



Chemical Bond

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Number 1
January, 2009**

St. Louis Section, American Chemical Society



**2009 Chair
Bill Doub**

message on page 7

Editor's Note


Last year about this time, Sue Dudek took over as *Chemical Bond* Editor. She brought back the stability and timeliness that had been missing for several years. For that we are very grateful.

Now Sue has decided to apply her energy and talent toward other goals. She gave the Section lots of notice, but so far, we have not been able to find the right person to be the new Editor. I have agreed to step in again as interim editor until the position can be filled permanently.

Keith Stine, outgoing chair, and Bill Doub, incoming chair, are continuing the search, and they do have some candidates in mind. In addition to their search, is any one of you lurking out there interested in a stimulating challenge with no prospect of payment but boundless opportunities for approbation? Prerequisites: good writing skills, attention to detail, ability to adhere to schedule; some experience with desktop publishing a definite plus. Laptop and software provided by the Section.



*Eric Ressler
Interim editor*



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Chemical Bond

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In this issue

- | | |
|-----|---|
| 2 | Editor's Note |
| 4 | Meetings and Seminars |
| 5 | Advertise on www.stlacs.org |
| 6,7 | Chair Messages, Outgoing and Incoming |
| 10 | Bond Briefs |
| 10 | Reminder: Career Resources now serving |
| 11 | Advertising rates |

Meeting & Seminars

Board of Directors

St. Louis Section-ACS Board of Directors meets the second Thursday of each month, usually at the Glen Echo Country Club (map on website). Meetings are open to all members, and all are encouraged to attend. Elected officers and chairs of major committees have the right to vote; others in attendance have voice but no vote.

If you want to attend for dinner, contact Bill Doub (william.doub@fda.hhs.gov and ucr1975@sigmaxi.net – please email both addresses – or 314.516.5346) at least a week prior to the meeting date. The usual cost of the dinner is \$24. Members wishing to become active in section activities are welcomed for their first dinner as guests of the section.

Date: January 8
Social hour: 5:30 pm
Dinner orders: 6:30 pm
Business meeting: begins at 6:30 with a hiatus when dinner is served
Future meetings: Feb 12; Mar 12

Saint Louis University

Seminars start at 4 pm in Room 12 Monsanto Hall, except as noted. For more information, contact the Chemistry Department, 314-977-2850.

At press time, there were no seminars scheduled for January.

University of Missouri– St Louis

Fridays at 4 pm in 451 Benton Hall, unless otherwise specified. Refreshments 15 minutes prior to seminar time. For more information, contact the Chemistry Department, 314-516-5311.

Jan 26

Don Becker

University of Nebraska
*Functional Switching
in Proline Metabolism*

Washington University

Seminars are in McMillen 311 at 4 pm unless otherwise noted. For information, contact Thomas P Vaid, vaid@wuchem.wustl.edu

At press time, there were no seminars scheduled for January.

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The St Louis section offers a unique and exclusive opportunity to reach about 1,800 chemists in the St Louis area: advertise on the Section's website.

There is one (1) ... yes, only one ... placement available on the home page: a high visibility, high traffic location at the bottom of the Links list, adjacent to the Event Calendar.

If you were the St Louis Section, your ad would look very much like the example at right, except it would probably be in color. If you're you or your company instead, there's room for your logo, a title, some thought-provoking text, and a link to an external page or to a document describing your offer.

Our rates are insanely low and are reduced further for prepaid 3-month or 12-month placements. For details on policies, prices, and reservations, and to see a sample ad in position, check out www.stlacs.org/website_adv.html.



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Additional information: <http://www.stlcc.edu/Jobs/Opportunities.html>

Closing date for receipt of application materials is February 17, 2009.
AA/EOE/M/F/D/V

Message from the Outgoing Chair

It has been a most interesting and rewarding year as Chair. I leave the position more impressed than ever by the efforts of our active members. There are too many people to thank to list them all in this short article.

The twelve months have passed quickly. I wish Bill Doub a rewarding and successful experience as Chair in 2009, and I wish the same for Shelley Minter as our new Chair-Elect. In looking back over the year, I am pleased that the Younger Chemists Committee was reinvigorated in 2008.

The YCC Chemistry Career Night event was a highlight of the year and the new Chair Arindam Roy and his other YCC officers and volunteers are the beginnings of a new future for the Local Section.

Our first Science Café on the exciting and highly topical *Science for Future Presidents* was well attended. My heartfelt thanks go to Hal Harris for his efforts in putting together such an informative presentation.

This year we had record turnouts for Awards Night and for Recognition Night. I found contacting the 50 and 60 year members and learning their stories to be one of the most interesting and "different" experiences as Chair.

The Boy Scout Merit Badge clinic was a great success and it was great to see the turnout and visit Jost Chemical, our host for the event. The Minority Science Showcase, Sci-Fest 2008, and our National Chemistry Week event remind us of how important our science outreach activities are. The Science Fairs that we judge are also an important part of our goal of promoting science education.

The new fundraising committee met and worked on letters and brochures, and received some support. Our efforts will be continuing despite the difficult economic climate. We should all thank Sigma-Aldrich and Covidien for their support, and Pfizer for its support of both the YCC event and the Undergraduate Research Symposium. A thought that arose to me during the year is that we might consider more programming of direct interest to industrial chemists to attract more involvement from our members at local companies both large and small; as an academic, I suggest this is a task to which others are better suited.

The Green Building tour and reception in May was quite interesting, but not well attended. However, I believe that issues related to green technology will become more important in the coming years.



Keith Stine served the St Louis section as 2008 Chair

see *from the Past Chair*, p. 8

From the 2009 Chair

Greetings and Happy New Year 2009 to all of our St Louis Section members.

I first want to thank all of you for trusting me to carry on the great traditions of the St Louis Section. I promise to do my best to continue promoting and advancing our programs so as to maintain the St Louis Section as one of the premier local sections in the ACS.

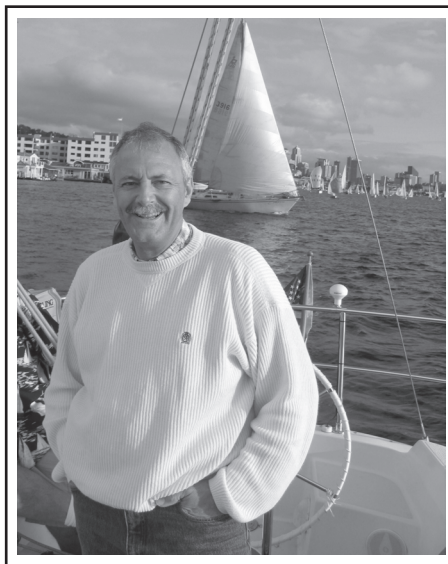
I know previous incoming Section Chairs have remarked on this but it is worth emphasizing: when a new Chair-elect goes to the Leadership Conference, they are always amazed by the high percentage of great suggestions for making a local section better that

St Louis has already been doing for years. Maybe Satchel Paige was wrong: looking back we *don't* see anyone gaining on us. But there is always room for improvement so we need to keep doing what we have been doing and, even more important, continue to generate new program ideas.

We need to bring more Section members into our activities. The Science Café was a good start and we should certainly continue that. The topical discussion groups do a really good job of bringing in folks we don't otherwise see at Section functions, but the fraction of our total Section membership who attend discussion group meetings is still rather small. Anyone with ideas regarding new discussion groups, or how to increase attendance for existing ones, should contact me. And, by the way, as I write this, we do not have a Program Committee chair – maybe we will by the time you read this but, if interested, please give me a call or email.

The High School Chemistry Contest is another area where we need ideas for increasing participation. Don't misunderstand, we have some really great students who participate; one this past year went all the way to the International Chemistry Olympiad. However, in the past four years, nine schools have participated every year, seven have participated three times, six – twice and five – once. There are 75-100 high schools in the St. Louis metro area so those numbers are not impressive. I will be contacting some of you shortly to help with this.

Hal Harris does a great job monitoring the local media and letting them know when they have written "bad science" – thanks, Hal! A



*Bill Doub doing what he likes second best: sailing.
Lake Union, WA, June, 2008*

see *from the Incoming Chair*, p. 8

... from the Past Chair, from page 6

Many thanks to the Board of Directors for their help, to all those who organized our events, to Eric Ressler for all his help both moving the website to a new host and in keeping it up to date, to Sue Dudek for getting this *Chemical Bond* in our hands this year at a date when it was still useful, and to all our members who participated. The Saint Louis Section of the ACS continues in its second century of existence and the future remains bright.

Keith J. Stine
2008 Chair
St Louis Section-ACS

... from the Incoming Chair, from p. 7

related area where I think we should be having an impact is with our local, state and national elected officials. Because of our nonprofit status, we cannot do any lobbying, but we certainly can monitor pending legislation and let them know when what is being proposed is bad science. I have some people in mind for this but, if you have a real interest, please contact me.

I want to thank all of our committee chairs and sub-chairs, councilors and alternates, directors, and especially my fellow officers for their dedication and willingness to serve the St Louis Section.

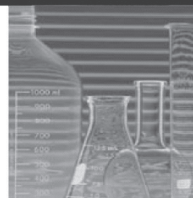
If you are looking for a philosophy for you life, professional or otherwise, consider this, another quote from maybe the greatest baseball pitcher of all time: "Work like you don't need the money. Love like you've never been hurt. Dance like nobody's watching."

Let's go to work for our Section—for which many of us have a real passion—and have some fun doing it...

Bill Doub
2009 Chair
St Louis Section-ACS
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ucr1975@sigmaxi.net

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Bond Briefs

Saint Louis Award timeline changes

The Saint Louis Award is moving from the spring, with its crowded agenda of celebrations, to the fall, where it can receive the undivided attention it deserves.

As the award date moves, so do the deadlines. Starting with the 2009 award, nominations will be due no later than March 31.

You'll see a solicitation for nominees in the February and March issues, but if you already have a candidate in mind, you can find the nomination details at www.stlacs.org/stlouisaward.html.

Chemical Science & Technology nominations due

The nomination deadline for the 2009 St Louis Chemical Science and Technology Award is January 31.

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This award is a great showcase for the often unheralded work in the chemical enterprise done by non-PhD chemists. For eligibility criteria and nomination guidelines, see www.stlacs.org/awardhist.html #scitech

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- a "positions available" opt-in Yahoo group, chemjobsstl, 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 (available to section members only)
- a lending library of ACS-produced videos and DVDs

We can also point you to appropriate resources from national ACS. For more information on any of these programs, contact our Career Resources chair, Lisa Balbes, lisa@balbes.com or 314.966.5298.

Chemical BOND

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