

# Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

Volume 23 No. 1

## January Mosher Award Meeting

Dr. Darleane Hoffman • Thursday, January 25, 2001

This month we will present the 2000 Harry and Carol Mosher Award to Professor Darleane Hoffman of U.C. Berkeley, winner of the 2000 Priestly Medal.



seaborgium (106), bohrium (107), hassium (108), and meitnerium (109). Mark your calendars now and hear Dr. Hoffman's talk on her extensive research in the field of Nuclear Chemistry.

During her career, Dr. Hoffman has been a Professor of Chemistry at U.C. Berkeley, Senior Scientist at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and Director of the Glenn T. Seaborg Institute. She has greatly influenced the careers of numerous graduate and postgraduate students. During this time she has been chair of the ACS Division of Nuclear Chemistry and Technology, chair of the Committee on Nuclear and Radiochemistry, and chair of the IUPAC Commission on Radiochemistry and Nuclear Techniques.

Over the past 10 years, Dr. Hoffman's research has been directed toward investigating the chemical and nuclear properties of the most recently known elements: lawrencium (103), rutherfordium (104), hahnium (105),

**Date:** Thursday, January 25, 2001

**Time:** Social Hour at 6:00 pm  
Dinner at 7:00 pm  
Talk at 8:00 pm

**Place:** Faz Restaurant  
1108 N. Mathilda Avenue  
Sunnyvale, CA  
*Go to our web site for Yahoo map*

**Menu:** Smoked Pork Chop  
Half Spit Roasted Chicken  
Vegetable Kabobs

**Cost:** \$25 per person. This includes everything: pre-dinner munchies, dinner, tax and tip.

**Reservations:** Shirley Radding  
(408)246-2564  
(408) 296-8625 FAX

Needed by Monday, January 22, 2001

## Forensic Science and the Santa Clara County Crime Lab

At the February dinner meeting a senior criminalist from the Santa Clara Crime lab will discuss the application of science, specifically chemistry, to the study of physical materials, the results of which may be entered into court as technical evidence. The lab has a vast array of sophisticated instruments that are used for analysis of body fluids, drugs, fibers, paint, finger prints, and now DNA. Instrumental techniques used in the lab include: microscopy, spectroscopy, chromatography, x-ray diffraction, and electrophoresis.

Forensic – (definition) belonging to the courts of judicature; used in legal proceedings, or determination of legal evidence – that is why the crime lab is part of the District attorney's office.

Visit the web site in January for a full abstract of this exciting presentation.

<http://www.scvacs.org>

## February Dinner Meeting

**Date:** February 15, 2001

**Time:** Social hour: 6:00 pm  
Dinner: 7:00 pm  
Presentation: 8:00 pm

**Location:** Biltmore Hotel & Suites  
2151 Laurelwood Road  
Santa Clara, CA  
North of 101 off the  
Montague Expressway  
(408) 988-8411

**Speaker:** Supervising Criminalist,  
Santa Clara County Crime  
Lab, 1557 Berger Drive,  
San Jose, CA

**Reservations:** Shirley Radding  
(408) 246-2564  
(408) 296-8625 FAX

Reservations should be made by February 12 stating name, company affiliation, number of people in the party and the meal preference. People may also register using our web site: [www.scvacs.org/Local\\_Folder/din\\_mtg\\_feb.html](http://www.scvacs.org/Local_Folder/din_mtg_feb.html)

**Cost:** \$25.00 with choice of London Broil, Chicken Saltimbocca or Pasta Primavera



## CALL for NOMINATIONS Shirley B. Radding Award

The Santa Clara Valley Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) announces the call for nominations for the 2001 Shirley B. Radding Award.

First awarded in 1994 to its namesake, the Shirley B. Radding Award annually honors someone who has been a member of the ACS for at least 20 years. Nominees must have demonstrated dedicated, unselfish leadership, service to the American Chemical Society through elected or appointed positions at local, regional and national levels. Nominees must also have made significant contributions over a sustained period of time to industrial, applied or academic chemistry.

The award consists of an honorarium of \$1,000, and a suitably inscribed memento. Nominations should consist of at least one letter of nomination stating how the nominee's work relates to all aspects of the award. It is recommended that seconding letters accompany the nomination. Nominations are due on or before April 1, 2001, and must be mailed to:

***Radding Award Committee  
Santa Clara Valley Section ACS  
P. O. Box 395  
Palo Alto, CA 94302***

## Section Receives Special Grant

Congratulations to Howard Peters and other organizers of the G.W. Carver Recognitions Day. National ACS has offered a special \$10,000 award to our section to help support our efforts in support of the Carver event on January 5th.



## SOIL SCIENCE

We walk all over it. We wash it off and let it go down the drain. But we usually don't think much about how valuable it is. What is the stuff we're talking about? You guessed it – DIRT. Try the activities and see how great dirt, or soil, really is.

For more detail, visit (past issues) at [www.acs.org/wondernet/activities/activities.html](http://www.acs.org/wondernet/activities/activities.html)



## Chair's Message

I hope you all had a happy holiday season! My name is Sally Peters, I am a chemical information specialist at Xerox PARC and am the new chairman for the Santa Clara Valley Section. As the new year lies before us, the local section's executive committee has been busy planning events that will interest all of our members. When I talk to prospective speakers about our professional organization, I explain that chemists can be hard to categorize, especially those in Silicon Valley. We have more than 3000 members who all work in various areas of science and business. The two items we have in common are degrees in chemistry and membership in the parent organization, the American Chemical Society. Our membership includes bench chemists to be certain, but many more are educators, attorneys, consultants, students, and business people in the areas of pharmaceuticals, law, high tech, hazardous materials, sales, regulatory affairs, water purification,

information, biotech, and safety to name a few. As you can see, the subject matter for a meeting is limitless!

During my time as chair-elect, we heard about Stradivarius violins, consulting in the fuels industry, and the relatively new field of combinatorial chemistry. Different topics, different speaker styles, and different attendees. I plan to continue on that path of "different" topics for the year 2001. What topics do you suggest?

This month on the 25th will be a presentation on real chemistry by Dr. Darleane Hoffman about the discovery of the Super Heavy Metals. Our February meeting will be early in the month, so please mark your calendar now for February 15th so you do not miss the presentation by a senior, hands-on criminalist from the Santa Clara County Crime Lab! Further into the year we will have an opportunity to hear from our section's students and their research. I plan to continue the idea of a museum visit later in the

Spring. These tours have been popular with all age levels of our group.

Two volunteers from our section especially deserve your support. Claire Komives is organizing our Younger Chemists events, the next will be held at Roche in Palo Alto on January 18th. And relatively new to our section, but not new to ACS, is Tom Lobl, who is organizing a Medicinal Chemistry topical group. This group's meetings will be of interest to the pharmaceutical and biotech topical groups.

A resolution for the year 2001 must be to visit the local section's web site for the latest, up-to-the-minute information on all of our activities. Remember any member can (and should!) attend the executive committee meetings to learn more about your local section's plans for the future. I can be reached at (650) 812-4994 for any questions or suggestions.

Happy New Year.

*Sally Peters*

# Nominations Requested for the National Inventors Hall of Fame and the National Medal of Technology

The American Chemical Society (ACS) Committee on Patents and Related Matters (CP&RM) invites you to make suggestions to the Committee on possible candidates for induction into the National Inventors Hall of Fame. The inventor is not required to be a U.S. citizen, but a U.S. patent must cover the invention upon which the nomination is based. The invention must have contributed greatly to the national welfare and significantly promoted progress in science and the use-

ful arts. Nomination documents are available at [www.invent.org](http://www.invent.org). CP&RM also prepares ACS nominations for the National Medal of Technology. Administered by the U.S. Department of Commerce, the National Medal of Technology is awarded to U.S.-owned companies and U.S. citizens for innovation and the advancement of the nation's global competitiveness through the commercialization of technology, the creation of jobs, or improved productivity. If you would like further

information or to make a recommendation for consideration as an ACS nominee for these prestigious awards, please forward nomination materials to the CP&RM staff liaison:

**Debbie Fillinich**

American Chemical Society  
1155 Sixteenth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
Phone: (202) 872-4476  
email: [d\\_fillinich@acs.org](mailto:d_fillinich@acs.org)

Nominations are due on March 1, 2001



## SOME POINTS TO PONDER...

This is an epoch of invention and progress unique in the history of the world...a gigantic tidal wave of human ingenuity and resource, so stupendous in its magnitude, so complex in its diversity, so profound in its thought, so fruitful in its wealth, so beneficent in its results, that the mind is trained and embarrassed in an effort to expand to a full appreciation of it.

*—1896 Scientific American editorial*



If life seems like it's all uphill...you must be reaching your peak.

*—Tom Wilson, Cartoonist*

## Call for Applications for Travel Awards

The Women Chemists Committee of the American Chemical Society is pleased to Call for Applications for Travel Awards for post-doctoral, graduate, and undergraduate women to make their first research presentation at a scientific meeting. It is sponsored by Eli Lilly & Company. For more information and an application form, contact:

**Cheryl Brown**

American Chemical Society  
1155 Sixteenth Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
(800) 227-5558 ext. 6123  
e-mail: [wcc@acs.org](mailto:wcc@acs.org)

Deadlines for receipt of applications is February 15, 2001. The meetings are between July 1 and December 31, 2001.



**SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION  
AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY  
P.O. Box 395, Palo Alto, CA 94302**

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
Permit No. 344  
Palo Alto, CA

#### **JANUARY 2001 NEWSLETTER TOPICS:**

January Mosher Award Meeting  
Forensic Science and the Santa Clara County Crime Lab  
Feburay Dinner Meeting  
Call for Nominations  
Chair's Message  
Section Receives Special Grant  
Soil Science  
Nominations Requested for the National Inventors  
Some Points to Ponder...  
Call for Applications for Travel Awards

#### **CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS**



<http://www.scvacs.org>

#### **SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION**

##### **2000 SECTION OFFICERS**

Chair	Sally Peters	650-812-4994
Chair-Elect	John touster	650-723-4340
Secretary	Karl Marhenke	831-479-6263
Treasurer	Hong Gao	650-494-5197
Past-Chair	Ean warren	650-329-4554

##### **Councilors**

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
1998-03	Linda Brunauer	408-554-6947
1998-03	Sally Peters	650-812-4994

##### **Alternate Councilors**

1999-01	Peter Rusch	650-948-0237
1999-01	Jonathan Touster	650-723-4340
2000-02	Roy Okuda	408-924-2525
2000-02	Donna Drogos	408-265-2600
2000-02	Lance Wong	650-829-1148
2000-03	George Lechner	408-226-7262
2001-03	Howard Peters	650-324-1677
2001-03	John Touster	650-723-4340

##### **Newsletter Editor**

Steven Colby 650-938-4502  
e-mail: [scolby@carr-ferrell.com](mailto:scolby@carr-ferrell.com)

#### **FUTURE MEETINGS**

<b>Jan 5</b>	George Washington Carver Recognition Day and Science Fair
<b>Jan 18</b>	Younger Chemists Committee Meeting
<b>Jan 25</b>	SCV Mosher Award Meeting
<b>Feb 15</b>	SCV Dinner Meeting
<b>Apr 1-5</b>	National ACS Meeting

#### **CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS**

Shirley B. Radding, Director  
Phone: 408-246-2564 FAX: 408-296-8625  
e-mail: [sradding@att.net](mailto:sradding@att.net)



Printed on  
recycled paper.