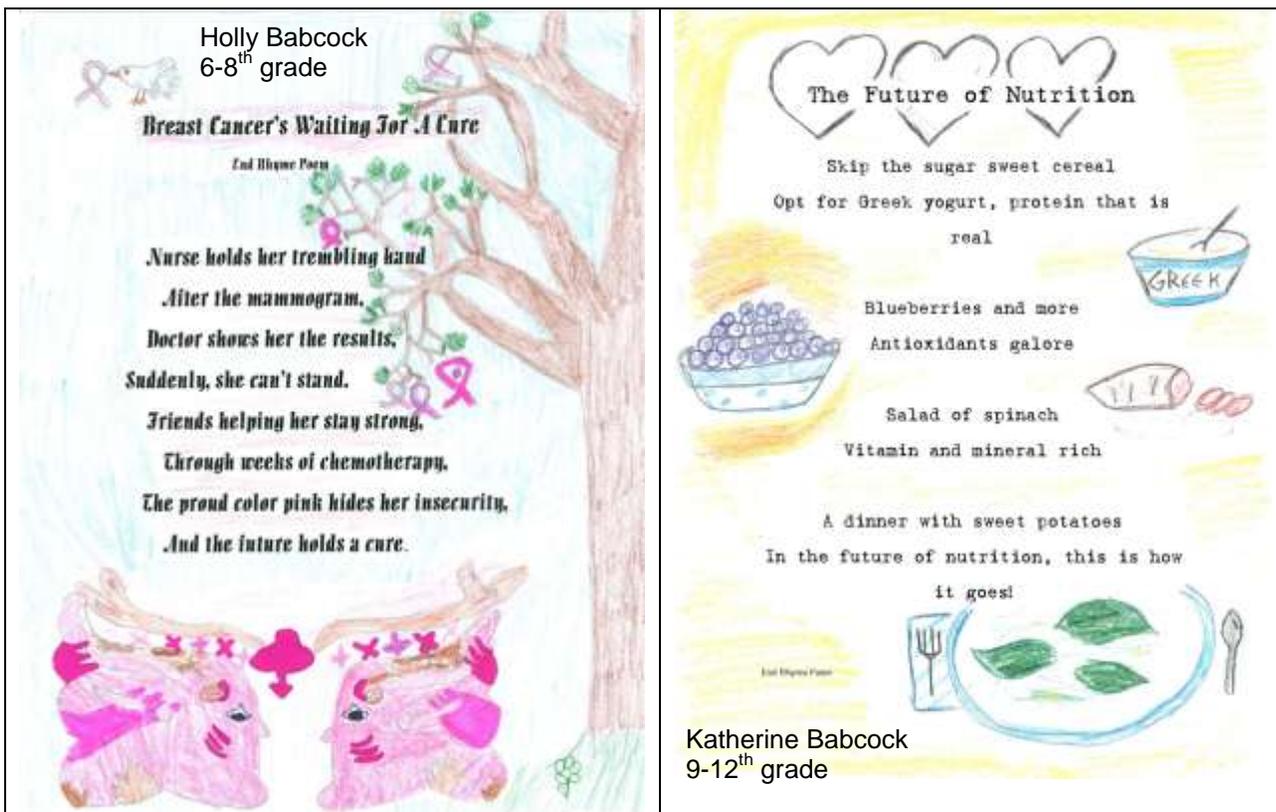
By: Neal Abrams

The first ACS National Chemistry Week poetry contest took place in October with over local 100 submissions to our Section! This year's theme, "Chemistry, Our Health Our Future" was showcased in an excellent array of poems and the top entries from each category were submitted to National.

The K-2nd winner was James DeAngelo Jr. from Huntington Elementary with his poem about the fun and health benefits of taking vitamins. Abigail Herrington, the 3rd-5th grade winner from Fremont Elementary, wrote on the importance of health and beauty aids like soap, vitamins, and medications. The 6th-8th grade selection was written by Holly Babcock from Pine Grove Middle School for her incredibly touching and poignant poem about the pain of breast cancer and the hope for a cure. The winner from the 9th-12th grade level was Katherine Babcock from East Syracuse-Minoa High School and her poem on the health and nutritional benefits of food.

Congratulations to all of the entrants for an excellent array of NCW poems. We're looking forward to an even bigger set of submissions next year! Of course, don't forget about the annual Chemists Celebrate Earth Day poetry contest in April 2012!





November Dinner Meeting at OCC

By: Sally Mitchell

On November 1, 2011, ACS speaker Dr. Joe Vinson gave a talk titled "Drug Screening in Physiological Samples: An Olympian Task" at Onondaga Community College, Syracuse, NY. Dr. Denise Gigante, professor of chemistry at OCC, arranged the talk and the dinner.

Dr. Joe Vinson received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of California at Berkeley and his joint PhD in Physical Organic Chemistry and Analytical Chemistry at Iowa State University. He is now Professor of Chemistry at the University of Scranton in Northeast Pennsylvania. For the last 25 years he has been a National Tour Speaker for the American Chemical Society.

34 Section members attended a delicious dinner served by the Culinary Students at Onondaga Community College. The speaker was introduced by Dr. Carrmen Giunta, professor of chemistry at LeMoyne College, and former student of Dr. Vinson. Dr. Vinson's talk reviewed some commonly abused drugs as well as detection methods.



Speaker Dr. Joe Vinson and Dr. Carrmen Giunta

NCW Demonstrations: Looking Ahead

By: Bill Ayling, 2012 Chair

Regarding the NCW demonstrations and looking ahead ...

Each weekend my daughter is required to write about what she did over the weekend. The weekend of the National Chemistry Week activities she also went with a friend to Hafner's for Halloween activities and visited a nature center with another friend. She enjoyed all of the activities. However, when it came time to write, she chose (without prompting) the National Chemistry Week activities as the topic to write about exclusively. The Syracuse ACS organizers and the high school and college student participants that ran the event certainly made a difference, not only for my daughter, but undoubtedly for other kids as well... a job well done.

For me, in addition to the fun time spent with my daughter, the National Chemistry Week activities made me reflect on when my interest in science started to really develop. It was in 7th grade - when we were allowed to tinker with the same type of chemistry experiments.

Since National Chemistry Week, I've been working with my daughter's school to become an ACS Science Ambassador and a Science Coach. Both are excellent programs and in my daughter's school there is a lot of interest. For more information on these programs, please see the links below:

Science Ambassador:

http://portal.acs.org/portal/fileFetch/C/CNBP_022927/pdf/CNBP_022927.pdf

Science Coach:

http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=PP_ARTICLEMAIN&node_id=856&content_id=CNBP_027980&use_sec=true&sec_url_var=region1&_uuid=3939c1f0-ce82-4eb5-a74f-bea2a87f427d

ACS is a great organization and these are only three of the many opportunities for members to get involved and make a difference in our community. Currently, we are eligible for two grants to support activities in 2012 with near term deadlines. Information about the grants is provided at the links below:

- Corporation Associates Grant (Application due December 12, 2011):
http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=PP_ARTICLEMAIN&node_id=627&content_id=CNBP_028522&use_sec=true&sec_url_var=region1&_uuid=f3411e0c-9b58-4dc7-90ea-5a69bea38b5d
- Innovations Grant (Application due January 31, 2012):
http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=PP_TRANSITIONMAIN&node_id=1302&use_sec=false&sec_url_var=region1&_uuid=e1e66adf-fb73-4a5c-bdfc-94847329b55f

We have some preliminary ideas for the grants cited above, but we are open to additional ideas. If you wish to participate, please contact me at aylingwa@verizon.net.

All of these programs are just a sampling of what ACS has to offer. Please see any of your Syracuse ACS leaders to learn more about the many benefits of the Syracuse ACS.

Upcoming Section Events

Want up-to-the-minute information about the section? Bookmark <http://syracusesection.sites.acs.org> to get all the latest news and events!

JANUARY

ACS Syracuse Co-sponsored TACNY Sweet Lecture "Alternative Energy - Biofuels, the next generation"

Tuesday, January 10
Networking and Appetizers 5:30 PM
Lecture 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Location: Room 101, Whitney ATC
Onondaga Community College, Syracuse, NY

Speaker: Chris Campbell, Engineer from O'Brien & Gere

The lecture is free, but you must rsvp to hold a spot. email: sweet.lecture@twcny.org and tell them how many are coming.

Also, the ACS Syracuse Section Executive Committee will meet after the lecture (8:00-8:30pm) to plan 2012, all ACS members are welcome, opportunities for volunteers will be discussed.

TACNY is the Technology Alliance of Central New York: www.tacny.org

FEBRUARY

ACS Syracuse Co-sponsored TACNY Sweet Lecture " Forensic Science"

Tuesday February 7, 2012
Networking and Appetizers 5:30 PM
Lecture 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM
Room 101, Whitney ATC
Onondaga Community College, Syracuse, NY

Speaker: Anita Zanni, President, AZ Forensic Associates, and adjunct professor, Syracuse University

The lecture is free, but you must rsvp sweet.lecture@tacny.org in order to register for the talk.

Also, the ACS Syracuse Section Executive Committee will meet after the lecture (8:00-8:30pm) to plan 2012, all ACS members are welcome, opportunities for volunteers will be discussed.



Syracuse Chemist

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Deadline for material:

Chemists will be published every other month beginning in January. The deadline for submitted materials will be the 15th of every even numbered month (Ex. 2/15 for the March issue). Please submit print ready materials to Michelle Boucher mboucher@utica.edu

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Organized as the Syracuse Chemical Society in 1902 and chartered as a section of the American Chemical Society in 1907, the Syracuse Section now includes Central New York counties of Cayuga, Cortland, Madison, Oneida, Onondaga, Oswego and Seneca.

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