

# The Syracuse Chemist

Volume 105/Issue 5



September 2013

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## Syracuse Local Section Shines at Awards Ceremony

*Alyssa Thomas, Councilor*



Sally Mitchell and I (pictured, left) shared our section's successes at the ChemLuminary awards at this fall's National Meeting. While we were nominated for two awards, which is a success in itself, the Syracuse Local Section did not receive an award this year. However, it should be noted that we were up against STEEP competition from the Pittsburgh section (which has between 1600 and 3199 members) in the sustainability award and against the Orange County section (which was the winner and has 1500 members) in the NCW event award. I feel it is very commendable that our section made it as finalists against sections that are 3 to 10 times our size! I wanted to take the opportunity as councilor to say that I am

proud of the hard work our section members put in every year to keep us nominated for categories. I have no doubt that with the work laid out by the Education committee, led by Joy, that we will again be nominated for our NCW events.

In other news, I have positive feedback from the chair of the Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC) that our name change to the Central New York Section passed without objection! This name change will go into effect on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014. This section name change is intended to better represent the geographic region of our members. Approximately 65% of the Syracuse Section members reside or work within the Syracuse metropolitan area. The remaining 35% of the members reside or work outside of the Syracuse metropolitan region in areas of Central New York from Oswego to Ithaca, and Utica to Aurora.

Congratulations everyone for a fantastic year!

# Call for nominations!

ACS Syracuse needs you! Five officer positions are up for election this year for terms in 2014 and two appointed positions are available for 2014. Please think about running for election and/or nominating someone for a position. Here's how!

## THE ELECTION PROCESS

Call for Nominations - Now through October 11, 2013

Nominations. Send Nominations to: Bill Ayling [aylingwa@verizon.net](mailto:aylingwa@verizon.net). Nominations should include the full contact information for the person being nominated and the position for which he/she is being nominated. Upon receipt of the nomination, the Nominations and Elections Committee will solicit biographical information. Self-nomination is welcome and encouraged. Please send your nomination to Bill, and include a brief biography suitable for publication on the Section website in the October Syracuse Chemist. **All Nominations MUST be received by October 11, 2013** in order to give the Nominations and Elections Committee enough time to get biographical information and confirm candidate eligibility and interest.

Nominations Announcement - October Chemist

Elections - Electronic elections initiated on October 28, 2013 with responses due by November 8, 2012.

Election Results - Reported on Section website by November 18, 2013 and in the December edition of the Chemist

## POSITIONS AVAILABLE FOR 2014

The seven elected positions available for 2014 are listed below:

- Chair (2-year term: would serve as Chair in 2014 and Past Chair in 2015).
- Chair-Elect (3-year term: would serve as Chair-Elect in 2014, Section Chair in 2015, and Past Chair in 2016).
- Secretary (1-year term).
- Treasurer (1-year term).
- Delegate (1-year term, 1 position)
- Delegates (2-year terms: 2 positions).

Appointed positions consist of the Education Committee Chair and the Editor of the Syracuse Chemist. Both of these positions are one-year terms.

**So you are interested in being an officer? Here's what they do!!**

All of the positions available this year are open to members or student members of ACS. Holders of these positions all become members of the Executive Committee of the Syracuse Section. That committee must meet at least four times during the calendar year to plan activities and carry out the business of the section. Self-nominations (that is, volunteers) are welcome. Nominations of other members are also welcomed. Only candidates who consent to serve shall appear on the ballot. Please send nominations (including self-nominations) to Bill Ayling [aylingwa@verizon.net](mailto:aylingwa@verizon.net) by October 11, 2013. Descriptions of the terms and duties of these positions follow.

## DESCRIPTIONS OF ELECTED POSITIONS

The Board of Directors is responsible for strategic planning of the Section and consists of the Chair-Elect, Chair, Past-Chair, Secretary, and Treasurer as officers of the Executive Committee.

The **Chair** serves the Section for two years: as Chair (2014), and the following year as immediate Past Chair (2015).

- As **Chair (2014)** this person has an opportunity in January 2014 to attend (at ACS expense) a weekend ACS Leadership institute with other section officers from around the country. This person leads section planning for 2014 with the support of the Executive Committee and oversees the execution of activity plans during the year. This person calls meetings of the Executive Committee, runs meetings of the section (dinner meetings or other programs), appoints members to other committees, and coordinates Section activities. The Chair is also responsible to draft an annual report for the Councilor to submit to national ACS staff on Section activities completed during his or her year as Chair. Both the Chair Elect and Past Chair assist the Chair in coordinating Section activities.
- As **Past-Chair (2015)** this person provides support to the Chair and Chair-Elect and also serves as Chair of the Awards, and Nominations and Elections committees for 2015.

The **Chair-Elect** serves the Section for three years: one year as Chair Elect (2014), the next year as Chair (2015), and the following year as immediate Past Chair (2016).

- As **Chair-Elect (2014)**, this person has an opportunity in January 2014 to attend (at ACS expense) a weekend ACS Leadership institute with other section officers from around the country. The Chair Elect also plans section activities for his or her Chair year (2015).
- As **Chair (2015)**, this person oversees the execution of activity plans during the year this person calls meetings of the Executive Committee, runs meetings of the section (dinner meetings or other programs), appoints members to other committees, and coordinates Section activities. The Chair is also responsible to draft an annual report for the Councilor to submit to national ACS staff on Section activities completed during his or her year as Chair. Both the Chair Elect and Past Chair assist the Chair in coordinating Section activities.
- As **Past-Chair (2016)** this person provides support to the Chair and Chair-Elect and also serves as Chair of the Awards, and Nominations and Elections committees for 2016.

The Chair Elect, Chair, and Past Chair also serve as members of the Nominations and Elections committee.

The **Secretary** takes minutes of Executive Committee meetings, reports election results to the national ACS, and is generally responsible for formal communications on behalf of the Section. The term of the Secretary is one year, and the Secretary may be re-elected.

The **Treasurer** is responsible for budgeting, handling the Section's funds, and paying its bills. The term of the Treasurer is one year, and the Treasurer may be re-elected.

The **Delegates** represent the Section members and participate as voting members of the Executive Committee in deciding Section business and assist in tasks, as needed. In order to encourage participation from all areas of the Section, two delegates must live or work outside Onondaga County; the other two may be from anywhere in the Section. The delegate is an entry-level position in Section governance and service. Under the Section bylaws, delegate terms are one year or two years (with re-election possible) with the objective of having two delegates elected each year in future elections. In the 2013 election, at least two delegates must be from outside Onondaga County.

## DESCRIPTIONS OF APPOINTED POSITIONS

Appointed positions are advisory positions of the Executive Committee that do not participate in voting on Section business. The 2014 Section Chair will make official appointments by January 31, 2014.

The **Chair of the Education Committee** is appointed for a one year term and is responsible for organizing and oversee all of the Sections events that are geared toward the youth in the section including but not limited to: Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (April), the Benjamin P. Burt Chemical Education Series (May or June), and National Chemistry Week (October). Since this is an appointed position, self-nominations only will be accepted.

The **Editor of the Syracuse Chemist** is an appointed position and is responsible for publishing the Chemist and for communicating directly with the membership. In the past this position has also held the responsibility for protecting the email and snail mail lists and keeping the number of mailings to the Section membership to a minimum. Since this is an appointed position, self-nominations will only be accepted.

The **Public Relations Chair** is an appointed position that is responsible for supporting visibility of the Section within our community. The Public Relations Chair works with the Section Chair to prepare press releases of Section activities and outreach events. Since this is an appointed position, self-nominations only will be accepted.

### NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

From the Nominations and Elections Committee:

- Bill Ayling, Past Chair, Chair Nominations and Elections Committee
- Neal Abrams, Chair



## Molecule of the Month

*Identify the compound and submit your answers to our Quizmaster, Dr. Daniel Barr ([dabarr@utica.edu](mailto:dabarr@utica.edu)) - the first person to answer correctly will get a special mention in the next issue of the Chemist!*

This month's puzzle is in the form of a cryptogram: Each letter in this quote from a has been replaced using a random other letter (e.g. X for A, O for B, etc).

“ENWUTNU TUKUL ECRKUE X GLCDRUF BWPOCMP NLUXPWTY PUT FCLU” –  
YUCLYU DULTXLH EOXB

# Coral Reefs Meeting

*Neal Abrams, Section Chair*



On July 15, 2013 the lecture hall in 1-019 CST on the Syracuse University campus was transformed into a display of science and nature's beauty as Dr. Mark Teece presented a talk to entitled "Coral reefs: Can they survive in these times of global climate change?" Over 60 people were in attendance, ranging from middle school students through emeritus faculty. The evening began with a catered meal from Dinosaur BBQ, which seemed to place everyone in high spirits. As the person who ordered the food, I was almost sure I was going to have to find a home for all the leftovers but to my shock (and pleasure), almost everything was consumed by the voracious appetites of

those in attendance. The numerous undergraduate students from the REU program at Syracuse University and several graduate students may have helped us out with that!

Dr. Teece spent the evening discussing the various challenges coral reefs face worldwide, from temporary to long-term, climactic to policy-driven. By weaving together the disciplines of chemistry, biology, and geology, Dr. Teece explained the basis of how and why coral reefs are at risk. He presented on the scientific methodology and tools used to study the coral animal host and zooxanthellae, the photosynthetic algal symbiont. Dr. Teece also spent extra time ensuring the audience was following the science of these natural habitats by focusing on the younger scientists in attendance. His story unfolded to reveal that there will undoubtedly be changes in the coral reef system and the reefs will look and act differently than they do today. At the same, we were left with several notes of optimism as we learned that coral reefs will still exist as they move through a process of adaptation and selection.

Thanks go out to Dr. Teece for his spectacular talk and to the Syracuse University Department of Chemistry for co-sponsoring the event, providing the meeting location, space to eat, and a great attendance!



## ACS NERM is coming to New Haven!-

The New Haven section of the American Chemical Society will be hosting the 2013 NorthEast Regional Meeting (NERM). The meeting will feature two wonderful keynote speakers. On Thursday, October 24 2013, Dr. Donna Nelson, professor of Chemistry at the University of Oklahoma, will speak about her experience as a science advisor to the television show “Breaking Bad”. This will be followed by an address from Dr. Marinda Wu, ACS President on the evening of Friday, October 25, 2013.

There are several special symposia scheduled for the meeting:

- **Advancing Graduate Education in the Chemical Sciences**
- **Nitrogen Heterocycles: A Tribute to the Pioneer of Pyrimidine Chemistry**
- **Phosphodiesterases as Drug Targets for CNS Disorders**
- **Synthesis and Application of Isotopically Labeled Molecules**
- **Biochemistry**
- **Nanoscience**
- **Green Chemistry (Two Sessions): 21st Century Workforce Skills and Green Chemistry: Success Stories.**
- **Small Chemical Businesses (Three Sessions): Resources for Startups, Best Practices for Entrepreneurs and True Stories of Success**

Additionally, the meeting will include an undergraduate program, career workshops, ACS Leadership Development Courses and a workshop on Forensic Chemistry given by Dr. Howard Harris from the University of New Haven.

Program information, abstract submission and registration can be found at <http://nerm2013.sites.acs.org/>. Early registration ends October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

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

# Upcoming Section Events

Neal Abrams will be hosting the Career webinar on **October 8<sup>th</sup>** : <http://acswebinars.org/managing-your-resumes>. Contact Neal Abrams at [nmabrams@esf.edu](mailto:nmabrams@esf.edu) to find out more on how to be a part of this event!

## *National Chemistry Week Events*

The NCW theme this year is: "**Energy: Now and Forever**". The Education Committee will be tying this into multiple events in the area.

The **NCW poem contest** will be coordinated with the section's K-12 schools. To encourage participation, a digital flyer will be going out to area teachers in the coming weeks to help them incorporate the poem contest into their lesson plans. The **deadline to submit poems will be "Mole Day" (10/23/13)** to provide enough time to get poems in to national on Nov 1st.

**October 6th** (11 am to 4 pm): Hands-on activities and PR for upcoming NCW events at **Abbott Farms in Baldwinsville, NY** ([www.abbottfarms.com](http://www.abbottfarms.com)). ACS will be subsidizing \$1 off coupons for apple bags (up to 200 coupons/\$200), a local chemistry club will be providing hands-on activities and ACS members will be communicating the chemistry of soil and water on the farm to the participants.

**October 13th** (9:00 am to 1 pm): Hands-on activities at the **Carol Baldwin Walk/Run**. Local chemistry club(s) will participate to provide hands-on activities to children and their families participating in the 3rd annual Carol Baldwin "A Run for Their Life" 5K Walk/Run. Syracuse ACS has created a team again this year. Members can sign up to join our team to walk, run or just donate to support the CB Foundation by visiting the event website at [www.cmbarunfortheirlife.com](http://www.cmbarunfortheirlife.com) and searching for **Syracuse Section ACS** as the team name. Let's hope for good weather this year!

**October 19th** (10 am to 3 pm): Large NCW event at **Destiny USA** in the Canyon (new wing of Destiny). I'm very excited to have snagged this area of the shopping center as we should be right near the canopy area where children (and adults) can climb ropes and walk along the canopy of the new wing as well as being just a few floors down from Wonder Works, the science museum. I will be contacting Wonder Works to see if we can partner with them to encourage participation at our NCW event and at their museum that day. We will again do NCW related and non-related hands-on activities and face painting.

**October 26th** (12 pm to 3 pm): **Spooktacular at East Syracuse-Minoa High School**. Hands-on activities will be provided by the chemistry club at ESM. Contact Ms. Sally Mitchell for more information regarding this annual event.

**October 24<sup>th</sup>** (6 pm to 8 pm): Cazenovia College faculty and students will present "**SCIENCE IS FUN!**" event, with demonstrations and activities for children ages 5 to 12, on Thursday, Oct. 24, 6 to 8 p.m. The event will take place in Eckel Hall 204 and 208 on Lincklaen St., Cazenovia. The event is free and no registration is necessary. Free parking is available on Lincklaen Street and on Seminary Street parking lots. This event is sponsored by the Environmental Club of Cazenovia College and by the American Chemical Society. It is designed to show children the wonders of biology and chemistry in ways they can easily understand. Cookies and juice will be provided.

Dr. Venera Jouraeva and Dr. Thad Yorks are coordinating the event. They note that According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, there will be 1.2 million jobs in STEM fields in 6 years, but only 200,000 STEM graduates to fill these jobs. Help your children get excited about science by attending **SCIENCE IS FUN!**

For more information contact Venera Jouraeva, [315-655-7986](tel:315-655-7986), email: [vjouraeva@cazenovia.edu](mailto:vjouraeva@cazenovia.edu); or Thad Yorks, [315-655-7148](tel:315-655-7148), email: [teyorks@cazenovia.edu](mailto:teyorks@cazenovia.edu).



## 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

### Advertising Rates

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One-eighth Page	\$20.00
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## SECTION OFFICERS (2013)

Chair	Neal Abrams <a href="mailto:nmabrams@esf.edu">nmabrams@esf.edu</a>
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