

# Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

Volume 29 No. 10

## OCTOBER 2007 NEWSLETTER TOPICS

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## Happy Halloween!

### Chair's Message

Hey! I'm curious. Are you going to the dinner meeting? Helen Free is our guest and she will be talking about The Diabetes Epidemic on October 17. Be sure to sign up. Then, on November 13, Dr. Andy Sae, will tell us about Chemical Magic from the Grocery Store, a talk covering chemical phobias and chemicals we get from the store along with a few demonstrations. You can sign up to attend these dinner meetings on our website: [www.scvacs.org](http://www.scvacs.org). If you can't dine with us, come to hear the talk.

Last month I mentioned that you would all be receiving a ballot to elect a new slate of officers for the Section

*continued on next page*

## November Dinner Meeting Chemical Magic from the Grocery Store: Dispel Chemophobia

Dr. Andy Sae

### Abstract:

The word "chemical" has come to mean bad drugs, toxics, explosives, and poisons. There is a real chemophobia among the general public. This presentation attempts to dispel chemophobia. Twenty or more chemical demonstrations will be performed safely, inexpensively, dramatically, interestingly, and easily, with considerations for proper disposal and relevance to the real-world chemicals we use and the chemical problems we face. Only household chemicals will be used.



Program in 1994 and has conducted many science teacher workshops. Dr. Sae was named the 1998-1999 New Mexico Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

### Biography:

Andy Sae was born in Hong Kong. He received a B.S. degree in chemistry, an M.S. in genetics, and a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Kansas State University. Dr. Sae joined Eastern New Mexico University in 1969 and is now Professor Emeritus after 31 years of service. He is a member of the Division of Chemical Education of the ACS, and a member of the National and New Mexico Science Teacher Associations. He received the 1994 Outstanding Service to Science Award from the New Mexico Science Teacher Association. He has presented numerous chemical magic shows to school teachers, children, and parents and many demonstrations in regional and national meetings. He participated in the ACS Operation Chemistry Training of Trainers

## November Dinner Meeting

**Date:** Tuesday, November 13th

**Time:** 6:00 Social Hour  
7:00 Dinner  
8:00 Presentation

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

**Speaker:** Dr. Andy Sae  
Chemical Magic from the Grocery Store

**Cost:** \$27.00 with the choice of  
Pork Marsala  
Pasta Primavera  
Includes wine with dinner.

**Reservations:** [www.scvacs.org](http://www.scvacs.org)  
Shirley Radding  
408-246-2564

Reservations should be made by November 9th 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, November 12th, you will be invoiced following the dinner meeting.

*Chair's Message, continued from front page*  
and to consider making the voting process easier by allowing electronics to assist us. Well, the ballot is in the mailing stage. You should have received your ballot by now and I encourage everyone to vote, not only for this election but also for the national ACS election currently underway. There is information about the members running for various posi-

tions in this newsletter. Please read the bios and statements of the candidates and give them thoughtful consideration...and then, VOTE. Unfortunately, the ballot did not include the proposal for electronic voting. We had to make some clarifications per National ACS to be consistent with ACS Bylaws and this took longer than anticipated. So, another ballot will be mailed out, probably in

January. Watch for it.

Remember that you are an important member of the American Chemical Society but also very important to the Santa Clara Valley Section. Please let us know how we can serve you better.

See you soon at a dinner meeting?

*George Lechner*



## Reminder: October Dinner Meeting The Diabetes Epidemic

Dr. Helen Free



### **Abstract**

About 16 million Americans have diabetes. And about one-third of them don't even know it! American Diabetes

Association estimates predict that a million more individuals will become diabetic every year. Many biochemists contribute to understanding this disease and many clinical chemists are involved with its diagnosis. Many pharmaceutical chemists contribute to its treatment, and many chemists of all kinds provide the novel self-testing reagents and instrumentation used by diabetics to monitor their own blood glucose levels. BUT the best attack against diabetes is prevention and this is entirely up to each individual with the help of his/her medical team. Statistics, risk factors and recommended lifestyle changes will be discussed, and blood glucose testing will be available.

### **Biography**

Helen M. Free holds a bachelor's degree in Chemistry from the College of Wooster, a master's degree in management in the health care field from Central Michigan University, and honorary doctorates of science from both schools. She joined Miles Laboratories (now Bayer Healthcare) in 1944, and her career includes wide experience in

laboratory work, management, growth and development, manufacturing, and marketing related to her main interests in the field of clinical chemistry and medical devices, and in management in the health care area. She holds several patents and has published over 200 papers. She has also held many elected positions in scientific societies, including pres-

## October Dinner Meeting

**Date:** Wednesday, October 17th

**Time:** 6:00 Social Hour

7:00 Dinner

8:00 Presentation

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

**Speaker:** Dr. Helen Free  
The Diabetes Epidemic

**Cost:** \$27.00 with the choice of  
Chicken Florentine or  
Eggplant Parmesan  
Includes wine with dinner.

**Reservations:** [www.scvacs.org](http://www.scvacs.org)  
Shirley Radding  
408-246-2564

Reservations should be made by October 15th, stating your name, address, company affiliation, number of people in party, and menu selection.

ident of the American Association for Clinical Chemistry in 1990 and president of the American Chemical Society in 1993. Among her national awards are: the ACS Garvan medal, the Hall of Excellence of the Ohio Foundation of Small Colleges, and the Kilby Foundation Award. She and her husband were married for 53 years when he died in 2000 (9 children). Together they were honored by Medical Economics Press and the Laboratory Public Service National Leadership Award. They were inducted into the Science and Engineering Hall of Fame and the National Inventors Hall of Fame for their work on the development of urinalysis reagent strips and self tests for blood glucose used worldwide by persons with diabetes.



# Councilor Talking Points from the Boston National Meeting

Seven of our eight councilors were able to attend the Boston meeting and were busy with their committee assignments, Town Hall Meetings and the Western Regional Caucus:

- **Herb Silber**  
Nominations and Elections
- **Abby Kennedy**  
Younger Chemists
- **Jack Riley**  
Constitution and Bylaws
- **Ean Warren**  
Environmental Improvement
- **Sally Peters**  
Local Section Activities
- **Peter Rusch**  
Nomenclature, Terminology, and Symbols
- **George Lechner**  
Chemical Safety

Most of the technical sessions, as well as the Exposition, were held in the new Boston Convention center. There were 15,344 registered attendees at the meeting with over 8,000 papers presented. The Exposition was well attended and had 324 exhibitors with 508 booths.

The Spring meeting in New Orleans will be a joint meeting with the AIChE. There will be over 40 symposia at that meeting.

The committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) was in charge of the employee clearinghouse. They announced there were 126 employers looking to fill 911 jobs. There were 1520 people interviewing for those jobs.

The Wednesday council meeting included elections for positions on 3 committees: Committee on Committees, Council Policy Committee, and Nominations and Elections. The candidates for national offices were announced:

## President-Elect 2008

- Thomas H. Lane, Dow Corning Corporation, Midland, MI
- Howard M. Peters, Peters, Verny, LLP, Palo Alto, CA

## Directors-at-Large – 2008-2010

- Janan M. Hayes, (Retired) Merced

College, Merced, CA

- Bonnie A. Lawlor, NFAIS, Philadelphia, PA
- Kent J. Voorhees, Colorado School of Mines, Golden, CO
- Frankie K. Wood-Black, Trihydro Corporation, Ponca City, OK

## Director, District II 2008-2010

- Joseph R. (Joe) Peterson, (Retired) University of Tennessee, Knoxville, TN
- Diane Grob Schmidt, The Procter & Gamble Company, Cincinnati, OH

## Director, District IV 2008-2010

- Eric C. Bigham, GlaxoSmithKline, Research Triangle Park, NC
- Gregory H. Robinson, University of Georgia, Athens, GA

National membership is 1,100 ahead of last year at this time with 157,800 members. The number of unpaid members is 295 less than at the same time last year with 14,136 unpaid members.

Chemical Abstracts Service celebrated its 100th anniversary with a Presidential Symposium and luncheon. The Web Presence Initiative unveiled the new ACS website at a booth in the exposition hall. The Website is scheduled to launch September 30. It will feature a unify-

ing global navigation and dramatically improved user experience. The new url is [www.acs.org](http://www.acs.org); users who have bookmarked [www.chemistry.org](http://www.chemistry.org) will be forwarded to the new site.

A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda by President Katie Hunt. The discussion focused on ACS policy development and advocacy efforts. President Hunt framed the discussion by posing three questions: 1) How can ACS encourage more members to participate by bringing their expertise to the development of more targeted policy positions? 2) What can ACS do to increase member involvement in public policy advocacy? 3) How can ACS be a more effective leader in policy activities in the broader science and technology communities? Councilors entered into a robust exchange, offering several useful comments and suggestions. As a follow-up, President Hunt invited councilors to visit her website at [www.acspresident.org](http://www.acspresident.org) for additional information. This discussion lasted over an hour. Council was adjourned at noon, when councilors began a mad dash for the airport!

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## New Members

Welcome to the newest members of the Santa Clara Valley section of the American Chemical Society. Each month the national headquarters sends us a list of members new to our section. Often the list is too long to include in the newsletter, but the August list is the perfect size, 29 new members. We want to invite the new members to be our guest at a section dinner meeting and to join in the National Chemistry Week activities. When you make your reservations for dinner make certain to say you are a new member.

|                       |                  |                      |
|-----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Elizabeth Bacon       | Liang Bao        | Matthew Cox          |
| Abhirup Das           | G. Steven Dodson | Carmen Encarnacion   |
| Yael Hirsch           | Tammi Hogan      | Connie Hong          |
| Justin Hough          | Sung Ho Kim      | Sudharani Kondadally |
| Rick Lee              | Ekta Mahajan     | Erica Malik          |
| Laurie S. Mittelstadt | Tomo Mizuno      | Maria Montero Diez   |
| David Myung           | James Nugteren   | Stephen Oldfield     |
| Ankan Paul            | Naomi Rajapaksa  | Daniel Rosenfeld     |
| Brent Rubio           | Karin Straley    | Jessica Tanuwidjaja  |
| Khoi Thai             | James Varley     | Selvi Venkataraman   |
| Peter Wang            |                  |                      |

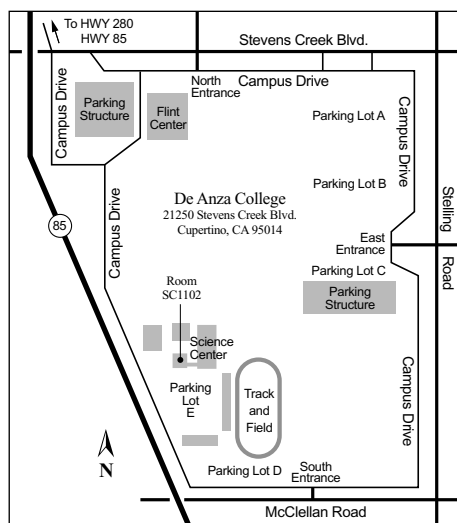
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## National Chemistry Week 2007 – Let's Celebrate

We hope you are ready to celebrate National Chemistry Week 2007! This year's theme is "The Many Faces of Chemistry"—especially chosen because this is the 20th anniversary of NCW celebrations for the ACS. It's a chance to celebrate our expanding careers, opportunities and colleagues in chemistry!

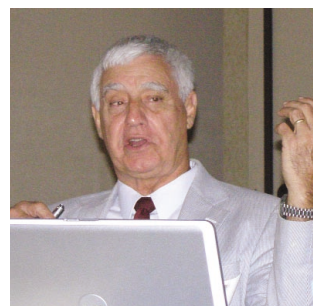
By the time you're reading this, your local section will have hosted a public outreach booth on Saturday, October 6th, 2007 at the Children's Discovery Museum of San Jose. Of course the crowd-favorite Wheel of Chemistry Fortune would have been spinning for all kids to win a prize, we will have made jewelry out of UV-beads, decorated shrinky dinks and much more. We hope you were able to join us!

Still coming later this month—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. All students are welcome to attend and ask our expert panelists their most probing questions about their chemistry educations, careers, and passions. This stimulating event will be hosted by De Anza College on Saturday, October 27, 2007 starting at 11:30 am (21250 Stevens Creek Blvd., Cupertino, CA 95014, Room SC1102, park in lot E for \$2). Light refreshments will be served. If you have any questions, please contact NCW Coordinator Abby Kennedy ([akennedy@exelixis.com](mailto: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 from the Section Dinner Meeting , September 11, 2007



Photos courtesy of Lois Durham

## Youngest Members of the Santa Clara Valley Local Section

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, so here are 2,000 beautiful words! Two new young women were added to the executive committee in 2007.

Bronwyn Grace was born January 28th to Dr. Abby Kennedy, chair of our National Chemistry Week activities. Bronwyn already captivated the folks who attended the July picnic at Stanford. Enjoy her 6 month birthday



One of the youngest members: Bronwyn

photo. Abby is back to work at Exelixis and is also planning our NCW events for October.

August 4th, Giorgia was born to Dr. Cinzia Muzzi. Cinzia is currently taking a short break from teaching at De Anza College and editing your section's newsletter.

Congratulations to these busy young women who fill crucial positions in your local section!



One of the youngest members: Giorgia

# Happy

# HALLOWEEN

## CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS OCTOBER 2007

### CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACT 3895

**Position Title:** Associate Scientists I/II (2 positions) - Chemistry

**Job Description:** ChemoCentryx, a pharmaceutical company located in Mountain View, CA, seeks a highly motivated, hands-on professional to carry out the synthesis of drug candidates for lead optimization in support of the medicinal chemistry research team.

**QUALIFICATIONS DESIRED:**

**Education:** BS/MS in Chemistry

**Experience:** A strong background in organic synthesis and hands-on experience using modern chromatographic and spectroscopic techniques such as NMR, MS and HPLC. Minimum of 5 years of experience with BS or 2 years of experience with an MS degree. Industrial experience within a medicinal chemistry environment is preferred.

**LOCATION, SALARY, MAIL ADDRESS:**

**Job Location:** Mountain View, California

**Salary:** DOE

**Employer Description:** ChemoCentryx is a clinical-stage biopharmaceutical company focused on discovering, developing and commercializing orally-administered therapeutics for autoimmune diseases, inflammatory disorders and cancer.

**Application Instructions:** Email resume & cover letter to: [hiring@chemocentryx.com](mailto:hiring@chemocentryx.com) or FAX to: (650) 210-2910. No calls please. EOE [www.chemocentryx.com](http://www.chemocentryx.com)





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

Visit our web site at:



<http://www.scvacs.org>

To receive an email when our newsletter  
is published on our web site, sign up at:  
<http://www.scvacs.org/newsletter/>

## SANTA CLARA VALLEY SECTION

### 2007 Section Officers

|             |                       |              |                              |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------------|------------------------------|
| Chair       | <b>George Lechner</b> | 408-226-7262 | glechner@aol.com             |
| Past Chair  | <b>David Parker</b>   | 408-615-4961 | dparker@ci.santa-clara.ca.us |
| Chair Elect | <b>Mark Kent</b>      | 408-736-0989 | markkent@yahoo.com           |
| Secretary   | <b>Karl Marhenke</b>  | 831-688-4959 | karlmar@armory.com           |
| Treasurer   | <b>Herb Silber</b>    | 408-924-4954 | hbsilber@sjsuvm1.sjsu.edu    |

### Councilors

|           |                       |              |                           |
|-----------|-----------------------|--------------|---------------------------|
| 2005-2007 | <b>Herb Silber</b>    | 408-924-4954 | hbsilber@sjsuvm1.sjsu.edu |
| 2006-2008 | <b>Abby Kennedy</b>   | 650-837-8043 | akennedy@exelixis.com     |
| 2006-2008 | <b>Jack Riley</b>     | 925-256-4050 | jfriley2004@sbcglobal.net |
| 2006-2008 | <b>Ean Warren</b>     | 650-329-4554 | ewarren@scvacs.org        |
| 2007-2009 | <b>Linda Brunauer</b> | 408-554-6947 | lbrunauer@scu.edu         |
| 2007-2009 | <b>Sally Peters</b>   | 650-812-4994 | Sally.Peters@parc.com     |
| 2007-2009 | <b>Peter Rusch</b>    | 650-961-8120 | pfrusch@aol.com           |
| 2007      | <b>George Lechner</b> | 408-226-7262 | glechner@aol.com          |

### Alternate Councilors

|           |                          |              |                                   |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2005-2007 | <b>Mark Kent</b>         | 408-736-0989 | markkent@yahoo.com                |
| 2006-2008 | <b>Ihab Darwish</b>      | 650-343-4456 | darwishis@yahoo.com               |
| 2006-2008 | <b>David Parker</b>      | 408-615-4961 | dparker@ci.santa-clara.ca.us      |
| 2006-2008 | <b>Bruce Raby</b>        | 408-294-6718 | brida954@comcast.net              |
| 2007      | <b>Stephanie Gehling</b> | 408-261-3974 | s_gehling@hotmail.com             |
| 2007-2009 | <b>Natalie McClure</b>   | 650-851-1052 | nmclure@drugregulatoryaffairs.com |
| 2007-2009 | <b>Maureen Scharberg</b> | 408-924-4966 | maureen.scharberg@jsu.edu         |
| 2007      | <b>Ferenc Makra</b>      | 415-730-8365 | ferenc.makra@roche.com            |

### Newsletter

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### ChemPloyment Abstracts

Director: **Charles Sullivan** 650-359-0731 cdansullivan@sbcglobal.net

## FUTURE MEETINGS

- Oct 9-13** Western Regional Meeting  
***www.wrmacs.org***  
San Diego, CA
- Oct 17** Section Dinner Meeting  
Diabetes Epidemic  
Dr. Helen Free  
Santa Clara, CA
- Oct 27** Drugs, Bombs, and CSI: Your  
Future Career in Chemistry  
**National Chemistry Week Event**  
De Anza College
- Nov 4-6** ACS ProSpectives  
Successful Biologics  
Philadelphia, PA
- Nov 13** Section Dinner Meeting  
Chemical Magic from the  
Grocery Store  
Dr. Andy Sae  
Santa Clara, CA



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