

Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

Volume 21 No. 7

Web Links to Local Scientific Organizations

In addition to our section's web site: <http://www.scvacs.org>, there are a number of other local groups that maintain web sites of interest to our readers.

California Section of the ACS:

<http://www.mcs.csuhayward.edu/~wwwchem/>

The California Section covers areas North and East of the Santa Clara Valley. As with our Santa Clara Valley section, they offer monthly dinners with invited speakers. Their newsletter, the Vortex, is available on line. The "Jobs" section of their web site includes a number of nice links to employment listings. The California Section also hosts a very active Women Chemists Committee that holds additional meetings.

The San Francisco Bay Area Mass Spectrometry (BAMS) discussion group:

<http://www.bams.org/>

BAMS holds dinner meetings and seminars approximately once a month. Most presentations are focused on mass spectrometry or related subjects. Speakers are often recruited on short notice. BAMS therefore notifies members of meetings via an e-mail list. To be placed on the list, please visit the BAMS web site. BAMS also appreciates information about prospective speakers who may be visiting the Bay Area.

Northern California Pharmaceutical Discussion Group: <http://www.ncpdg.org/>

The California Pharmaceutical Discussion Group holds monthly meetings and seminars.

Their web site includes meeting schedules, contact information, and links to pharmaceutical resources.



Local Employment Resources for Chemists on the Web

Most of these links are available at the California Section of the ACS web site.

Chemcenter Plus:

<http://www.chemcenter.org/>

Science Magazine's Next Wave:

<http://nextwave.sciencemag.org/>

Bay Area Jobs:

<http://www.bajobs.com/>

Jobhunter™ :

<http://classifieds.mercurycenter.com/classifieds/jobhunter/indexnojava.html>

SF Gate Who's Hiring:

<http://www.sfgate.com/whoshiring/>

Southern California Jobs:

<http://www.latimes.com/HOME/CLASS/EMPLOY/>

Good Advice and Good Links:

<http://www.careerbabe.com/>

Chemistry Jobs - Polymer and Materials Chemistry:

<http://www.chemistryjobs.com/>



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LITERATURE SEARCHES



Editor's Corner

ET in your home?

This month I would like to highlight the SETI@Home web site at:
<http://setiathome.ssl.berkeley.edu/>

This site is dedicated to "The Search for Extraterrestrial Intelligence at Home". The search for extraterrestrial intelligence has been limited by the time required to analyze the massive amounts of radio signals detected. (It may also be limited by a scarcity of extraterrestrial life but due to space limitations I'll leave this topic for a future issue.)

The SETI@Home project is an impressive solution to the data analysis problem. The project team has developed a system and "screen saver" program that can be downloaded and run on almost any computer connected to the Internet. This program processes sections of data in the background or when the screen saver is active. The results are periodically sent back to the SETI site and new data is downloaded via the Internet. Thus, when I'm away from my desk or sleeping through the night, my computer is doing something productive. The project is groundbreaking in its approach to massive calculation projects and will therefore be of technological importance even if extraterrestrial life is never discovered through this approach. The project director is Dr. David P. Anderson, a former member of the Computer Science faculty at UC Berkeley.

Through June 30th the SETI@Home web site reports the following statistics: Total Users 714691; Results received 4347426; Total CPU time: 164558210 hr (18785.18 years); Average CPU time per work unit: 37 hr 51 min 06.7 sec. This is truly an impressive amount of work since the software has been available for only a few months. (My computer takes about 150 hours per work unit but I like to think that the slow rate is due to the fact that my system is in use so much.)

I encourage everyone to visit the site, *<http://setiathome.ssl.berkeley.edu/>*, and download the program. The screen saver is colorful includes lots of activity.



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FUTURE MEETINGS

Aug 22-26 National ACS Meeting

For the latest information, please visit the
SCVACS Web Site: <http://www.scvacs.org>

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