



ERIE LOCAL SECTION
OF THE AMERICAN
CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Newsletter

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Chair's Message

Welcome to the 2012 Newsletter for the Erie Local Section of the American Chemical Society. The Executive Committee of the section met a few weeks ago and we thought that having a yearly newsletter would be a good way for us to keep the section members updated on things that have been going on in the section.

The Erie section was involved with many great events over the past academic year. We ended up hosting six speaker section meetings at the various college campuses in the area over the previous academic year and these included a mix of outside and inside speakers discussing various aspects of chemistry. The last meeting of the academic year is our annual Awards Banquet and

at this meeting we recognized local college students that excelled in the study of chemistry and local high school students that participated in the national Chemistry Olympiad exam.



Erie Local Section of the
American Chemical Society

In the fall, one of the biggest events the Erie section is involved with is our National Chemistry Week (NCW) event at the Millcreek Mall. The fall 2011 theme was "Chemistry – Our Health, Our Future!". Tracy Halmi has been our NCW coordinator for several years and we thank her for all her hard work in organizing this event every fall, and if you or your students volunteered for this event, we also thank you for your help.

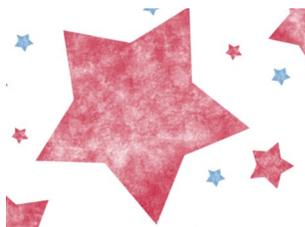
If you have any suggestions for speakers for our section meetings or other events that you think would fit the mission of our section, then please pass these ideas along to any of the section officers or councilors.

—JAY AMICANGELO

Summer Picnic Kick-Off Event

The Erie Local Section of the ACS wants to bring you a scientific barbeque like none other! Our picnic is on Monday, August 13 at Glenwood Park (corner of W. 38th and Glenwood Ave. near the Erie Zoo). Grilling kicks off at 6:00 PM. We'll provide the dogs, burgers, and refreshments.

Please bring your favorite side dish or a dessert to share.



Members are invited to bring family or a friend to this casual social mixer. Chemistry majors and Chem Club members are also welcome to attend. We hope to see you in August!

Please RSVP to Lisa Nogaj at nogaj002@gannon.edu.



The Erie Local Section bylaws are undergoing revision.

The Call for Nominations opens on September 1. Election ballots are due on November 1.

Younger chemists are under the age of 35 or are starting off in their careers.



Updating the Bylaws

The Executive Committee is working through the process of updating the section's bylaws. The bylaws provide the organizational structure and operating responsibilities of the Erie Local Section. The bylaws were last amended and revised on April 21, 1976, and several definitions of membership and related terminology are not current. Removed from the bylaws will be committees that are no longer active; new committees will be considered for inclusion, such

as National Chemistry Week and Awards committees.

The most significant change to the bylaws will be the new timeline for local section elections. In the past, officer elections have taken place over the summer. In contrast, terms for Councilors expire at the end of the calendar year. The revised bylaws will align the terms of all officers from January 1 to December 31. As part of these updates, the elections for the Erie Local Section

will take place this year in October. Any new officers would begin their terms on January 1, 2013.

The process of updating the bylaws will take at least one year to complete because the amendments and revisions must be approved by the national ACS Council Committee on Constitution and Bylaws.

A current copy of the Erie Local Section bylaws is available on our website at <http://erie.sites.acs.org>.

Local Section Election News

The elections for this year's Erie Section Officers has been pushed back until the fall in an effort to align the terms for all of the officers with the calendar year. Please consider serving your local section as all offices will be open for election except for the Councilor position. If you have any questions, please feel free to email one of the Executors: Jason Bennett (jab95@psu.edu) or Matt Heerboth (heerboth001@gannon.edu).

The tentative schedule for this year's election is listed below.

<u>Tentative Date</u>	<u>Description</u>
September 1	Call for Nominations along with office descriptions will be emailed to all members. Nominations will be due around September 21.
Early October	Ballots will be mailed out
November 1	Ballots due
November 15	Election results will be posted
January 1, 2013	All terms will begin

Younger Chemists' Webinar is Sweet

The ACS Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) develops programs responsive to their needs of younger chemists and facilitates professional networking. The Erie Local Section is sponsoring a nationwide ACS YCC Webinar and Dessert! Event. The

webinar viewing is at Gannon University on October 2 at 7:30 PM. Called "Secrets from the Other Side— What Recruiters Know that You Don't", Dr. Dennis Guthrie of The Dow Chemical Company presents loads of insider tips for giving a great presentation and getting over stage fright. The webinar is relevant for

students wanting to improve their presentation skills and for candidates preparing for job interviews. During the webinar, attendees will be treated to gourmet cupcakes from *Icing on the Lake* and delicious chocolates from *Romolo's*.

To register, contact Lisa Nogaj at nogaj002@gannon.edu.

Outreach and Volunteer Opportunities



NCW 2012 is all about nanotechnology, the science of small.

The Erie Local Section is offering exciting opportunities for its members to get involved in community outreach and volunteer events. We have some great programming coming up this fall, so please consider being part of these fun events!

Harry Potter Potions

Bring the wizarding world of Harry Potter to life! In these demonstrations, wow kids of all ages with the real science behind the magic of these beloved books. This event will take place on October 15 at

the Girl Scout Building in Edinboro.

National Chemistry Week

Head down to the Millcreek Mall this fall to amaze shoppers of all ages with demonstrations and interactive experiments all about nanotechnology. This annual event helps the community to stay current with emerging technologies.

Volunteers are needed to set up and help out with demonstrations for both events. Contact Tracy Halmi tracy@psu.edu with your questions or to sign up today!

Want to learn more about becoming the next NCW coordinator? Contact Jay Amicangelo at jca11@psu.edu

ACS Awards Banquet Honors Excellence

On April 25, 2012, the section held its annual Awards Banquet at Edinboro University. The section was pleased to honor significant 50-year ACS membership milestones for three of our members, *Edwin R. Bindseil*, *Robert M. Gallivan*, and *Donald James Renn*. The recipients of the 2012 Outstanding First Year Chemistry Awards were *Erin Brown* (Allegheny College), *Noelle Jurcak* (Edinboro Univ.), *Tyler Colson*

(Gannon Univ.), *Abigail Davies* (Mercyhurst Univ.), *Daniel Hughes* (PSU- Behrend), and *Andrew Gurnee* (Univ. Pittsburgh- Titusville). The 2012 Chemistry Olympiad Awards went to *Andrew Kroemer* and *Hunter Truitt* (General McLane), *Trevor Osburn* and *Victoria Allegretto* (Harbor Creek High School), *Nick Zerbonia* and *Mark Fuchs* (McDowell), *Gillian Yang* and *Mitchell McBride* (Mercyhurst Prep), and *Jay Rathi-*

navelu and *Aaron Lobb* (NWPA Collegiate Acad.). Congratulations to all of our award winners!

Guest speaker Dr. Al Hazari (Univ. Tennessee at Knoxville) also gave "A Fun (but Educational) History of Chemistry", packed with demonstrations that wowed the crowd.



Erie Section Awarded IPG for Chemistry Olympiad

In the spring of 2010, the Erie Local Section was awarded an ACS Innovative Project Grant (IPG) in the amount of \$950. The ACS IPG program encourages local sections to conceive of and implement innovative projects to strengthen the functioning of the local section. The Erie Local Section IPG will be used to offer an informational workshop for all high school chem-

istry teachers in our region of northwestern Pennsylvania. At this workshop, teachers will learn about the Chemistry Olympiad, brainstorm ways to increase their students' participation in it, and can volunteer to proctor the local exams in spring of 2013. Other ACS-sponsored programs such as NCW, regional ACS meetings, and our local section speaker meetings will

be highlighted. Refreshments will be supplied, as well as prizes and great giveaway items that teachers can pass on to their students.

For more information, contact Jay Amicangelo at jca11@psu.edu.



The IPG will invigorate the Chemistry Olympiad in Erie.



Erie Local Section of the American Chemical Society



“better living through chemistry”

The Erie Local Section of the American Chemical Society encompasses Erie and Crawford counties in northwestern Pennsylvania. Our local section was chartered in 1923 and serves a diverse membership from all fields of chemistry, ranging from student members to retired chemists. The overall goals of our group are to increase collaborative interaction between local chemists, to foster opportunities for career development, and to invigorate community interest in the sciences through outreach programs.

For information about getting involved in the ACS Erie Local Section or to provide feedback or content suggestions for the next issue of this Newsletter, please contact the Newsletter Editor, Lisa Nogaj, at nogaj002@gannon.edu.

Fall Calendar

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Summer Picnic Kick-Off Event
August 13 at Glenwood Park, 6:00 PM

ACS 244th National Meeting
August 19–24 in Philadelphia, PA

**Younger Chemists Committee
Webinar and Dessert! Event**
October 2 at Gannon University, 7:30 PM

Harry Potter Potions
October 15 at Girl Scout Building in Edinboro

National Chemistry Week
To be held at the Millcreek Mall

IPG Chemistry Olympiad Workshop
Date and location to be announced

SPEAKER MEETINGS

Erie ACS September Meeting
To be held at Penn State Behrend with speaker Jason Bennett, Ph.D. of Penn State Behrend

Erie ACS October Meeting
To be held at Gannon University

Erie ACS November Meeting
To be held at Allegheny College

Up-to-date information for all events will be provided by email announcements and on the Erie Local Section website.