

# the Alembic



## Chair's Corner

Thursday, May 15th is our Annual Awards Banquet and Spouses Night. We will have an entertaining program in addition to our awards. And it will all take place in our newly remodeled Drefus University Center on the UW Stevens Point Campus. For most of us this will be our first opportunity to experience the new center. I'm looking forward to it.

Marv Lang and Don Johnson will provide an entertaining program titled, "Knut Rockne: Chemical Norwegian All American". I think we'll all enjoy it.

Awards to be presented are:

- Outstanding High School Chemistry Student – Sam Balinghasay, Marshfield High School

- Outstanding College Chemistry Student: Clinton Cook, UW Eau Claire

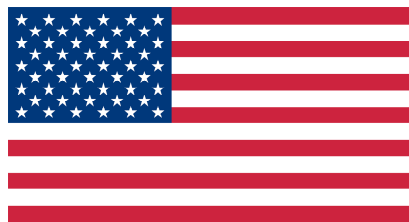
- Outstanding Service to the Section: Ron Haas, longtime active member who recently moved to Minnesota

- "Salute to Excellence": Tom Zamis, longtime Alembic Editor who is hanging it up at the end of the year.

Neither the Outstanding High School Chemistry Teacher Award nor the Outstanding Contribution to Chemistry Award will be presented this year for lack of nominations. I apologize to the excellent teachers and researchers who missed the opportunity for recognition because I didn't get the awards program going soon enough to encourage those nominations. We need to get back to having a call for nominations in March or earlier.

**Dave Thiel**

Visit the new ACS web site at:  
[portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content](http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content)



### ACS - CWS Mini-Directory

#### Chair

Dave Thiel  
911 Craig Ct.  
Port Edwards, WI 54469  
phone (home) 887-4338  
phone (office) 346-3714  
email [dthiel@uwsp.edu](mailto:dthiel@uwsp.edu)

#### Chair-Elect

Dave Lewis

#### Secretary - Treasurer

Tip Randall

#### Councilor

C. Marvin Lang

#### Alternate Councilor

Dave Lewis

#### Newsletter Editor

Tom Zamis  
Dept. of Chemistry, UW-SP  
phone (715) 346-3258 (office)  
email [tzamis@uwsp.edu](mailto:tzamis@uwsp.edu)

### ACS-CWS Web Page

[www.uwsp.edu/chemistry/acscws/](http://www.uwsp.edu/chemistry/acscws/)  
Up-to-date information about section activities including the **Alembic** and meeting notices.



American Chemical Society

Central Wisconsin Section



**AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY - CENTRAL WISCONSIN SECTION  
ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET AND SPOUSES NIGHT**

Thursday, May 15, 2008

Dreyfus University Center - Legacy Room

University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

5:30 - 6:30 Cash Bar

6:30 - 7:15 Dinner

7:15 - 8:30 Program & Awards Presentations

*Program*

**Knute Rockne: Chemical Norwegian All-American**

Marv Lang & Don Johnson

Knute Rockne (1888-1931) is best remembered as the University of Notre Dame's head football coach from 1918 to 1931. His winning percentage of 88.1% remains the highest in football history - collegiate or professional! However, did you know that he was born in Voss, Norway? Knute, as a five-year-old boy, immigrated with his family to Chicago, Illinois. Later, as a collegian at Notre Dame, he majored in chemistry and excelled in football. In fact, Knute graduated magna cum laude in Chemistry and became an Instructor/Professor of Chemistry at Notre Dame shortly after graduation in 1914. He also coached the football team as an assistant until 1918. Don Johnson and Marv Lang will discuss the life, the times, and the achievements of this rare, multi-dimensional individual through a multi-media presentation. In fact, there may even be some "gridiron" participation required of the audience.

C. Marvin Lang is active in several Norwegian-American organizations including the Sons of Norway's Vennligfolk Lodge of Stevens Point.. Marv's father was born on Langørgan Gård in Rissa Parish, Sør-Trøndelag, Norway and he immigrated to the USA as a young man. Marv's maternal ancestors were from the central regions of Norway.

Donald D. Johnson is Consulting Medical Director of Sentry Insurance, Stevens Point. A recent convert to "all things Norwegian" through membership in Vennligfolk Lodge, Sons of Norway, he was raised in a Swedish home having learned the language through the ministries of his father and mother and being spoiled by his grandmother and grandfather.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dinner is a buffet (\$17.00 checks payable to ACS-CWS) that includes: choice of two entrees, fruit, vegetables, sides, beverage and dessert.

\*\*\*\*\*

Dinner reservations should be made by contacting Dave Thiel at (715) 346-3714, or email [dthiel@uwsp.edu](mailto:dthiel@uwsp.edu) before 5 PM on Tuesday, May 13.

## ACS - Central Wisconsin Section 2008 Meeting Schedule

DATE	LOCATION	SPEAKER	TOPIC	HOST
May 15	Stevens Point		Awards Banquet & Spouses Night	
Sept. 18	Stevens Point	Al Hazari	Periodic Fun	
Oct. 15	Wisc. Rapids	E. Gerald Meyer	Green Chemistry and Coal	Dave Thiel
Nov. 11	Marshfield		Meeting-in-Miniature	

235th National Meeting  
**AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY**  
 New Orleans, Louisiana  
 April 4-9, 2008

C. Marvin Lang, Councilor  
 Central Wisconsin Section

It was very good to once again be in New Orleans. This was my first trip to the "Big Easy" since Hurricane Katrina and I was impressed by the magnitude of the clean up effort, the positive attitude of the locals (taxi drivers, hotel staff, convention hall workers) and the "up-beat" approach taken by people on the street. As I said, it was great to be back in New Orleans. During this meeting I know that there were several members of the Central Wisconsin Section in attendance. My colleague, John Droske, was present conducting a polymer education workshop, Dave Lewis and several of his colleagues along with students from UW-Eau Claire were in attendance, Bob Wenta from Siemens/Zimpro was there, and several former students from UWSP. I also met up with Al Denio (retired from UWEC) and he sends the following message back to his friends in Central Wisconsin: "Glad to hear that all is well in the Central Wisconsin Section and that your snow is melting. The milder climate in Delaware agrees with us. This past winter our snowblower never left the garage. I am running for another term as Councilor here and stay active in ACS by serving on the Committee for Environmental Improvement. I am also serving on the Citizens Advisory Panel at Valero's Delaware City Refinery. Val and I look forward to a Wisconsin visit come summer, and that will include enjoying some Leinenkugel 'barley soup'." - Alchemist

The following summary of the Council Meeting is provided to inform you of what I consider to be key actions taken by the ACS Council at the 2008 spring national meeting. Over the next few months

you'll be reading and hearing a lot about these actions.

### ACTIONS OF THE COUNCIL

#### Election Results

The Committee on Nominations and Elections presented to the Council the following nominees for selection as candidates for President-Elect, 2009: Thomas J. Barton, R. Stephen Berry, Joseph S. Francisco, and Josef Michl. By written ballot, the Council selected Joseph S. Francisco and Josef Michl as candidates for 2009 President-Elect. These two candidates will stand for election in the Fall National Election.

The Committee on Nominations and Elections announced that the ACS membership residing in Districts III & VI will be electing Directors as members of the Board for three year terms (2009-2011) in the fall 2008. Council will elect two additional Directors-at-Large from a slate of four candidates in an election slated for the fall, also.

#### Petitions

Council received three amendments to the ACS Bylaws (Petitions) for action: the "Petition on Election Procedures for President-Elect and District Director," the "Petition on Election Procedures 2006, Part 2," and the "Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements."

The Council VOTED to approve the Petition on Election Procedures for President Elect and District Director. This petition seeks to make the balloting procedure more uniform and to avoid the complications and expense of run-off elections.

The Council engaged in a lively debate on the Petition on Election Procedures 2006, Part 2, and entertained two motions: a motion to recommit and a motion for a recorded voted. Both motions failed. The Council ultimately VOTED by a show of hands to approve the Petition on Election Procedures 2006, Part 2. This petition standardizes election

processes for President-Elect and all Director positions based on percentages of voting members, and increases the number of required signatures.

The Council also debated the merits of the Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements and ultimately VOTED to approve this petition via a recorded vote. This petition broadens qualifications for membership and creates a new category of student membership. The Board of Directors will vote within 90 days on whether to ratify the approved petitions. The Petition on Membership Categories and Requirements contains changes to the ACS Constitution, and not just the Bylaws. Therefore, these changes must be approved by ACS members in the fall to be valid.

The Council received one petition for consideration: the Petition on Society Affiliate Dues. This petition sets Society Affiliate dues equal to the (full) membership dues, and not subject to any of the discounts otherwise applicable to membership dues. Action is expected on the petition at the fall national meeting.

The Petition on Local Section and Division Election Procedures was withdrawn. This petition offers resolutions for handling tie votes in Councilor or Alternate Councilor elections in a local section or division.

#### 2009 Member Dues

The Council VOTED to set the member dues for 2009 at the fully escalated rate of \$140. This rate is established pursuant to an inflation-adjustment formula in the ACS Constitution and Bylaws.

#### The Society's Finances

The Society ended 2007 with a net from operations of \$9.6 million, which was \$2.2 million favorable to the approved budget. This was based on total revenues of \$444.2 million and total expenses of \$434.6 million. The Society ended the year in full compliance with the Board established financial guidelines.

#### Attendance Report

As of April 9, 2008, the ACS spring national meeting had attracted 13,302 registrants as follows: Regular attendees 6,681; Students 4,659; Exhibitors 1,156; Exposition only 374; and Guests 432.

#### Revision of the Division Funding Formula

After considerable discussion, the Council VOTED to recommit the revised division funding

formula, as presented by the Divisional Activities Committee, to the committee for further action at the fall national meeting.

#### Local Section Name Change

The Council VOTED to change the name of the University of Kansas Local Section to the Wakarusa Valley Local Section. Although many of the section's members work for the University of Kansas, supporters said that the geographically and occupationally diverse interests of the members would be much better represented under the name Wakarusa Valley Local Section.

#### Member Statistics

At the close of 2007, Society membership totaled 160,052, despite a net loss of 439 members at the end of the year. Also, 2007 recorded the second highest number of new applications – 16,533.

#### Academic Professional Guidelines

The Council VOTED to approve the Academic Professional Guidelines as submitted by the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs. These guidelines apply to those members of the academic community whose job function impacts directly or indirectly on scientists practicing the profession of chemistry.

#### Concluding Remarks

This Council meeting was truly spirited and lively. Lots of good dialogue and exchange of ideas was conducted concerning the future of the ACS. This meeting was significant in that ACS and AIChE held joint session coordinated symposia and held joint registrations.

It really is a pleasure to serve the members of the Central Wisconsin Section as Councilor. I continue to serve on the Council's Committee on Community Activities and Meetings & Expositions. I am in my second year as Chair of the District V Councilor Caucus and so I dutifully conducted a session on Sunday (4/6) wherein petitions, motions and impending actions were hotly discussed.

I hope to see you at our next Section Meeting May 15th in Stevens Point.. If you have any questions or comments about ACS or our local Section, I would be happy to chat with you.

*Marv Lang*