



Chemical Bond

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May 2008

St. Louis Section, American Chemical Society

**The St. Louis Section honors 50-year, 60-year
and post-50 year ACS members at
Recognition Night**



50-year, 60-year and post-50 year members: Robert Freeman, Joseph Darby, Norris Sample, Jed White (seated, left to right); Robert Keller, Robert Eltz, Tao Ping Li (middle row, left to right); Alfred Lippman, William Small, G. Brooke Hoey, John Byrne, George Jakle, Glen Crum (back row, left to right).

Recognition Night 2008

Recognition Night for 2008 was held on March 29th at La Bonne Bouchée near Olive and I-270. There were 53 attendees. This year marked the start of a new practice initiated by the ACS of recognizing both 50-year and 60-year members. Present at the event were two of the four 50-year members and eight of the thirteen 60-year members. Also present were fourteen past Chairs of the Local Section. A social hour and a fine meal preceded the recognition of the 50-year and 60-year members. The present and past officers of the Local Section were also recognized. The 2008 Distinguished Service Award was presented to Bruce Ritts. Steve Kinsley, our 2007 Chair was recognized for his service and received a plaque and a past Chair pin. The evening was capped by a talk by Steve on the Chemistry of Wine which was most appropriate to the occasion. The certificates and awards were presented by Section Chair Keith Stine who also thanked Samir El-Antably for arrangements and Covidien for their support of the event.

Past Chairs: Hal Harris, Donna Friedman, Ted Gast, Phyllis Bennett, Bijan Khazai, Sue Dudek (front, left to right); Greg Wall, Jed White, G. Brooke Hoey, Steve Kinsley, Lol Barton, Benjie Outlaw, Harold Messler (back, left to right), Joseph Darby (not pictured).



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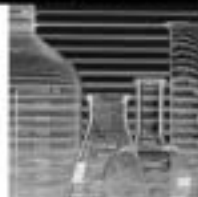
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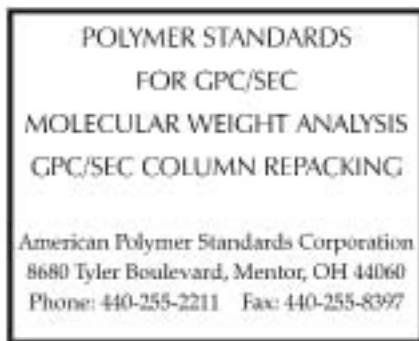
Meetings & Seminars

St. Louis University Department of Chemistry

Time: Fridays at 4:00 pm
Location: Room 12, Monsanto Hall

May 2, 2008

Professor Scott Silverman
University of Illinois
“Unconventional Chemistry: DNA
as a Catalyst”



Science Fair Call for Judges

Science Fair season is upon us, and so is another opportunity for you to encourage an understanding of good science by participating as a Science Fair judge. Members of the ACS St. Louis Section are needed as judges to evaluate chemistry projects for special awards at regional science fairs in the greater St. Louis area. High School and Junior High winners receive prizes from the section (science books and more), while all elementary school participants with chemistry related projects receive participation ribbons.

Remaining judging times for 2008 are as follows:

Greater St Louis Elementary Science Fair at Queeny Park on Monday, May 5, 2008. We will distribute participation ribbons to entrants with chemistry projects beginning at 6:00 pm.

Greater St Louis Secondary Science Fair at Queeny Park on Thursday, May 8, 2008. Judging starts at 6:00 pm.

Interested in judging? Please contact John Kauffman
phone: (573) 356-1142
e-mail: kauffmanj@centurytel.net
or John.Kauffman@fda.hhs.gov



The St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society
announces a

Member Picnic

Saturday June 14, 2008

Location: Tower Grove Park

Old Playground Shelter

Time: 12:00 Noon

Local Section Picnic Sponsored by the St. Louis Section ACS

Bring the family! Enjoy food, friends and spring weather.

Just \$5 per person. Kids under 12 free.

Questions & Reservations by June 6th, please

Contact: Steve Kinsley -(kinsley@wuchem.wustl.edu)

Washington University

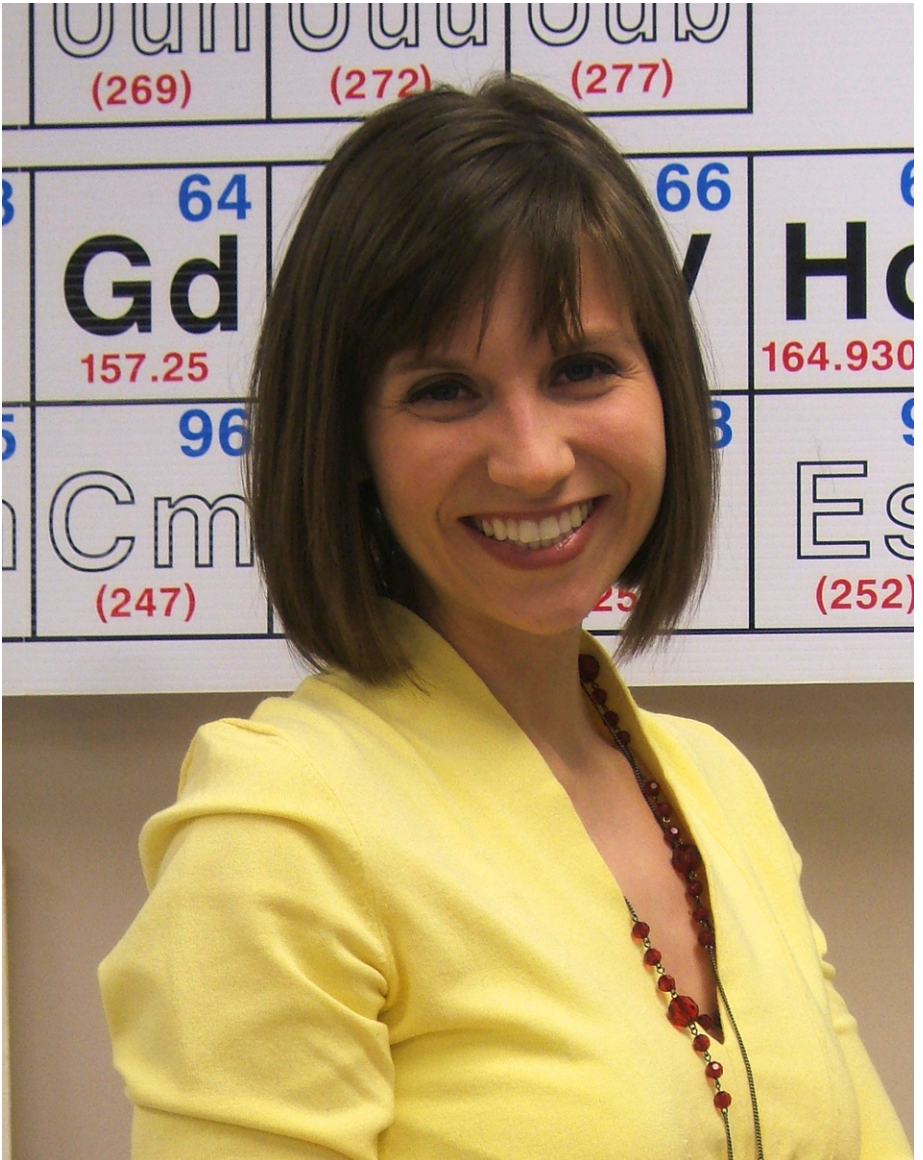
Department of Chemistry

Campus Box 1134

One Brookings Drive

St Louis, MO 63130-4481

phone: (314) 935-9401



**St. Louis Section
High School Teacher Award
Winner
Sara Knobloch**

Sara Elizabeth (Ammann) Knobloch has been teaching Advanced Placement Chemistry and Chemistry II at Triad High School for over seven years. Valedictorian of her class, Knobloch graduated from Highland High School in 1994. A Chancellor's Scholar at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville, she graduated summa cum laude in 1998 with her degree in Biological Sciences and Chemistry. As an undergraduate, Knobloch garnered the General Chemistry Student Award her freshman year, the Organic Chemistry Student Award her sophomore year, the Ella Ott Weissman Award in Chemistry her junior year, and the Biology Senior Award. Rather than enter the workforce, Knobloch chose to pursue her master's degree after winning the Competitive Graduate Award at SIUE. She completed her Master's Thesis in Biological Sciences on the "Basic Structural and Reproductive Biology of *Schoenoplectus hallii*, Hall's Bulrush--An Endangered Wetland Species" in 2001. Part of this work has already been published in the journal IBIS.

In order to stay knowledgeable of the most contemporary and innovative material available to students, Knobloch continues to keep her education relevant by taking classes at St. Louis University, Illinois State University, and Southern Illinois University Edwardsville. She also maintains membership in several professional groups, including: the Illinois Association of Chemistry Teachers, the Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, the National Education Association, the Illinois Education Association, Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society and Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society. She is currently taking part in a two year study by the Department of Chemistry at the University of Illinois to encourage chemical literacy in the 21st century among rural Illinois school districts.

In the classroom, Knobloch is extremely energetic and enthusiastic about whatever she is teaching. Her positive attitude and love for chemistry is contagious. She makes learning fun despite the very fast-paced and demanding coursework she teaches and has been selected numerous times by her former students for the Who's Who Among America's High School teachers. Knobloch's students perform exceptionally well on the National AP Exam; 88% of those taking the test received college credit last year. Her students also consistently win awards in the Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) program. Over the last several years they have swept the Chemistry category at the regional level, placed 1st and 2nd at the sectional level, and even placed as high as 2nd in the state. But her greatest successes are sung from the praises of her former students who come back to visit her and always remember the wonderful experience they had in her chemistry class. They will never forget the exciting times they had making GAK and a superball as well as the annual Mole Day Celebration where two of their classmates were chosen to be mole queen and mole king. They certainly can't forget her collection of rubber duckies, slinkies and frogs and what it was like to share their classroom with a 7-foot tall Jolly Green Giant made of polystyrene.

In addition to her normal classroom responsibilities, Knobloch co-sponsors Triad's Science Club, one of the most popular and active clubs at Triad. She is also the recycling coordinator. Away from school, Knobloch is happily married to her graduate school sweetheart, Brian. They have one son, Christian, who is 10 months old.

St. Louis Section - ACS announces the
2008
Chemical Science & Technology Award
Recipient

Mike Rogers



Congratulations to Mike Rogers for being selected as the 2008 recipient of the St Louis Science and Technology Award. Mike is an accomplished medicinal/synthetic chemist with 26 years experience and proven ability to develop lead compounds to commercial quality products. He has demonstrated ability in multi-step organic synthesis on milligram to kilogram scale and has extensive experience in production scale process development and product separation, including crystallization, fractional distillation, filtration and centrifugation.

After many years with Monsanto and Pfizer, Mike recently joined iQsynthesis as a Project Leader and immediately made a positive impact to the contract research organization. He has provided key leadership managing multiple projects, writing quotes and interacting with clients. On one of the first projects Mike managed at iQsynthesis he was able to deliver over 35 challenging compounds in two months. The customer evaluated his work as outstanding and signed a second contract for additional research.

Throughout his career Mike has excelled at training and mentoring new employees, helping them become effective team members. He has presented his work at numerous internal company presentations over the years and has been awarded fourteen US patents. Mike was presented his award at the Chemical Progress Week Awards Night Banquet at Kemolls Restaurant on April 21st.

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(north) on 1st street two blocks to O'Fallon. The building sits
at the corner of Lewis and O'Fallon, park on street or in
nearby lots.**

**Join the Saint Louis Section of the American
Chemical Society on**

Tuesday, May 13, 2008

Reception 5:30 pm

Talk 6:15 pm

Sustainable Building Technologies

presented by

Grant Lanham

Vertegy, an Alberici Company

St. Louis Section-ACS

Request for Nominations For 2008 Officers

The St. Louis Section of the American Chemical Society requests nominations for officers, directors, and councilors to stand for election in the Fall of 2008. If you would like to nominate someone for any or all of these offices, please fill in this nomination ballot and mail it, postmarked no later than June 15, 2008 to:

Dr. Jeffrey Cornelius
Department of Chemistry
Principia College
1 Maybeck Place
Elsah, IL 62028

You may also e-mail your nominations. While it will be difficult to assure your anonymity as a nominator, your identity will be removed from the e-mail before it is forwarded to the Nominating Committee. Send e-mail nominations to Jeffrey Cornelius (Jeff.cornelius@principia.edu)

Nominating Ballot
St. Louis Section-ACS
2009 Officers

Chair-Elect _____

Secretary _____

Treasurer _____

Directors (up to three)

Councilor _____

Professional Activities Committee by Brent M. Znosko, PhD

This is the first article in a series of six articles that describes the activities of the major committees of the St. Louis section of the ACS. The Professional Activities Committee is composed of seven subcommittees: membership, media response, career resources, minority affairs, women chemists committee, government affairs, and historian.

The membership subcommittee solicits new members by advertising in various media and following up on prospective names supplied by the national ACS office. Eligible persons are encouraged to become members of the ACS. Membership forms are available from the Society's website (<http://www.acs.org/membership/joinacs.html>) and are printed regularly in Chemical and Engineering News. Persons interested in the proceedings of the St. Louis Section who are not members may apply to become a Local Section Affiliate by completing the local section affiliate application form (<http://www.umsl.edu/~umslacs/affiliate.html>) and sending it to the current Section Treasurer, Ted Gast. In order to provide opportunities to new members and to interest new members in the activities of the Section, Azmy Azmy, the current membership subcommittee chair, invites new members to a Board of Director's Meeting. The Section covers the cost of the new member's first meal.

The media response subcommittee monitors the science articles appearing in local publications and responds to incorrect or misleading statements. For example, Hal Harris, the current media response subcommittee chair, sent a letter to the editor of the Post-Dispatch to correct an error in the December paper. In an article about the chemistry of the earth's oceans, the article incorrectly stated that the ocean absorbs "22 tons of carbon dioxide a day." Hal pointed out that the correct figure was "22 million tons." The media response subcommittee also congratulates editors and writers for good examples of science writing and reporting.

The career resources subcommittee provides access to the national ACS career services resources and St. Louis area employment resources. Ongoing services include a "positions available" opt-in Yahoo group where new openings for chemists in St. Louis are posted and archived, an electronic database listing over 350 companies that employ chemists in St. Louis, career advice, and a lending library of ACS-produced career-related materials. The local section website also lists links to businesses, institutions, and organizations in the St. Louis area that employ chemists. The current career resources subcommittee chair, Lisa Balbes, also maintains a blog titled Career Development for Scientists (<http://balbes.com/wordpress/>). The local section also sponsors annual career services workshops. For example, the September 2007 workshop featured Betsy Frick, owner of Plain Language Solutions and instructor of technical writing at Washington University. Betsy spoke about "Three Elements of Better Writing on the Job."

The minority affairs subcommittee conceives, develops, coordinates, and implements programs designed to recruit individuals identified by the Society as minorities to become members of the Section and to increase the role and involvement of minorities in the sciences. The major event for this committee is participation in the Minority Scientists Showcase. This three-day event held at the St. Louis Science Center is designed to help break down racial, gender, and occupational barriers to aspiring scientists. Local scientists serve as showcase exhibitors and demonstrate the different kinds of science involved in their work.

At this year's event, Gopal Paul, the current minority affairs subcommittee chair, displayed information about the ACS, and SLU ACS Student affiliates and other volunteers performed chemistry demos with the attendees.

The women chemists subcommittee aims to attract, develop, and promote women in the chemical sciences. This committee provides leadership for career development opportunities for women chemists and promotes and recognizes the professional accomplishments of women chemists. This committee, currently chaired by Leah O'Brien, holds an annual luncheon. Last year's event was a one woman play on the "Living History of Marie Curie."

The government affairs subcommittee is involved in providing technical information to the general public, area news media, and the area's federal, state, and local governmental representatives. For example, the current government affairs subcommittee chair, Dave Garin, has sent email letters to members of the Missouri Congressional delegation on several legislative issues targeted by the ACS Office of Legislative and Government Affairs.

The historian, currently Lol Barton, is responsible for archiving important section items and documents. Recently, Lol has been exceptionally busy retrieving the oldest materials from the archives for the 100th Anniversary Committee to use. Lol also wrote several articles for the Chemical Bond describing the procedures of the awards process for the Award for Outstanding Performance by a Large Section giving some history and context to the Outstanding Performance Awards received by the St. Louis Section. Now that he is phasing into retirement, Lol plans to continue the series of historical articles that he began in 2001 but was unable to continue.

The younger chemists subcommittee provides a mechanism to integrate younger chemists into the profession, make the ACS relevant for younger chemists, and dramatically increase the involvement of younger chemists in the ACS at all levels. Unfortunately, this committee has been inactive for about five years. However, the first meeting of the new Younger Chemists Committee was held on April 1, 2008. The basics of re-starting the YCC, roles of officers, types of events that could be of interest, and possible future meeting locations were discussed. If you think you would be interested in becoming a member of the new St. Louis younger chemists committee, please contact the current local section President, Keith Stine (kstine@umsl.edu).

After reading this article, I hope you have learned a little about the different subcommittees of the Professional Activities Committee. If you are interested in becoming involved with any of these subcommittees, please contact the current Professional Activities Committee chair, Brent Znosko (znoskob@slu.edu).



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The Scouts Need Your Help!

The ACS-St. Louis Section sponsors chemistry clinics for local Boy and Girl Scouts. The Boy Scouts earn their Chemistry Merit Badge in a half day event that has been held the last two years on a Saturday in September at Jost Chemical Company. The target age group is 11-13 or so. Approximately 40 boys learn about the scientific method, laboratory safety, industrial chemistry, and some fundamental chemical principles. The boys have a great time, and there is always a waiting list. Numerous section members and college student affiliates assist with this event, providing supervision, lectures, demonstrations, and hands-on activities. The event starts early on a Saturday morning, and finishes with lunch and merit badge counselor review in the early afternoon.

The Girl Scout Chemistry Interest Project is geared toward high school age girls. This event has been held for the last two years at Saint Louis University, and can accommodate 10 girls. College student affiliates assist with this nearly day-long event that has taken place on a Saturday in October or November. The girls learn about UV-VIS spectroscopy and apply it to analyze sunscreen; they discuss scientific ethics; they learn some hot topics in chemistry; and they learn an experiment in pH testing to take into the community to satisfy their service requirement. The event starts in the morning, lunch is provided, and concludes late in the afternoon.

These clinics have been sponsored by a grant from national ACS in the past. The events are popular, but we are unable to expand them and support them fully without additional support and/or charging the kids to participate. Approximately \$800 covers the expenses associated with the two programs (per year) with the current level of participation, while more funding may allow us to offer the program to more kids. If you would like to make a donation to support these programs, please contact the Section Chair below. No donation is too small, and your support is greatly appreciated.

Section Chair:

Dr. Keith Stine
Department of Chemistry
University of Missouri-St. Louis
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