

The Alembic

Newsletter of the Central Wisconsin Section of the American Chemical Society



Chair's Corner

National Chemistry Week October 18-24, 2009

The theme of this year's National Chemistry Week is "Chemistry—It's Elemental!". The year 2009 marks the 22nd anniversary of NCW. The mission of NCW is to reach the public, particularly students, with positive messages about chemistry and to provide a means of effectively mobilizing ACS local sections. When former ACS President, George Pimentel, conceived the idea of celebrating National Chemistry Day in 1987, he never could have predicted where his idea would lead. From a one-day celebration, National Chemistry Day grew into National Chemistry Week. From a biennial celebration, the celebration became an annual event in 1993. The program has been the recipient of several prestigious public relations and association awards. In a few short days, October 18-24, is this 22nd anniversary year of National Chemistry Week. Dr. Robin

Tanke of the UWSP Chemistry Department is coordinating CWS's efforts to celebrate "Chemistry—It's Elemental!". Contact her at rtanke@uwsp.edu or (715)346-4325 and volunteer to help. You can also find out more about this celebratory event by visiting ... http://portal.acs.org/portal/PublicWebSite/education/outreach/ncw/WPCP_011843.

Undergraduate Students Can Now Participate in Local Sections

Effective June 2009, all ACS Student Affiliates are now Student Members. Last fall, the ACS membership voted to change the Society Bylaws to grant all undergraduates the rights of full membership as Student Members, including membership in ACS Local Sections. For further details regarding the membership categories changes, please refer <http://Undergrad.ACS.org>. Membership dues for Student Members are \$23 (without a C&EN subscription) or \$44 (with C&EN).

ACS - CWS Mini-Directory

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FOR IMPORTANT INFORMATION . . .

The ACS-CWS Web Page
(www.uwsp.edu/chemistry/acscws/)
contains up-to-date information about
section activities including the
Alembic and meeting notices.



Visit the ACS web site at:
portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content



ACS
Chemistry for Life™

The American Chemical Society is now actively recruiting undergraduates to become members. The website is the primary recruitment tool ASC headquarters has developed for this audience. To our academic members, please refer students (chemistry majors and minors) to this website if they are interested in joining ACS. The site describes all of the benefits of ACS membership geared specifically for undergraduates. It is hoped that by bringing in new undergraduate student members, ACS Local Sections - including the Central Wisconsin Section - will benefit from an increase in participation and contributions from the next generation of chemical scientists. Don't forget, every new student member recruited also applies toward our local section commission claim and the 2009 ACS President's Challenge. Just be sure to have the student select Central Wisconsin Section as the referral on the online membership application found on <http://Undergrad.ACS.org>.

As a local recruiting tool, CWS is pleased to provide a meal at Sweetwaters Restaurant for each new or prospective Student Member attending the October meeting in Eau Claire on Thursday, 10/15. UWSP students desiring transportation please contact Marv Lang (346-3609) or by E-mail: cmlang@uwsp.edu for arrangements.

Marv

National Chemistry Week 2009: "Chemistry—It's Elemental!"

This year National Chemistry Week is celebrated from October 18-24, 2009. The focus of the celebration is on the elements; it is the 140th anniversary of the Mendeleev's periodic table. The October 2009 issue of *ChemMatters*, a magazine for high school students, contains an informative article on the creation of elements in the universe as well as articles on creating the Uux elements and the different properties of carbon allotropes. The October issue of the Journal of Chemical Education focuses on elements with several contributors discussing their favorite element.

Celebrating Chemistry, a newspaper for younger chemists, has information on the first 20 elements; the newspaper also contains a periodic table; unfortunately, the periodic table included with the newspaper contains multiple errors. La'Trease E. Garrison, Assistant Director, Department of Local Section and Community Activities, explained "While the basic information such as the atomic number and mass, chemical symbols, and element groupings are correct, there are categories of data that are incorrect. One such category is the inconsistent application of the legends "At room temperature the element is", "Appearance in Nature", and the "Used As" scheme. Most of the errors are in the last category. In general the elements are found in the substances cited, but the designation of element, alloy, compound or mixture is

designated incorrectly. In general the legend designations must be ignored due to these flaws. Because of these errors, you should determine if you still wish to share the periodic table (included with Celebrating Chemistry) with your audiences." There are several on-line periodic tables you may wish to tell your audiences about <http://www.webelements.com/>; <http://periodic.lanl.gov/default.htm>; <http://www.ptable.com/>; and <http://www.gelest.com/library/periodictable/>.

One event our section is supporting is the National Chemistry Week Poster Contest for students in Kindergarten-Grade 12. Our section will judge the posters submitted based on four criteria: Artistic Merit, Message (the poster should inspire students to pursue a career and emphasize chemistry in the career), Originality & Creativity, and Neatness. I am expecting entries from 8th grade students in Wisconsin Rapids; therefore, we will have posters at the October 13th meeting to evaluate.

My general chemistry students are participating in NCW by preparing graphic maps of the elements. If you would like any materials or suggestions for how to participate in NCW, please contact me or visit the ACS NCW website at www.acs.org/ncw. I hope you'll find some way to participate in NCW and send details of your activities to me, Robin Tanke (rtanke@uwsp.edu or 715-346-4325). Thank you!

Robin



THE ACS-CWS WELCOMES DR. ADDISON AULT

Accident and Design in Organic Chemistry

7:30 PM, Thursday, October 15, 2009

Philips Science Hall, Room 265

UW-Eau Claire

BIOGRAPHY



Addison Ault is Professor of Chemistry at Cornell College in Mount Vernon, Iowa. His undergraduate college was Amherst College, Amherst, MA, and his graduate university was Harvard University, Cambridge, MA. He taught at Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA, for two years and has been a chemistry teacher at Cornell College, Mount Vernon, IA, since 1962. He has taught summer school at Dartmouth College, the University of Wisconsin in Madison, WI, and at Harvard University. During the fall of 1997 he was a Visiting Professor at

Harvard where he taught Chem 30.

Dinner will be held at Sweetwaters Restaurant (Clairemont Avenue, Eau Claire, WI) at 6:00PM (Socializing at 5:30PM)

Dinner reservations can be made with Dave Lewis (lewisd@uwec.edu, 715-836-4744) by Wednesday afternoon, October 14, 2009



ACS-CWS Election Information

President

The ACS-CWS is seeking nominations for the position of Chair. Please send nominations to C. Marvin Lang at cmlang@charter.net.

Alternate Councillor

Professor James Brummer of UW-Stevens Point has agreed to fulfill the remainder of Dave Lewis's term.

**Call for "Meeting in Miniature"
Presentations**

Following last year's very successful Meeting in Miniature we decided that we should have another one this year! Dana Haagenson at UW Center, Marshfield graciously agreed to host our meeting on the Marshfield campus again this year. We are scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, November 17.

At a meeting in miniature we have several short talks and poster sessions presented by members of our own Central Wisconsin Section. We get to learn more about what our colleagues are doing. It is fascinating and it is an excellent networking opportunity.

The presentations do not have to be highly technical or polished. Talks should be less than 20 minutes in length in order to accommodate multiple speakers.

At past meetings in miniature we have forgone the usual pre-meeting dinner and substituted that with snacks between sessions. Poster sessions were in the same room with the snacks. Talks were in a nearby lecture hall.

We will probably have the same format again. Please let me know if you would like to change something.

If you would be willing to present either a 20-minute talk or a poster please contact me by e-mail at thiel@wctc.net or by telephone at 715-887-4338. Note, these are my home e-mail address and phone number. Please do not use my old UWSP accounts, since I have retired and those accounts are defunct.

Thanks!

Dave Thiel

