

Silicon Valley Chemist

Santa Clara Valley Section

American Chemical Society

Volume 21 No. 10

“INVENTORS - MAKE A DIFFERENCE - DAY”

A Free Public Event for Children and Adults as part of the National Make a Difference Day

The newly renovated Intel Museum will open for the special event: "Inventors - Make a Difference - Day" on Saturday, October 23. This first-of-its-kind event will include self guided tours of the high tech Museum. Featured are speakers, posters of inventors, patents, small exhibits, and a video about inventors showing the importance of invention and innovation in our everyday life and in the Silicon Valley. The posters and exhibits will show in many cases the simplicity of invention. Several local inventors have been invited to speak briefly about their inventions and the creative process.

The exhibits will include:

1. National Inventors Hall of Fame

Seven or more posters describing the patents and contributions of the women and minorities who have been inducted into the National Inventors Hall of Fame. (Now of Akron, OH) (www.invent.org)

2. Local Important Inventions

Five or more posters with patents describing local important inventions, gene-splicing (i.e. biotechnology) at Stanford University, the integrated circuit (now INTEL), early radio (now RCA), specialty wire and cable at RayChem Corporation of Menlo Park, the computer mouse at SRI International.

3. You don't need to be a rocket scientist to be an inventor.

Seven or more posters including, for example, the Kush Ball for Campbell, the MONOPOLY board game (patented in 1935), the Pet Rock, the Frizbee, the Aerobee at Stanford University, hot sleeves for Starbuck's Coffee cups, Caps for Starbuck's Coffee cups, McDonald's French Fry Sleeves, etc.

4. Sweet things (Inventions and Innovations About Desserts, Sugar and Chocolate)

Three or more posters including Death by Chocolate and other reference books, Milton Hershey and his one patent, Norbert Rillieux, sugar chemist and inventor, African-American New Orleans cousin of painter Edgar Degas, the Eskimo Pie (1923), See's Chocolates,

When:

SATURDAY, October 23, 1999
10:00 am to 5:00 pm

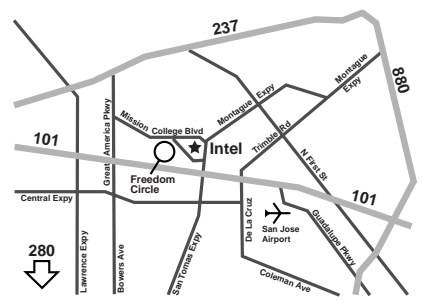
Where:

INTEL MUSEUM
2200 Mission College Parkway
Santa Clara, CA 95052-3119
Telephone: 408-765-0503
www.intel.com/go/museum

Primary Sponsors:

INTEL Museum;
INTEL Corporation;
Santa Clara Valley Section
of the National American
Chemical Society

Light Refreshments Included



and Ghiradelli Chocolate. (Candy Patents, Trademarks and Copyrights)

5. General Information of Interest about Inventors and Inventions

Abraham Lincoln's patent - the only Presidential patent, a trademark quiz for adults, African American inventors' books and magazines about inventors and inventions.

6. Minority Inventors in America (Optional) (Every 30 minutes)

A black and white video from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

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MONOPOLY
Patent Drawing

MONOPOLY Board Patent Drawing

Chairman's Message

I hope everyone had a good summer and now we are back and ready to work. Presently, we have several projects we are working on. Some of these projects need your help by volunteering part of your time. Others will provide you with assistance if needed and information that keeps you up-to-date on important events and policies.

The National Chemistry Week is approaching fast. I am so grateful to those who already stepped forward and volunteered to assist. But, we can use the help of everyone. One of the ways you can help is by asking the mayor of your city to present us with a declaration for that week. We need to coordinate this effort. Please, if you are willing to work on such a task contact me by phone, fax or email. We want to be sure that no more than one request is submitted and if a text for such a proclamation is needed, we will be glad to provide such a text. Also, this year, since it is the International Chemistry Celebration with the theme of Polymers and Colors, we are planning to have posters colored by students between the grades of K and second and post the work of these fledgling Picassos on busses and public

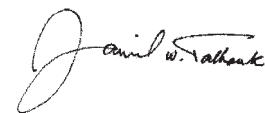
places. We would appreciate your assistance if you would like to involve your elementary school. Please contact me with a request for the number of posters that you may need.

On a different subject, the ACS is urging us, the members, to be involved with our government officials. You may remember the trip to Sacramento on April 27th of this year and our meetings with our state representatives. Now OLGA (Office of Legislative and Government Affairs) at the Washington office is asking all members to take part in sending our collective message to our elected leaders. If you would like to be involved, or you know how you can help, please either contact OLGA directly (you can find information on OLGA on www.acs.com) or send me a line (esp@value.net) and I will put you in touch with the key personnel at the national office.

The other subject I would like to re-address with you this month is Career Development. I am the Santa Clara Valley Section Career Coordinator. We will have a link on our web page dealing with careers. Since our section and the California section cover the same job market, we had a meeting with the representatives of our neighboring section and discussed the opportunity

to unify our efforts to best serve the membership of both sections. Some of the programs we are seeking to implement are to compile and keep a list of the area employers who hire chemists, conduct career workshops, make literature available and put you in contact with the national office dealing with careers.

Finally, by now you must have received your ballot for this year's election. Please take the time to mark it and return it. Your vote is an important part of participation and assisting your local section.



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The first annual Dr. George Washington Carver Science Fair will be held on January 5th, 2000 at the Santa Clara Convention Center. This event is sponsored by the Santa Clara County Alliance of Black Educators and the Healing Institute. The SCVACS Section is participating by providing volunteer coaches, mentors, and e-mail mentors. We will also provide judges during the January 5th activities. In addition to chemists and chemical engineers, we especially need people with backgrounds in biochemistry, biotechnology, biology, botany, zoology, and the life sciences.

Coaches and mentors are needed immediately. Please call ASAP for more information, Dr. Howard Peters, Chair, Minority Affairs Committee at 650-324-1677 ext. 20 or e-mail peters4pa@aol.com.



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narrated by actor Ozzie Davis describing the important historical inventions of African-American Inventors.

These and similar posters have been displayed many times at some local public schools, at a local restaurant, on local public transit busses in San Mateo County, and at local, regional, and national meetings of the ACS.

Howard and Sally Peters, husband-and-wife chemists, are the local organizers from the Santa Clara

Valley Section of the ACS.

ACS gratefully acknowledges the assistance and support of the ACS Division of Chemistry and the Law, Committee on Patents and Committee on Minority Affairs, the Healing Institute of Mountain View, California, Alliance of Santa Clara County Black Educators, Peters, Verny, Jones & Biksa, LLP (Palo Alto), Silicon Valley Intellectual Property Law Association, and the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

ACS - SCV Section Minority Affairs Activities

For the past three years, Howard Peters, the chair of the SCV Section Committee on Minority Affairs, has been working closely with local advocacy groups to advance the recognition of the many achievements of Dr. George Washington Carver, the famous African-American agricultural (peanut) chemist. In 1997, partly as a result of these cooperative efforts, California became the 10th state to create a Carver Recognition Day each January 5. In December the National Alliance of State Legislatures will vote to put January 5th on the Memorial Calendar, whereby all States will acknowledge January 5th as Carver Recognition Day.

Last May the first 100 SC County Carver Scholars were identified and recognized for grades 3-12. This event was organized through the cooperative effort of The Healing Institute, Debra Watkins (the 1999 President of the Santa Clara County Alliance of Black Educators), and the ACS. On June 6, in a special program at the San Jose TECH museum, INTEL graciously hosted the Alliance of Black Educators, the Healing Institute, and the ACS for the first local Carver Scholar Award presentation. INTEL also presented a \$100,000 check to the Carver Scholars. These funds will be use to

advance the K-12 science education of minority students in the Silicon Valley on an ongoing basis.

Microsoft donated \$105k in software to the Healing Institute for the 130 laptops that were distributed to our Scholars. Our Scholars were also the first group to work help hand in hand with Intel engineers and Intel's IT Department to rebuild the laptops.

The Carver Scholars Program sponsors have recently received recognition for their outstanding efforts. On September 18, 1999, the Healing Institute received the Innovators Award as one of the best private, public partnership programs in the country. This honor was bestowed by the Educational Think Tank in collaboration with the Congressional Black Caucus at their Educational Brain Trust

Symposium.

Additional upcoming CARVER advancement activities include the following:

A special exhibit is planned concerning local inventions and inventors on "Make a Difference Day" October 23, 1999.

A Carver Science Fair is scheduled for the next Carver Recognition Day at the Santa Clara Convention Center on June 5, 2000, and a Carver "Kidvention" event for 3rd and 4th graders is presently scheduled for San Francisco at the Moscone Center on March 25, 2000.

The national ACS meeting (about 15,000 chemists) is scheduled in San Francisco on March 26-30, 2000. The U.S. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks has accepted an invitation and will attend the national ACS meeting.



Left to right: Halim Mustafa, founder of the Healing Institute of Mt. View; Rasheed Salaam, Vice President and Board Member of the Healing Institute; Dr. Howard Peters, SCV-ACS; Lionel Harris, 1999 Santa Clara County Carver Scholar; Herman Miller, Healing Institute Board Member (at Sun Microsystems); Ms. Julie Dunkle, the manager for the Intel K-12 education program



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LITERATURE SEARCHES



Notes from the 218th National ACS Meeting

Four councilors and two alternate councilors representing the Santa Clara Valley section attended the National Meeting in New Orleans. They also spent several days working on committees of the National Society. Bonnie Charpentier served on the Nominations and Elections Committee, Sally Peters on the Meetings and Expositions Committee, Herb Silber on the Committee on Committees, and Carol Moser on Membership Affairs. Peter Rusch and Jamil Talhouk were active as Alternate Councilors.

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ACS Begins Broadcast E-mail Program

The text below is an example of an e-mail broadcast from ACS National. Members are encouraged to send mail to executive_director@acs.org if they would like to be included on the e-mail list. The American Physical Society broadcasts a similar, very successful, newsletter. For information write to whatsnew@aps.org.

This message from the American Chemical Society contains the following sections:

1. Federal R&D Support is at Risk
2. Write your Members of Congress regarding Federal Support for R&D
3. Join the ACS Legislative Action Network
4. ACS needs your Feedback on Member Communications using Broadcast E-mail

1. Federal R&D Support is at Risk

The outlook for federal support of R&D in the FY 2000 budget is grave. Congress is about to make final decisions on how to allocate the limited amount of money it can spend. During the next several weeks, Congress will direct its spending toward areas that its constituents indicate are most important. Legislators generally recognize that there is a federal role in R&D funding, but R&D is not currently a priority. Congress and the White House frequently point out that scientists and engineers, as constituents, do not let their legislators know the value of this funding to the nation. Consistent with the Society's congressional charter, the democratic process, and current law, Congress encourages ACS and its members to express their views and lend their expertise on policy matters related to the chemical enterprise.

2. Write your Members of Congress

The ACS is committed to securing strong federal support for R&D. During the next two weeks, we need your participation as citizen-scientists and -engineers to send this important message to your members of Congress: Federal support for R&D is a critical investment in our nation's future. To identify your legislators, customize a pre-drafted message, and send an e-mail to your members of Congress, simply link to a new feature on the ACS web site <http://legislators.com/chemical/>.

3. Join the ACS Legislative Action Network

ACS encourages you to join the many members who receive timely alerts and communicate regularly with their elected officials through our Legislative Action Network. You can sign up on the web at <http://www.acs.org/government/gcy/networks.html>. We hope to work with you on public policy matters of importance to the chemical enterprise in the future.

4. Feedback on ACS using Broadcast E-mail

ACS continually seeks ways to provide better and more cost-effective services to members. In an experiment to communicate with the ACS membership using broadcast e-mail, we have used the e-mail address that you provided the Society through your membership renewal notice. Your feedback as to whether ACS should continue exploring this communication option would be appreciated greatly. Please reply to this message with your comments. If you prefer not to receive any further ACS communications via broadcast e-mail, please reply to this message with the word "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject line. We thank you for your consideration of this call to action.

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Highlights of the meeting:

Howard Peters, a Councilor from the Chemistry and the Law Division, was elected to the Council Policy Committee. Congratulations, Howard! Lots of important work coming up.

As announced on Wednesday morning, there were 9,700 people registered for the meeting, 236 exhibitors registered for the Exposition and a total attendance of 11,734.

In the National Employment Clearing House, 964 job seekers had registered, and 140 employers were interviewing, on-site, for about 400 positions to be filled.

Professional Liability Insurance for Chemical Professionals in Consulting is now available to ACS members. For information, visit www.acs.org/insurance or call the plan administrator at Bradley and Parker at (800) 445-3393.

The following actions were taken by vote of council:

1. The name of the Committee on Nomenclature was changed to Committee on Nomenclature, Terminology and Symbols.
2. To keep equitable member populations in the six regions of the ACS, as mandated by national Bylaw V, 20 local sections were transferred from our western Region VI to Region V.

3. In recent years, the national meetings have been operating with a deficit, growing each year. One of the proposed changes involves a gradual increase in the registration fees of attendees at the meetings. Since there are a number of categories of registrants, the increase will vary from \$5 to \$10 each year until 2003. The council passed this recommendation, after a prolonged, vigorous discussion and after an amendment that the level of fees for the pre-college teachers be kept equal to that of graduate student members.

The 219th National meeting will be held in San Francisco March 26-30, 2000.

Beckman Coulter Ad

Esselen Award Nominations

The Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society is seeking nominees for the Gustavus John Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest. This award seeks to publicize to the American and Canadian people the positive values of chemistry. The award has been given each year since 1987 by the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society, and the men and women honored over these few years have given the award prestige well beyond its short lifetime.

Any field of chemistry is valid as long as the scientific work has clearly contributed to the public well-being, and its value to society is apparent.

The award consists of a bronze medal and a check for \$5,000. Travel expenses incidental to the conferring of this award will be reimbursed. Nominations and inquiries should be directed to Dr. Iclal S. Hartman, 131 Shade Street, Lexington, MA 02421

Editor's Corner

Several articles in this issue are concerned with education and support for science. We are all constantly reminded how important these issues are. Just last Monday (September 13th) I read in a special Wall Street Journal report on energy that Hydrogen Fuel Cells were dangerous because the hydrogen could cause the same reactions that occur in a Hydrogen Bomb. (No wonder gas-guzzlers are so popular!)

I encourage everyone to take a close look at the opportunities to improve the understanding and support of science that are mentioned in this issue.

Steve



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OCTOBER 1999 NEWSLETTER TOPICS:

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Time Value!

CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS

Visit our web site at:



<http://www.scvacs.org>

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Treasurer	Hong Gao	650-494-5197
Past-Chair	Herb Silber	408-924-4954

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1997-99	Maureen Scharberg	408-924-4966
1999-01	Bonnie Charpentier	650-354-2344
1999-01	Herb Silber	408-924-4954

Alternate Councilors

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1998-99	Lois Durham	650-723-1610
1997-99	Peter Rusch	650-948-0237
1997-99	Jamil Talhouk	925-449-2664
1999-01	Jonathan Touster	650-723-4340
1999-01	Ean Warren	650-329-4554

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FUTURE MEETINGS

2000
Mar 26-31 National ACS Meeting

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

CHEMPLOYMENT ABSTRACTS

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