Annual Wine Tasting, Family Picnic and Awards Ceremony
Ean Warren, Chair

The Section’s summer event is termed a “picnic” but it is quite a bit more. First, it is opportunity to recognize and honor our long-time ACS members. For their entire careers, our members have been at the forefront of scientific discovery, working in labs, classrooms, and offices around the Bay Area and beyond. Their work has contributed to putting humans on the moon, the integrated circuit in the PC, genetic cloning for medical advances, and so much more. They work in clean rooms, wet rooms, and dark rooms; on the Bay’s mudflats, on planes, and aboard ships; in lecture halls and hallways; in offices and boardrooms. We invite our 50-, 60-, 65-, and 70-year members to the summer picnic to honor these pioneers of their fields. The picnic gives them an opportunity to tell us about their accomplishments in their chemistry careers and for us to hear their stories. The event makes for an interesting afternoon of personal successes and historical perspectives.

Another event occurring at the picnic is the wine tasting. This year’s wine is from Hatcher Winery (www.hatcherwinery.com). Located in Murphys, California, Hatcher has been making wine for 12 years. Hatcher sells several different varieties of white and red wine. We expect to have at least two varieties, one red, one white, at the picnic. Our picnic is an opportunity to learn about, discuss, and experience new wines.

Finally, the picnic provides us the opportunity to meet new people and see old friends. A number of years ago, I met a woman who volunteered to help me with field work in Lake Tahoe. I couldn’t have done my research there without her assistance. I personally enjoy talking to the attendees about their research and lives in the Bay Area.

The “picnic” will be on Saturday, July 19.

Connect with Chemists
Meet fellow, local chemists for an early morning coffee
Look for Ean at a table with CH₄ and CO₂ molecular models

Tuesday, June 10th at 7 a.m.
Peet’s Coffee
102 Grand Avenue, South San Francisco

Thursday, June 12th at 7 a.m.
La Boulange
151 University Avenue, Palo Alto

RESERVATION FORM
Annual Wine Tasting, Family Picnic and Awards Ceremony
4:00 p.m. Wine Tasting, 5:30 p.m. Dinner, 7:00 p.m. Awards

Name(s): ______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please list all names so we can make a name tag for every member of your family, including children.

Telephone No.: (__________) ________________________

Number of Adults at $17.00 ................................................................................  ___________  x  $17.00 = $ __________________

Number of Children (age 4-12) at $5.00, kids 3 and under free  ..........................  ___________  x   $5.00 = $ __________________

Total Amount Enclosed .................................................................................................................. $ __________________

Make check payable to: Santa Clara Valley Section – ACS
Mail check and reservation form to: Karl Marhenke, 1710 Wilshire Drive, Aptos, CA 95003-2836
Please check if you can volunteer:  [ ] I can help set-up  [ ] I can help clean-up

continued on next page
Win a Trip to San Francisco in August 2014

How could great science communication win you a trip to San Francisco in August 2014? Do you love talking about chemistry? Are you burning to entertain non-scientists about your cool research? Are you an undergraduate or graduate student (or 2014 alum), postdoc, or pre-tenure faculty member at a U.S. academic institution and an ACS Member? Then check out www.acs.org/chemchamps to learn how a 2-3 min YouTube video could be all that stands between you right now and a free trip to the beginning of the ACS Fall National Meeting in San Francisco.

We look forward to seeing some great videos! But hurry – submissions are due by June 6! For more information, read about Chemistry Champions in C&EN, or email chemchamps@acs.org. Follow Chemistry Champions @AmerChemSociety #chemchamps. Chemistry Champions is a pilot in 2014 under Chemistry Ambassadors www.facebook.com/ChemistryAmbassadors

2014 Outstanding High School Chemistry Students

On April 26th, fifteen of Silicon Valley’s top chemistry students met at Las Positas College in Livermore to compete in the national testing for the 2014 International Chemistry Olympiad. We joined fifteen students from the California Section for a grueling day of exams. The students gave up a beautiful Saturday to spend 6 hours indoors working on problem sets, multiple-choice questions, and the ‘killer’ lab problems.

This year 26 high schools and over 400 students participated in the local standardized exam at their high schools. The top scorers then represented our section in the national exam. Some schools gave the local exam to all of their AP or Honors chemistry classes as a warmup for the AP exam that is given in May. Other schools administer it only to interested students. The ACS national exam, given on the 26th, was sent to national ACS for the ACS Olympic committee to grade. The national committee, composed of about 40 professors and teachers, has over 1,000 exams to grade and compare!

Special thanks goes to George Lechner, Dave Parker, Howard Peters, and Bruce Raby for their help procctoring or organizing the sections’ activity this year.

A very special thank you goes to the high school teachers who make it possible for their students to participate. They gave up personal and classroom time to communicate the program, organize the testing and grade the local exams.

The Santa Clara Valley outstanding high school chemistry students and their teachers are:

- Carlmont High School – Nicholas Hsu – Félix Guzman
- Gunn High School – Audrey Cheng and Justin Folk – Elana Zizmor
- Harker School – Kacey Fang and Varun Mohan – Robbie Korin
- Lynbrook High School – Tony Jiang and Steven Hao – Roy Rocklin
- Palo Alto High School – Ken Chen and Nicolas Quach – Carolina Sylvestri
- Saratoga High School – Yuhan Yang – Kathy Nakamatsu
- St. Francis High School – Timothy Tang – Jennifer Thomas
- Stanford Online High School – Augustine Chempanorthy and Daniel Wallick – Kalee Tock

Additional high schools that participated in the local exam were: Archbishop Mitty, Bellarmine, Cupertino, Fremont, Hillsdale, King’s Academy, Los Altos, Live Oak Academy, Los Gatos, Menlo School, Mercy (Burlingame), Mount Pleasant, Oak Grove, Piedmont Hills, Priory, Sacred Heart, St. Ignatius College Prep, St. Joseph’s, Stanford, Stanford Online High School, and Westmont. Thank you everyone!

If you want to match wits with the students, go to the following ACS website (and no peeking at the answers!) for the 2014 local and national exams: www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/students/highschool/olympiad.html

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**Chemistry Quiz**

What element, present in higher concentrations in meteorites than in the earth’s crust, was the basis for the Alvarez hypothesis explaining the extinction of the dinosaurs?

The answer to last month’s chemistry quiz was: a banana
Science is FUN!
Public Outreach Event
Children’s Creativity Museum
(adjacent to Moscone Center South)
Saturday
August 9th, 2014
10 AM to 2 PM

Bring the whole family, and especially young children, to Moscone Center for a day of science fun and discovery at one of SF’s favorite venues for kids.

Volunteers Needed: Contact Alex Madonik if you would like to help out with hands-on activities: alexmadonik@sonic.net 510-872-0528
FUTURE MEETINGS

Jun 10  Café Scientifique Silicon Valley
“Can Hydraulic Fracturing Provide a Bridge to a Green Energy Future?”
Mark Zoback

Jun 10  Connect With Chemists
Meet Fellow Bay Area Chemists
Peet’s Coffee, South San Francisco

Jun 12  Connect With Chemists
Meet Fellow Bay Area Chemists
La Boulange, Palo Alto

Jun 17-19  Annual Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference
North Bethesda, MD
www.gcande.org

Seattle, WA

Jul 19  Annual Wine Tasting, Picnic and Awards Ceremony
Stanford Chemistry Department
Stanford, CA

Aug 10-14  248th American Chemical Society National Meeting
San Francisco, CA