February Dinner Meeting

Benefits of Wine with Dinner

Dr. Valery Uhl

Abstract:

Chemists know that simple alcohols are poisonous compounds. Ethanol is just the least toxic to humans. Many “toxic” compounds are beneficial to humans in small doses. After defining “moderate alcohol consumption” and explaining the “French Paradox,” Dr. Uhl will discuss the health benefits of moderate alcohol consumption. The talk will cover the health benefits of wine and will contrast wine being part of a meal or not part of a meal. Some of the compounds of wine that might be responsible for its beneficial nature will be discussed.

Biography:

Dr. Uhl is the Chief Judge and Director of the “North of the Gate” Wine Competition for the Sonoma-Marin Fair in Petaluma, California. She also judges for the San Francisco International Wine Competition, the Pacific Rim International Wine Competition, the Grand Harvest Awards, the National Women’s Wine Competition, the West Coast Wine Competition, the El Dorado County Fair Wine Competition, the International Japan Wine Challenge, the Mid American Wine Competition and multiple others.

Dr. Uhl has a degree in Viticulture Management, and graduated Cum Laude from U.C. Davis where she was a Taster for the U.C. Davis

Reminder!

Mosher Award Meeting

Thursday, January 21, 2010
Biltmore Hotel & Suites
Featuring our own Howard and Sally Peters discussing Death by Chocolate and Chemistry Outreach

Professor Jeanette Medina
Teacher-Scholar Award
for Community College Chemistry Faculty

The Santa Clara Valley Section is excited and honored to announce that the first Teacher-Scholar Award for Community College Chemistry Faculty, given to Professor Jeanette Medina on November 19, 2009, was recognized nationally in Chemical & Engineering News. See the full article on page 49 of the December 21, 2009 issue.
Enology and Food Science Departments. Her family owns gold medal Pinot Noir vineyards in the Green Valley sub-appellation of the Russian River AVA.

She has written papers and given lectures around the country on the health benefits of wine. She also educates various Bay Area clubs on wine and food pairings.

She continues to collect and donate wine for many of her special causes such as the American Cancer Society of which she is a Board member, various Breast Cancer events and Summit Medical Center in Oakland where she is also the Director of Radiation Oncology Services at the AB Oak and Summit Comprehensive Cancer Center’s Department of Radiation Oncology.

**Chair’s Message**

My name is Bruce Raby and I will serve as Santa Clara Valley Section Chair for 2010. It is interesting to contemplate the changes that have occurred since I was Chair 30+ years ago.

I thank Natalie McClure for all she has done during her term as Chair. She has done an outstanding job and as they say “she’s a hard act to follow”. Thank you Natalie for helping me to prepare for my term.

What about the year ahead? The Section will host a joint meeting of college and university student clubs so that the clubs can exchange ideas and contacts. We will need to adjust our by-laws to reflect the new status of students as members; that will require a ratifying vote of our membership. I would like the Section to hold at least one tour event; I propose one to the Almaden Mercury Mine Museum in April to learn about that one-time industry for providing mercury to the California gold mines. The March Section meeting will feature a talk about energetic molecules and Russian spies.

You will be learning more about coming events this spring: the national meeting of the ACS in San Francisco in March and the International Science and Engineering Fair to be held in San Jose in March. Both events require your help, especially as judges for the Fair.

Our big January event is the Mosher Award meeting, January 21, 2010. The honorees this year are our own Howard and Sally Peters. Plan to attend and help celebrate the work these two have done for our Section and for the national ACS.

I wish that each of you will have good health and freedom from want during 2010!

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**Career-enhancing Course Scholarships Available!**

The National Chemistry Week Committee invites you to apply for an ACS Leadership Course Scholarship for the 2010 San Francisco National Meeting. The ACS Leadership Development System is a competency based, integrated framework of learning modules designed to help members develop into highly skilled leaders. Has your employer cut back on conference and training funds? Here is a chance to broaden your leadership skill-set. You can apply these proven leadership techniques in your personal career and now we’re giving you the opportunity to also apply this leadership within the ACS.

What we ask in return for our funding is that scholarship recipients become members of the 2010 National Chemistry Week Committee. Time commitment on the committee is variable—most of the planning is done virtually, over email and by phone and the busiest time of year is July through October. This is your chance to become involved in a creative and fun local ACS committee. Two scholarships will be awarded for 2010. All Santa Clara Valley Section members and student members are eligible. Scholarship candidates are required to submit their choice of course (see list below) and a brief statement on why they would like to attend the course (no more than 1 page) to NCW Chairperson Abby Kennedy by February 1, 2010 at akennedy-cali2007@yahoo.com. Please include your name, email and phone number in your email submission. Candidates must be able to attend the meeting online or in person (for the facilitated courses, schedule available at www.acs.org/leaderdevelopment) and be willing to participate as a NCW Committee member during 2010. Scholarship recipients will be notified by February 15, 2010. For questions regarding the scholarship or the NCW Committee, please contact Abby Kennedy.

The following courses are available for the scholarship (full course descriptions can be found at www.acs.org/leaderdevelopment.

- Becoming an Effective Contributor (self-paced online course)
- Matching Interests with Goals (self-paced online course)
- Engaging Colleagues in Dialogue
- Managing Projects Effectively (self-paced online course)
- Running Productive Meetings (self-paced online course)
- Understanding Members’ Interest (self-paced online course)
- Engaging and Motivating Volunteers
- Fostering Innovation
- Coaching and Feedback
- Collaborating Across Boundaries
- Leading Change
- Succession Planning (self-paced online course)
- Leading without Authority
- Developing Communication Strategies
- Strategic Planning

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**Save the Dates for Green Chemistry**

**June 21-24**

The 14th Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference returns to downtown Washington, DC on June 21-24, 2010. With the theme ”Innovation and Application” and with one of the renowned founders of green chemistry, Dr. John Warner (President and CTO, Warner Babcock Institute for Green Chemistry) as the chair, this conference is shaping up to be one you won’t want to miss! The tentative schedule for the week begins with a Student Workshop, Roundtable Meetings, and the Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Awards Ceremony on Monday, June 21, followed by technical programming on June 22-24. Please visit the conference website, www.gcande.org, where more details will be posted as they become available.
Chemistry and Public Outreach

by Howard Peters

In today’s global economy, it is important that we explain chemistry and inspire students to gain the technical skills to invent and innovate our way out of the present “mess.” Public outreach for science and technology comes in many forms. Here are two local examples:

CHOCOLATE – A new student member chemistry group is forming at the University of California Santa Cruz (UCSC). On November 16, Howard Peters (aka locally as Mr. Chocolate) presented one of their first lectures, his signature fun talk, “Chocolate: Food of the Gods,” to about 40 students and faculty. For those who stayed to the “bitter” end, there was a free drawing for a ten-pound bar of dark “bittersweet.” Some of the UCSC students later attended the dinner program where ACS President Tom Lane spoke and presented the first ever ACS award to recognize achievement in teaching chemistry in the community colleges. Howard also donated a ten-pound bar of bittersweet chocolate to the student member group to hold a raffle to raise chapter funds in December.

INVENTION – On December 4, Howard (as a retired patent attorney) spoke to two classes of eighth grade science students at Bucsher Middle School in Santa Clara (near the Santa Clara University campus) about invention and innovation. To get and keep their early-morning attention, there was also a free drawing for familiar patented toys: a SLINKY, a YO-YO, and a FRISBEE, with a copy of the U.S. patent for each.

The very animated Bucsher instructor Carl Erickson is interested in teaching innovation. He requires his eighth grade science classes to create an invention project by the end of the school year. This project includes seeing a problem, filling a need and coming up with a new solution. The students search the open literature and the patent literature to see if the idea is new, prepare drawings, create a working model, and write one type of a “provisional” patent.

This is news!

For more information about Bucsher, see http://buchser.ca.campusgrid.net/home

Local Science Fairs in 2010

Contact: Howard Peters, peters4pa@sbcglobal.net

January to June of each year is the time for intense effort for IMPORTANT science and engineering fair competitions at the local, regional, state and international levels.

SPECIAL NOTE: The judging for the 2010 Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF 2010) will be held in San Jose, CA on May 12-13 (Tuesday about 5 pm –Wednesday about 6 pm). There will be a need for an enhanced commitment of our Silicon Valley scientists to volunteer for judges in all judging categories.

REMEMBER - There is always a need for judges for these science fairs. Please volunteer now!

Contact local science fair information is below:

San Francisco Area Science Fairs - ISEF affiliate
San Mateo County students eligible
Date: Thursday, March 25, 2010
Location: San Francisco County Fair Ground Building - Golden Gate Park
Contact: Greta Mayfield
(925) 842-3047 or Greta.Mayfield@chevron.com
www.usc.edu/CSSF/Fairs/300.html

San Mateo County Science, Math and Technology Fair
Date: February 1-4, 2010
Judging February 2, 2010
Location: Hiller Aviation Museum, San Carlos
www.hiller.org/upcoming-events.shtml
Contact: Ms Christine or Gary Nakagiri
(650) 802-5337 or cjoy@smcoe.k12.ca.us
www.usc.edu/CSSF/Fairs/400.html

SCIENCEPALOOZA
East Side Union High School for first time science fair participants
Date: Saturday, February 27, 2010
Location: Santa Clara County Fair Grounds, San Jose
For more information, visit www.outreach-foundation.org/judges.html

Monterey County Science and Engineering Fair
County High School students
Date: Saturday, March 6, 2010
Location: California State University, Monterey Bay
For more information, visit www.montereycountysciencefair.com/

Santa Cruz Science Fair
Santa Cruz County high school students
Date: Saturday, March 13, 2010
Location: Santa Cruz Civic Auditorium, Santa Cruz
For more information, visit www.science.santacruz.k12.ca.us/links.html

Synopsis Championship (aka Santa Clara Valley Science and Engineering Fair)
Date: Wednesday, March 17, 2010
Location: San Jose Convention Center, San Jose
For more information, visit www.outreach-foundation.org/judges.html
FUTURE MEETINGS

Jan 29  Photopolymerization Short Course  
        Mountain View, CA  
        www.ggpf.org

Feb 17  Dr. Valery Uhl  
        Benefits of Wine with Dinner  
        Biltmore Hotel, Santa Clara, CA

Feb 27  SCIENCEPALOOZA  
        Santa Clara County Fair Grounds  
        www.outreach-foundation.org

Mar 12-14  Santa Cruz County Science Fair  
            http://science.santacruz.k12.ca.us

Mar 17  Synopsys Silicon Valley Science  
        and Technology Championship  
        San Jose Convention Center  
        www.outreach-foundation.org

Mar 18  Dr. Joseph Castellano  
        High Energy Molecules and Russian Spies

Mar 21-25  Spring National Meeting  
            Chemistry for a Sustainable World  
            San Francisco, CA

May 9-14  Intel International Science and Engineering Fair  
           San Jose Convention Center  
           www.societyforscience.org/ISEF