

# Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

Volume 22 No. 12

## National Chemistry Week

National Chemistry Week was November 5-11. During the week, section members organized and participated in many events. University of Santa Clara and Stanford University student affiliates did a chemistry demonstration, making slime, at a soccer field in Palo Alto. Other Stanford students demonstrated chemistry experiments in a 4th-grade classroom. San José State University student affiliates made edible warts and oobleck



at The Tech Museum in San José. Professors at Cañada College did a presentation to the students there. The US Geological Survey and Xerox PARC both participated in the "Chemists Reacting to Hunger" food drive, benefiting Second Harvest. High school students participated in National Chemistry Week celebrations by competing for prizes with the most interesting exhibits in their schools. Menlo



Park, San José, Palo Alto, and Los Altos libraries set aside an area for the presentation chemistry-related material. Finally, elementary school teachers attended a workshop at Roche Pharmaceuticals.



Thanks to the following for their help with National Chemistry Week:

### Businesses

*Roche Pharmaceuticals*  
*VWR Scientific*  
*American Chemical Society*  
*US Geological Survey*  
*Xerox PARC*  
*San José Tech Museum*

### People

*Bonnie Charpentier Roche Pharmaceuticals*  
*Juanita Ryan Cañada College*  
*Jose Valentin Cañada College, retired*  
*Ross Westover San José State University*  
*Elaine Collins University of Santa Clara*  
*Linda Brunauer Stanford University*  
*Jonathon Touster Stanford University*  
*Maureen Scharberg San José State Univ.*  
*Mindy Davis Stanford University*  
*Amy Palmer Stanford University*  
*Liliana Quintanar Stanford University*

### Student Affiliates

*University of Santa Clara*  
*Stanford University*  
*San José State University*

### Libraries

*San José Menlo Park*  
*Los Altos Palo Alto*

## Chair's Message

As I reflect on the past year, the local section can be proud of many accomplishments. We co-hosted a national meeting in San Francisco and supported a science-related art exhibit in Santa Cruz, collected food for the needy during National Chemistry Week and organized a Carver Kidvention and a Chemistry Olympiad. We presented a speaker program filled with topics such as the chemistry of the Stradivarius violin, contamination in the San Francisco Bay, and Nobel lust in science-in-fiction. I wish to thank the many people who made these and the many other programs and events possible. It is these people who keep the section relevant and viable. The most impressive observation was how much work the people put into the section. The people of this section put a lot of effort into our many programs and it shows. It is they who really make this section successful.

This is my last chair's message. I would like to thank my employer, the US Geological Survey, who has given me time and resources. Without their assistance, I would not have been able to do as much. I would also like to thank you, the members of the local section, for giving me the opportunity to be chair.

*Ea Warren*

## Mosher Award Meeting

Dr. Darleanne Hoffman  
 Thursday, January 25, 2001  
 See [www.scvacs.org](http://www.scvacs.org) for details

# Workshop for Teachers Kicks Off National Chemistry Week

The Santa Clara Valley Section of ACS and Roche Pharmaceuticals collaborated to sponsor a workshop for elementary and middle school teachers on



Saturday, November 4 on the Roche campus in Palo Alto. The theme of the workshop was "Kitchen Chemistry and More" in keeping with the NCW theme. The workshop was taught by teachers Juanita Ryan and Julie Shulz, whose wonderful preparation and enthusiasm provided the foundation for a very successful workshop. Teachers from many area communities attended, including Atherton, Campbell, Daly City, La Honda, Los

Altos, Los Gatos, Menlo Park, Millbrae, Milpitas, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Palo Alto, Petaluma, San Francisco, San Jose, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and South San Francisco.

The workshop program included two sessions of hands-on experiments with such topics as artificial sweeteners vs. sucrose, pH of kitchen items, the effect of enzymes on gelatin, determining fat in milk, and ice cream making. Teachers received curriculum materials and supplies to take back to their classrooms. Other highlights of the workshop included a tour of four Roche laboratories; a presentation on drug development by Dr. Joyce Filppi, Site Head for Roche Global Development; and a raffle for prizes donated by Roche and Roche employees. Morning refreshments and lunch were included in the workshop to provide opportunities for discussions and interactions.



The teachers worked hard and had great enthusiasm. Some quotes from the teacher feedback follow: "The presentation and materials truly exemplify wonderful planning and implementation. What a wonderful team supporting teachers." "The tour was very informative and much appreciated." "The whole day was wonderful." "The best thing about this activity was the supply of actual lesson plans which were safe and exciting. Also the presenters were delightful." "The kids will have fun." "Thank you, thank you, thank you."

A special feature of this year's workshop was that each teacher was given class-size sets of safety glasses to take back to his/her school. Funding for the safety glasses was provided by money raised by Roche employees who participated in an event called "Walk the Walk". For every employee who completed a walkathon course around the site, Roche donated \$10. This grant also enabled the section to qualify for matching funds from the National ACS. VWR Scientific contributed a \$500 grant toward the purchase of the safety glasses, as well as arranging for a quick delivery.



Besides those mentioned above, many volunteers contributed to the success of this workshop. Thanks go to ACS stalwarts Lois Durham, Sally Peters, and Howard Peters who devoted most of a sunny Saturday setting up, cleaning up, and everything in between; to Susan Weitz of VWR Scientific; to Roche employees Tom Alfredson, Joe Bamberg, Katy Chang, Chuck Dvorak, Alex Haedrich, Gary Hedden, Joy Johnston, Joyce Kwan, Mike Maddox, Barbara Murphy-Wesley, Khanh Nguyen, Brenda Price, Carmen Rodriguez and David Wilson

who generously gave of their time and expertise, and a very special thanks to Shirley Ross who put her heart into the preparation and realization of this workshop.

**Bonnie Charpentier**



## FUNDING UP!

Congress and the White House at long last have come to an agreement on the DOE, NSF and NASA budgets. The numbers should put smiles on the faces of scientists, who have labored for months making the case for federal R&D investments. Last spring, appropriators predicted that allocation ceilings eventually would be lifted. It happened, and science accounts emerged from conference at levels higher than either the House or Senate had approved separately during the summer. DOE Basic Energy Sciences leads the pack boasting a 30% increase, with DOE Science rising 14% in the aggregate. NSF's Research and Related Activities jumps more than 13%, with Math and Physical Sciences up almost 12%. DOE's fusion and high-energy and nuclear physics, which had faced cuts in the Senate, emerge with roughly cost-of-living increases. NASA space science climbs more than 13%. Yeehaw!

**Robert L. Park**

**WHAT'S NEW** issue Friday, November 3, 2000



## Congressional Fellowship Available

The Fellow will have the opportunity to gain first-hand knowledge of the operation of the legislative branch of the federal government, make scientific and technical expertise available to the government, and forge links between the scientific and government communities. This program provides a unique opportunity for ACS members to work in the office of a United States Senator or Representative or congressional committee for one year beginning in September or January.

See [www.acs.org/government/congressional.html](http://www.acs.org/government/congressional.html) for more information.

## Younger Chemists Committee Event

### *Opportunity Recognition for High Tech Entrepreneurs*

Andrew M. Isaacs, UC Berkeley

For entrepreneurs interested in starting new technology companies, there are several fundamentals to be mastered at the outset. In this brief introduction to the process of creating a new high tech venture, we will examine each of these fundamentals, with an emphasis on evaluating opportunities in markets that may not yet exist.

*Date:* Thursday, January 18, 2001

*Schedule:* 6:30 pm Wine and Cheese; 7:00 pm Lecture

*Place:* Roche Palo Alto, 3401 Hillview, Palo Alto

For driving directions, refer to the following web site: [www2.roche.com/bioscience/rochehome.htm](http://www2.roche.com/bioscience/rochehome.htm). Please RSVP at [ycc@scvacs.org](mailto:ycc@scvacs.org).

This event is made possible by a grant from SCV ACS. Non-ACS members will be asked to pay a \$5.00 entrance fee.

## Judges and Kidvention

Judges are needed for the Intel Carver Scholars Program science fair competition to be held on January 5, 2001 – the George Washington Carver Recognition Day and Science Fair in California.

We are also looking for volunteers to help direct the Carver Kidvention SCAMPER program. The SCAMPER sessions are 15 to 20 minute brainstorming exercises about inventing. We specifically need about 12 adult volunteers to lead 12 tables of about 10 students each through the SCAMPER program and observe and assist as the “inventions” are created. Most of the time is spent watching the fireworks generated in the kids. This is a very rewarding activity for all involved. Both groups will be at the Santa Clara Convention Center on January 5 from 8 am to noon. Light breakfast and lunch will be provided for both groups of volunteers. Please contact **Howard Peters** at (650) 324-1677 or [peters4pa@aol.com](mailto:peters4pa@aol.com).

## Design a Museum Exhibit

Do you have an interest in local chemical history? How about an interest in biotech or other chemical industry? Would you like to translate that interest into a museum exhibit? Exhibits at the San Francisco Airport Museum ([www.sfoarts.org](http://www.sfoarts.org)) are viewed by thousands of people from around the world every day and would be a great way to highlight chemistry. If you are interested in working on such a project or have equipment that can be displayed, let us know. The Airport books their museum space 2-3 years in advance, but we have to start planning now. Contact **Ean Warren** at (650) 329-4554 or [ncw@scvacs.org](mailto:ncw@scvacs.org) to help.

### ACS-SCV Election Results for 2001

Chair-Elect: <i>Jon Touster</i>	237
Secretary: <i>Karl Marhenke</i>	239
Treasurer: <i>Hong Gao</i>	240
Councilors (two to be elected)	
<i>Linda Brunauer</i>	233
<i>Sally Peters</i>	232
Alternate Councilors (two to be elected)	
<i>George Lecgner</i>	229 (3 yr)
<i>Howard Peters</i>	229 (3 yr)

## Make Your Mark on Washington as ACS Science Policy Fellow!

Science Policy Fellows gain first-hand knowledge of the operation of the legislative and executive branches of the federal government and bring scientific and technical expertise to bear on national issues. This ACS Fellowship affords a qualified individual with a unique opportunity not only to learn about the interplay between science and public policy, but also to contribute to the formation of ACS policy.

See [www.acs.org/government/sciencepolicy.html](http://www.acs.org/government/sciencepolicy.html) for more information.



**SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION  
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#### DECEMBER 2000 NEWSLETTER TOPICS:

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ACS-SCV Election Results  
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Make Your Mark on Washington as ACS Science Policy Fellow!

#### CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS



<http://www.scvacs.org>

#### SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION

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Secretary	Karl Marhenke	831-479-6263
Treasurer	Hong Gao	650-494-5197
Past-Chair	Jamil Talhouk	925-449-2664

##### Councilors

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1998-00	Sally Peters	650-812-4994
1999-01	Bonnie Charpentier	650-354-2344
1999-01	Herb Silber	408-924-4954
2000-02	Maureen Scharberg	408-924-4966
2000-02	John F. Riley	650-328-2746
2000-02	Ean Warren	650-329-4554

##### Alternate Councilors

1998-00	Jamil Talhouk	925-449-2664
1999-01	Peter Rusch	650-948-0237
1999-01	Jonathan Touster	650-723-4340
2000-00	George Lechner	408-226-7262
2000-02	Roy Okuda	408-924-2525
2000-02	Donna Drogos	408-265-2600
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##### Newsletter Editor

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#### FUTURE MEETINGS

##### 2000

**Dec 14-19** Pacificchem Int'l Congress  
Honolulu, HI

##### 2001

**Jan 5** George Washington Carver  
Reconition Day and  
Science Fair

**Jan 18** Younger Chemists Committee  
Meeting

**Jan 25** SCV Mosher Award Meeting

**Apr 1-5** National ACS Meeting

#### CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS

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