

Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

Volume 29 No. 8

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Chair's Message

We are in the midst of Summer and I'm beginning to think about the end of it, heat and all. And I'm also thinking about our dinner speaker in September. Robert Blackledge will be talking about forensic evidence and how glitter helps to track down the people who left it at the scene. I have always thought of glitter as that sparkly stuff we put on Christmas cards or special invitations to parties we want people to attend. We are about to find out what glitter is in the eyes of a forensics scientist and see where it leads us. Be sure to check out the website, www.scvacs.org, and sign up for the dinner and talk at the Biltmore Hotel in Santa Clara.

Following the ACS activities of September, we have several events centering on National Chemistry in October. Abby Kennedy has done a superb job of planning a couple of

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September Dinner Meeting GLITTER as Forensic Evidence

Join us on September 11th at the Biltmore for an exciting presentation provided by Robert D. Blackledge. The meeting is early in September so please remember to place your reservations early!



Abstract:

Locard's Exchange Principle states, "Every contact leaves a trace." When these traces involve an exchange between a criminal, victim, and crime scene, there is the potential that they may help to establish a common association. Well known examples of such trace or associative evidence are hairs, fibers, paint chips, and broken glass fragments. Although not as well known, we will see that in many respects "glitter" is the ideal contact trace. Today, glitter may be found in every possible variation of cosmetic products. Glitter is also in widespread use as material for arts and crafts; it is used as decorative material on items of apparel, and it is incorporated in numerous clear plastic commercial products. This presentation will tell you what glitter is, how it is made, the many ways it varies, how it may be found and collected from crime scenes and evidence items and the many ways it can be characterized and distinguished from other glitter samples. The talk will conclude with several brief case histories (including photomicrographs and infrared spectra from the actual evidence) where glitter was important associative evidence.

Biography:

Robert (Bob) D. Blackledge received his BS (chem.) from The

Citadel in 1960 and his MS (chem.) from the University of Georgia in 1962. Starting with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement's Tallahassee Crime Lab in 1971, Bob has worked in forensic science for over thirty years. He worked

eleven years with the U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Laboratory in

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September Dinner Meeting

Date: Tuesday, September 11th

Time: 6:00 Social Hour

7:00 Dinner

8:00 Presentation

Location: Biltmore Hotel & Suites
2151 Laurelwood Blvd.
Santa Clara, CA 95054

Speaker: Robert Blackledge
Glitter as Forensic Evidence

Cost: \$27.00 with the choice of Teriyaki Steak or Vegetarian Crepes
Includes wine with dinner.

Reservations: www.scvacs.org
Shirley Radding
408-246-2564

Reservations should be made by September 7th, stating your name, address, company affiliation, number of people in party, and menu selection. If you are unable to honor your reservation and do not cancel by Monday, September 10th, you will be invoiced following the dinner meeting.

Chair's Message, continued from front page
weekend activities for children and also folks who want to find out what other jobs chemists can do with their education and experience. ACS member volunteers are always welcome to help out and all members are encouraged to view the website to find out whether the topic would be of interest to them or someone they know. There is also an article in this newsletter that describes NCW activities in more detail. Check it out.

I am pleased to report that the previous discussion in the Chair's Message about Silver Circle groups of senior chemists getting together from time to time has produced some results in the Santa Cruz coastal area. Joe Bunnett wrote a letter that appears in the newsletter soliciting feedback from local chemists. I encourage you to read the letter and consider your involvement in the venture.

After talking about September and October events above, I realize that 2007 is drawing to a close in a few months. This means a new year with the hope and promise of new, exciting and challenging programs within

ACS and our own Santa Clara Valley Section. If you have any good ideas for speakers or activities you would like to share with us, please contact Mark Kent, current Chair-Elect and Program Chair. We want the Section to work for you but we need your help to do that.

George Lechner



GLITTER, continued from front page

Europe during the Cold War at a crime lab in Frankfurt, Germany. Bob's final stint was as the Senior Chemist with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service Regional Forensic Laboratory in San Diego from 1989 to 2006. He is the author or co-author of roughly forty journal articles and book chapters. His interests are wide-ranging, but his special passion is trace evidence. Reports of his research have been published in the FBI's Law Enforcement Bulletin, the FBI's Crime Laboratory Digest, the Journal of Forensic Sciences, Science & Justice, Forensic Science International, Forensic Science Review, Microgram Journal, and Analytica Chimica Acta. He is the editor for "Forensic Analysis

on the Cutting Edge: New Methods for Trace Evidence Analysis," scheduled to be published by Wiley-Interscience in 2007.



ACS to Recognize Local Section and Division Volunteers in Boston

If you plan to be in Boston for the ACS National Meeting, mark your calendar to attend the 9th annual ChemLuminary Awards Celebration. It is at this event that the ACS honors the efforts of volunteer members whose efforts have helped to achieve excellence.

The awards celebration will be held on Tuesday evening, August 21, at the Westin Copley Place Hotel beginning with a poster session and reception at 6:30 p.m., followed by the awards presentation at 8:30 p.m., and dancing at 10:00 p.m.

Shirley B. Radding Award Recipient Merle I. Eiss

Maryland Section, American Chemical Society

This year's Radding Award Recipient is Merle Eiss. She was recently honored at the Santa Clara Valley Section's annual Picnic held at Stanford University on July 14th.

For thirty-seven years Merle has been an industrial chemist at McCormick & Co., Hunt Valley, MD, the world's largest spice company. Her areas of work included analytical chemistry, food and agriculture chemistry, quality assurance, development of food cleanliness and handling processes. Her current work involves international trade and international regulatory approvals for various seasonings, spices and flavors as well as working with the US Food and Drug Administration and the USDA.

She has been a consultant and

lecturer to the United Nations Food & Agriculture Organization, International Trade Centre, and the International Atomic Energy Agency. She has provided short courses on quality



assurance of spices, herbs, and other crops, and food irradiation technology. Merle's specific areas of interest include developing countries in Asia and Latin America. As technical

Director of the American Spice Trade Association she served as a technical expert on spices and herbs with emphasis around chemistry and microbiology and laboratory audits.

Her service in ACS National and Local Offices include: Committee on Nominations and Elections, Council Policy Committee, Vice-chair, Committee on Committees, Secretary, Committee on International Activities, Board of Trustees, Group Insurance Plans for ACS Members, Committee on Constitution and Bylaws, Committee on Copyrights and Women Chemists Committee, CHEMTECH Advisory Board. Merle has also been a Maryland Section Councilor from 1984 to the present, Section Chair, Middle Atlantic Regional Meeting Chair, Abstracts and Publications Chair, and a member of the Division of Chemical Information.

She received a degree in Chemistry from Purdue University.

2007 Ottenberg Award Presented to David Parker

This year's Ottenberg award was presented to David Parker at the Awards Picnic at Stanford University July 14th.

The recipient was nominated for his service to the Santa Clara Valley Section. He has served as Secretary, Alternate Councilor (2003-2005 and 2006-2008) and as Chair-Elect, Chair, and Past-Chair (1989-91). He was recently re-elected to Chair-Elect, Chair and Past-Chair (2005-07).

The Ottenberg Service Award was established in 1973 by the Santa Clara Valley Section to recognize members who have rendered outstanding service to the Section. It is named after Abraham Ottenberg, a former member who devoted much of himself to the Section. The award consists of an

engraved plaque and two hundred dollars. Candidates are selected from nominations made to the Ottenberg Award Committee in the spring. The nominators and nominees must be members of the Section.

Previous recipients of the Ottenberg Service Award are: Shirley B. Radding (1974); Oliver F. Senn (1975); Floyd M. Hobbs (1976); Frank R. Mayo (1977); Harry S. Mosher (1978); Lois J. Durham (1979); Richard W. Gaver (1980); Alan C. Ling (1982); Ludwig G. Mayer and John F. Riley (1983); Howard M. Peters (1984); June Jones and Robert Montoya (1986); Malcolm Dole (1987); Donald E. Green (1991); Hubert E. Dubb (1992); Karl Marhenke (1993); Stephen N. Senzer (1994); Carol W. Mosher

(1995); Bonnie Charpentier (1998); Linda Brunauer (1999); Herbert B. Silber (2000); Sally Peters (2001); Jamil Talhouk (2002); Ean Warren (2003); Maureen Scharberg (2004); Hong Gao (2005); and George Lechner (2006). No awards were given in 1981, 85, 88, 89, 90, 96, or 97.



Funds Available for Collaborative Career Development Activities

Proposals are being sought for Equipping the 2015 Chemical Technology Workforce mini-grants. Up to \$500 will be awarded to collaborative activities that support technician education and career development.

Recognizing a need to support chemical technicians in the rapidly evolving chemical enterprise, several ACS units joined together in 2006 to start Equipping the 2015 Chemical Technology Workforce. The initiative kicked off at the 232nd ACS National Meeting with a Presidential Event highlighting its goals:

1. Raise awareness of the changing needs of chemical technicians.
2. Highlight opportunities for industry, academia, professional societies, and the community to collaborate on meeting those needs.
3. Increase involvement of technicians in the American Chemical Society.

The winners of the first round of mini-grants, awarded in Spring 2007, are collaborating with industry, academia, and ACS local sections on such activities as chemical technology career fairs for high school students,

discussion panels on employability skills for technicians, and technical programming at regional and national meetings on the vital role technicians play in the chemical enterprise.

Equally compelling proposals are being sought for a second round of mini-grants to be awarded in October 2007.

To qualify for a mini-grant, activities must involve one or more sectors of the chemical enterprise (industry, academia, etc.) and be completed by the summer of 2008. Activities must also support one or more of the goals of Equipping the 2015 Chemical Technology Workforce. Proposals must be received by September 26, 2007.

To learn more about Equipping the 2015 Chemical Technology Workforce and the mini-grants, to get ideas for activities, or to gather information about the chemical technology profession in today's marketplace, please visit www.ChemTechLinks.org and click on "Equipping the 2015 Chemical Technology Workforce," or email ChemTechLinks@acs.org.

Silver Circles

In the June newsletter, Chair Lechner urged the formation of Silver Circles in localities within the SCV ACS local section. I would like to discuss having a Senior Circle with senior chemists in or near Santa Cruz county. I have in mind an informal group of elder chemists who would get together for a meal (breakfast, lunch or dinner?) once a month with some attention to chemistry after each meal. Also, we might now and then speak out for chemistry in this corner of paradise. The meetings would be good fun, and we should be pleased by the chemical thought that we might now and then contribute to public discussions.

Please contact me if you would like to join in organizing a Silver Circle. Provide me with your phone number and postal and e-mail addresses. You can reach me using the contact information provided below.

Joe Bunnett

608 Arroyo Seco
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
Phone: (831) 423-3852
email: bunnett@cruzio.com



CCA Plans Activities in Boston to Celebrate 20 Years of NCW

The members of the Committee on Community Activities (CCA) and the Office of Community Activities invite you to join them at the ACS Boston National Meeting in this special 20th Anniversary year of the National Chemistry Week (NCW) program. Please check the preliminary program in the June 25 issue of C&EN and the on-site program for the following events:

- **Sunday, August 19, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.:** NCW 20th Anniversary Presidential Event: Chemistry in Action: "Health and Wellness" (Community Outreach Event at a Boston Museum)
- **Sunday, August 19, 3 p.m. to 5 p.m.:** Reception to Celebrate 20 years of NCW
- **Monday, August 20:** All-day symposium highlighting 20 years of NCW
- **Tuesday, August 21, 1:30 p.m. to 2 p.m.:** CCA Reception
- **Tuesday, August 21, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.:** CCA Open Meeting

- **Tuesday, August 21:** Special recognition of the anniversary during the ACS ChemLuminary Awards

We are looking forward to celebrating the 20th anniversary of NCW with you. The Sunday reception will include recognition of NCW coordinators, with special recognition of those active coordinators celebrating a significant milestone (5, 10, 15 or 20 years) of coordinating in 2007. The

symposium will highlight the history of NCW and will include talks by members of CCA as well as other "friends of NCW" including ACS Past President Bill Carroll and well-known author and demonstrator Bassam Shakhshiri. Please join us at one or more of these events if you will be attending the Boston meeting of the ACS!



New 50-Year Members



Karl Marhenke



Victor Althouse



William Orttung

A Sneak Peek of National Chemistry Week 2007

The National Chemistry Week Committee is gearing up for two fun events this October when we will celebrate "The Many Faces of Chemistry", our 2007 theme for NCW. The theme this year was specially chosen by the ACS to commemorate the 20th Anniversary of National Chemistry Week.

One of our annual favorites—hosting a public outreach booth—will take place on Saturday, October 6th, 2007 from 11am-2pm at the Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose (180 Woz Way, www.cdm.org). Of course the crowd-favorite Wheel of Chemistry Fortune will be spinning for all kids to win a prize, we'll make jewelry out of color-changing UV beads, decorate shrinky dinks and much more. We would love to have a large cohort of ACS families in attendance that day! Child and adult admission (ages 1-59) is \$8, senior

admission is \$7, infants under age one and museum members get in free. Or if you're interested in volunteering to run the booth, please contact NCW Coordinator Abby Kennedy at akennedy@exelixis.com. Hope to see you there!

Our highlight for NCW this year will be an interactive panel discussion on "Drugs, Bombs and CSI: Your Future Careers in Chemistry" aimed at high school and college students. We hope to enlighten these students to the gamut of careers that are available starting from a degree in chemistry. So, if you use chemistry knowledge in your job, and you love your job, it would be great to have you join us as a panel member. Let's show our young scientists the numerous, varied, and fascinating careers available to them through chemical education, and then give them an opportunity to ask us how we've achieved these

careers. This stimulating event will be hosted by DeAnza College on Saturday, October 27, 2007 starting at 11:30am (details about room location and parking will be printed in the September newsletter). Light refreshments will be served. If you're interested in volunteering as a panel member, please contact NCW Coordinator Abby Kennedy at akennedy@exelixis.com. Please spread the word about this enlightening and fun event to all the high school and college students in your lives!

Highlights of the Picnic and Awards Ceremony will appear in the September issue.

CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS AUGUST 2007

CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3892

Position Title: Post Doc - Telomerase, Telomere Biochemistry & Assay Dev.

Job Description: Investigate novel or significantly improved approaches to quantifying telomerase activity and telomere length distributions in animal and human tissues. Research will be conducted in the context of preclinical and clinical development of telomerase activators and inhibitors for the treatment of degenerative diseases and cancer, and will be a component of broader mechanism-of-activity studies of our drug development candidates.

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:

Education: Ph.D. or M.D. degree and will have a proven track record of successful experimental research as evidenced by peer-reviewed publications.

Experience: Prior experience with quantitative and sensitive analytical methods for analysis of rare enzymes or repetitive DNA sequences in complex tissues is desired. Specific experience in an established telomere or telomerase laboratory is an advantage.

LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS:

Job Location: Menlo Park, CA 94025

Salary: Commensurate with experience

Employer Description: Geron is developing first-in-class biopharmaceuticals for the treatment of cancer and chronic degenerative diseases, including spinal cord injury, heart failure, diabetes and HIV/AIDS. The company is advancing an anti-cancer drug and a cancer vaccine that target the enzyme telomerase through multiple clinical trials. Geron is also the world leader in the development of human embryonic stem cell-based therapeutics, with its spinal cord injury treatment anticipated to be the first product to enter clinical development. For more information, visit www.geron.com.

Application Instructions: Please email or send your resumes to: Geron Corporation, Human Resources, 230 Constitution Drive, Menlo Park, CA 94025 Fax: 650-473-8668 Email: hr@geron.com

CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3893

Position Title: Lecturer in Chemistry

Job Description: Part-time instructor needed to teach upper division inorganic chemistry lecture and laboratory for the Fall, 2007 semester. Some teaching in general chemistry may also be part of the teaching load.

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:

Education: Ph.D. in Inorganic Chemistry or equivalent

Experience: Previous teaching experience in upper division inorganic chemistry lecture and laboratory required.

LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS:

Job Location: San Jose State University

Salary: Based upon qualifications

Employer Description: San Jose State is a major comprehensive State university serving Silicon Valley, and is part of the 23 campus CSU system. SJSU is an EO/AA employer; minorities and women are strongly encouraged to apply.

Application Instructions: Please send curriculum vitae, three letters of reference and a statement of teaching philosophy to: Prof. Bradley M. Stone, Chair, Department of Chemistry, SJSU, One Washington Square, San Jose, CA 95192-0101 by August 15.

CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3894

Position Title: Assistant Professor, Organic Chemistry

Job Description: The selected candidate will be expected to initiate a vigorous and productive undergraduate research program, including participating in our summer NSF-REU program, pursuing external funding for individual and departmental research and teaching objectives, and demonstrating the ability to excel in teaching organic chemistry lectures and laboratories, lower-division general chemistry, and courses for non-science majors.

QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:

Education: A Ph.D. in organic chemistry is required.

Experience: Postdoctoral research and college teaching experience are highly desirable. Experience in teaching a diverse student population is preferred. Candidates who can contribute to the university strategic goal of achieving greater diversity among faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to identify their strengths, experiences, or interests related to achieving this goal in the cover letter.

LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS:

Job Location: Santa Clara, California

Salary: Please call for details

Employer Description: Santa Clara University is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action employer, committed to excellence through diversity, and welcomes applications from women, persons of color, and members of underrepresented groups.

Application Instructions: Send CV, undergraduate and graduate transcripts, three letters of recommendation, statements of teaching philosophy and research plans, and a cover letter to Prof. Brian McNelis, Organic Chemistry Search Committee, Chemistry Department, 500 El Camino Real, Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA 95053 by October 19, 2007.





SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION
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FUTURE MEETINGS

- Aug 11** CA Section's WCC Meeting
www.calacs.org/calendar/WCCsummermeet07.html
Dr. Carolyn Bertozzi
- Aug 19-23** 234th National ACS Meeting
Boston, MA
- Sep 9-11** Advances in Structure-based
Drug Discovery
ACS ProSpectives
San Francisco, CA
- Sep 11** Section Dinner Meeting
Robert Blackledge
Santa Clara, CA
- Oct 6** The Many Faces of Chemistry
Children's Discovery Museum
National Chemistry Week Event
San Jose, CA
- Oct 9-13** Western Regional Meeting
www.wrmacs.org
San Diego, CA
- Oct 27** Drugs, Bombs, and CSI: Your
Future Career in Chemistry
National Chemistry Week Event
De Anza College