



## Saint Louis Chemical Science & Technology Award – 2017 call for nominations

first published 30 August 2017

Nominate a member of your team for the Saint Louis Chemical Science & Technology Award. This award is presented to a chemist in the St. Louis area who has demonstrated a high degree of professionalism and scientific contribution. Criteria used to judge the award include technical proficiency, presentations, coaching/teamwork, and additional professional activities. The award will consist of a plaque, a \$500 honorarium, and dinner for the awardee and a guest at the annual Recognition Night. The Due date is January 1, 2018.

You can find all the details on eligibility, nominating a candidate, and recent winners right [here](#). To submit a nomination, email the Chemical Science and Technology Award Coordinator, David Rhcc at [david.wonjun.rhcc@monsanto.com](mailto:david.wonjun.rhcc@monsanto.com) or call at 314-694-4874.

**Note added for the November 2017 Chemical Bond: election balloting closed on October 31. If you did not receive your election email and believe you were an eligible voting member, please follow the contact link below so we can investigate for the future, but it is too late to vote in this year's election.**

## 2018 elections are underway!

first published 12 October 2017

The 2018 STL ACS Election has begun. All members should have received an email link directing them to their electronic ballot. Bios of the candidates for open positions can be found [here](#). If you are a voting member who did not receive a ballot via email or would like to request a paper ballot, send an email to [election@stlacs.org](mailto:election@stlacs.org).

## Come join us at the Continuity Dinner!

first published 18 October 2017

The December Board of Directors meeting, also known as the Continuity Dinner, is a fancier than usual affair to celebrate the year's achievements, recognize certain members, announce the Distinguished Service Award (conferred in March), and pass the gavel to the incoming section officers. Plus, there is the Henry Godt Memorial Lecture, given by a surprise speaker, which lightly and briefly (we promise: briefly) recaps the year-in-chemistry-in-ST-Louis. If you're not a regular ACS meeting attendee, come renew or create acquaintances.

There will also be a General Meeting of the Section, but business will be light. And there are almost always some new and old members whom we see only at this event. So come!

**When:** Thursday, December 14

**Where:** Cafe Napoli in the Napoli Reserve Room – 7754 Forsyth Boulevard Clayton, MO 63105  
Parking info may be found [HERE](#): (free parking at meters after 5 pm)

### Schedule of events:

6:30 PM Social hour with appetizers, cash bar  
7:00 PM Meeting and Dinner

Please register by Dec 11 by contacting Natalie LaFranzo (314-301-9268 or [chair@stlacs.org](mailto:chair@stlacs.org))

Cost of dinner is \$25, payable by cash or check at the dinner. Checks may also be mailed in advance to the STL ACS Treasurer, Jeff Cornelius:

Jeffrey Cornelius  
Principia College  
1 Maybeck Place  
Elesh, IL 62028

## In sleepy Glendale, MO, it's Cori Day

first published 23 October 2017

Today, 23 October 2017, is *Carl and Gerty Cori Day* in little Glendale, an inner suburb of Saint Louis, MO. The date marks the 70th anniversary of the day the Coris were informed that they had won the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine. The "Glendale connection": the Coris then lived in a modern house on Berry Road in Glendale.

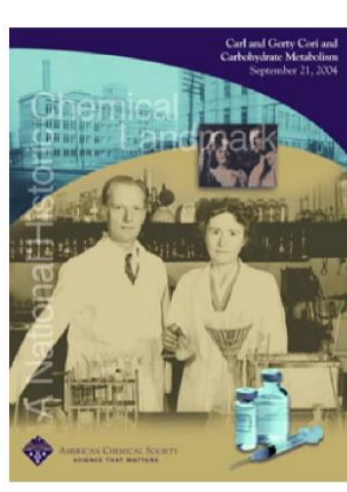
Carl Cori and Gerty Radnitz were both born in Prague, met in college, and married after receiving their graduate degrees. They eventually immigrated to the USA and did their prize-winning work as professors in the Pharmacology department, and later the Biological Chemistry department, at Washington University. They were cited by the Nobel committee for elucidating the pathway of glycogen synthesis and degradation, now known as the Cori cycle, which proceeds through a key intermediate  $\alpha$ -D-glucose 1-phosphate, now known as the Cori ester.

Later in life, Gerty studied various glycogen storage diseases and discovered relationships to specific enzyme defects, in particular defects in glycogen debranching enzyme that result in irreversible buildup of glycogen with short outer branches, one form of which is called, you guessed it, Cori's disease. After Gerty's death, Carl pursued similar lines of work into clinical manifestations of glucose-6-phosphatase deficiency, called von Gierke's disease (also a glycogen storage disease).



The Gerty Cori postage stamp, with the infamous (in some circles) error in the structure of the Cori ester. (It's pretty subtle.)

Gerty Cori was only the third woman to win a Nobel prize, the first American woman to do so, and the first woman of any nationality to do so in Physiology or Medicine. She was honored with the issue of a Gerty Cori postage stamp as part of the American scientist series in 2008. The graphic design of the stamp shows an incorrect structure for the Cori ester. Grrr!



Cover of the ACS booklet published for the naming of the Cori lab at Wash U a "National Historic Chemical Landmark."

## Frightfest 2017

first published 27 October 2017

On 2017 October 15th, almost 700 cub scouts and their siblings took a haunted tour of Beaumont Scout Reservation. As the grand finale, each youth listened to a discussion of the basics of polymer chemistry and non-newtonian fluids, then made their own batch of slime and took it home. 18 volunteers ran the sessions – with most of the sessions being led by high school students. A great time was had by all!

Favorite moment of the evening was when a mother was overheard saying "No, you can't sleep with your slime because I don't want to have to clean it out of your mattress."



Proud slime engineers hard at work

## Scouting Out a Chemistry Merit Badge

first published 30 October 2017

The 13th Chemistry Merit Badge Clinic was hosted by Jost Chemical Company, with 29 scouts attending. Approximately 8 professional chemists, 5 Jost employees, and 6 SLU Chemistry Club students helped run the event.

The day kicked off with the scouts discussing the 4 classical fields of chemistry (Natalie LaFranzo) and a safety demonstration (Justin Kuehnel, Safety Manager, Jost Chemical). Scouts then rotated through 3 hour-long stations, each run by 2 professional chemists, assisted by SLU chemistry club students. During the sessions scouts conducted a simulated Senate hearing into contamination at a scout camp and identified the contaminant (Teresa Calletti and Ed Gengenlocher), learned about emulsions and solved a crime using separation science (Dave Morganstern and Nclver Brooks), made a Cartesian diver and explored activity series (Vic Lewchenko and Brent Znosko), and took a tour of a working chemical manufacturing plant (Jost). Scouts also examined MSDSs and compared toothpaste with an abrasive household cleanser.

During lunch, each scout met with an approved merit badge counselor to verify completion of all requirements. While waiting, scouts explored the reaction of Diet Coke and Mentos (outside!), ferromagnets, sand into silicon wafers, polymer chemistry, and more.



STL ACS Chair Natalie LaFranzo dissects the four classical fields of chemistry



Our volunteers await the scout horde



Vic Lewchenko explains how the Ideal Gas Law makes Cartesian divers work



Scouts show off their Cartesian divers

## Nominate a high school chemistry teacher today!

first published 30 October 2017

Nominations are open for the 2018 Outstanding High School Chemistry Teacher award. Besides their own colleagues and administrators, students and parents (present or past) are also eligible to submit a nomination. That could be you ... and who'd be more qualified to recognize good chemistry teaching when they see it?

Nominating is pretty easy (full qualifications and nomination instructions [here](#)). But if you have someone in mind and don't feel competent to chase down all the documents (not that many, really, but whatever), just get in touch with the high school principal and ask for help.



## Spooktacular Chemistry at the Science Center

first published 31 October 2017

Kids and Chemistry celebrated a Spooktacular event on Thursday, October 26 at the Saint Louis Science Center. The theme was Spooky Chemistry- fizzing, bubbling and spectacular chemistry. Activities included using Jelly Marbles as vanishing ghost eggs, Jelly Marbles as superabsorbent polymers that reflect light the same way as water, so they appear to vanish when placed in water. A disappearing ink activity was based on an acid-base reaction, and participants enjoyed writing secret messages.

Other activities involved making instant snow and breaking frozen flowers that become rigid and brittle when dipped in liquid nitrogen. The activities were topped off by a dry ice boiling cauldron. The event drew large crowds of children and adults who were intrigued by the various activities. Many thanks to Trang Truong and Michael Hlaspile-Burnes for volunteering their time.

Reported by:  
Reni Joseph



Michael prepares to shatter a flower frozen with liquid nitrogen



Trang prepares instant snow for curious onlookers

## 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 and driving directions). Meetings are open to all members, and all are encouraged to attend. Elected officers and chairs of major committees vote on questions put to the Board; others in attendance have voice but no vote.

If you want to attend for dinner, please contact the section Chair at least a week in advance. Usual cost of the dinner is \$22 (\$11 for post-docs and unemployed members). Bar service and dessert are optional extras. Members wishing to become active in section activities are welcomed for their first dinner as guests of the section.

Date: Nov 9  
Social hour, cash bar: 6:00 pm  
Call to order: 6:30 pm (Board Meeting suspended during dinner service)  
Future meetings: Dec 14 (continuity dinner), Jan 11

### Saint Louis University

Seminars are generally on Fridays at 12 noon in Carlo Auditorium, Tegeler Hall, unless noted otherwise. Refreshments follow. For the most up-to-date information, refer to the department's [seminar page](#) or contact Brent Znosko, [znoskob@slu.edu](mailto:znoskob@slu.edu).

### University of Missouri–St Louis

Mondays at 4 pm in 451 Benton Hall, unless otherwise specified. Refreshments 15 minutes prior to seminar time. For timely information on visiting seminar speakers, contact the Chemistry Department, 314.516.5311, or visit the [seminar schedule](#). The department has additional seminar series which are also accessible from this page.

### Washington University

Seminars are in McMillen 311 at 4 pm unless otherwise noted. For information, consult the departmental [events page](#). Related seminars, including endowed seminar series and the WU med school biochemistry series, are linked here as well.

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## About the Chemical Bond

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Correspondence, letters to the editor, etc., should be emailed to [editor@stlacs.org](mailto:editor@stlacs.org) or mailed % St Louis Section-ACS, PO Box 410192, Saint Louis, MO 63141-0192

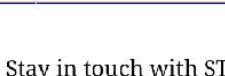
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