



Upcoming Events Feature Annual Picnic & Chemist of the Year Reception

The end of May and the beginning of June will be a busy time for the Richland Section as two member activities are planned

The first up will be the annual picnic on **Friday, May 30, 2003**. As has been the case the last few years, the picnic will be co-sponsored with the local section of the American Institute of Chemical Engineers. Be sure to come and bring the family. The picnic will be held in Leslie Groves Park, at the pavilion at the end of Park Street in Richland. Grilling will start at 5:30. Hamburgers and all the fixings, as well as drinks will be provided. Please bring a dessert or side dish to share. A map showing Leslie Groves Park may be found at <http://www.pnl.gov/acs/lesliegroves.html>



This year's picnic, like last year's, will have a Hawaiian theme. If you wish, wear a colorful shirt, lei, etc.



**Chemist of the Year
2002
John Swanson**

American Chemical Society, Richland Section "Chemist of the Year" Award Symposium to honor John Swanson

The "Chemist of the Year" reception in honor of John Swanson will be held on **Tuesday June 3, 2003**, at the Columbia River Exhibition of History, Science, and Technology (CREHST) museum in Richland. A social-wine-hors d'oeuvre hour and self guided tour of the CREHST museum will start at 5 PM. The award symposium and other activities will run from 6 to 8 PM, downstairs in the CREHST museum.

The award symposium will consist of a poster session highlighting John's technical contributions. Many of John's associates from the Hanford site will be presenting posters of their work, which was impacted by John's contributions. In addition, the Eastern Oregon University student affiliate section will present technical posters and a traveling exhibit on loan from the Chemical Heritage Foundation will be on display.

John Swanson, the 2002 recipient of the American Chemical Society, Richland Section, "Chemist of the Year" award, is being honored for his distinguished scientific career and service to the chemical community at Hanford. In 1951, after graduating from Reed College with a BA in Chemistry, John accepted a position at the Hanford Site. For almost 50 years, John made notable contributions to the field of actinide chemistry. During the course of his career

at Hanford, he contributed to the field of actinide separations in two main development areas. They are:

Improvements to the PUREX process for the recovery and purification of uranium and plutonium from spent nuclear fuel and

Strategies and processes for separating actinide elements from bulk nonradioactive components of wastes generated at Hanford and elsewhere during DOE defense efforts. His work in developing the TRUEX process and the Clean Option are especially noteworthy.

The symposium will also feature students from the Eastern Oregon University's ACS student affiliate. The students will be on hand to discuss posters of their research. These posters were recently presented at the Spring 2003, National ACS Meeting held in New Orleans, LA. In all, 14 students will be displaying and discussing their technical accomplishments.

Also on display at the reception, a traveling exhibit on loan to the Richland Section from the Chemical Heritage Foundation will discuss the theme: SCALING UP: Science, Engineering, and the American Chemical Industry. "Scaling Up" pays tribute to the chemists, engineers, and industrialists who transform laboratory reactions into large-scale production facilities. The ability to synthesize new compounds and to manufacture them in massive quantities is a hallmark of our age—and one with significant consequences for fields as diverse as medicine, electronics, and automobile manufacturing.

As we honor John for his contributions, we are also looking ahead toward the 2003 "Chemist of the Year". It is not too late to make a nomination. If you are interested in making a nomination, please contact Sam Bryan at (509) 376-6949, or sam.bryan@pnl.gov.

International Chemistry Olympiad

Local Students Compete to Represent the United States

The Regional competition of the International Chemistry Olympiad was held at Columbia Basin Community College on Saturday, April 26. Eight high school students of the 247 who took a preliminary exam earlier in the year qualified to sit for the National Examination. The National Examination consists of three timed sections: a single-answer multiple-choice question section, a problem-solving and explanation section, and a laboratory practical. Students began at 8:00 a.m. and completed their exams at 3:00 p.m. This examination was taken by chemistry students across the nation on the same date. Students and schools representing the Richland Section were:

Wesley Gray	Kamiakin High School
Benjamin Cowan	Southridge High School
Christopher Carlson	Southridge High School
Craig Weidert	Kennewick High School
Jerry Oelerich	Kennewick High School
Adam Blonberg	Kamiakin High School
Hanna Born	A.C. Davis High School, Yakima
Joshua Barr	Sunnyside High School

The contest answer sheets and blue books have been mailed to the American Chemical Society Headquarters for scoring. The results should be known by late-May. Students who achieve the top twenty scores in the United States will be invited to attend the National Chemistry Camp at the United States Air Force Academy. The top four students at the two-week chemistry camp will be invited to attend the International Chemistry Olympiad competition in Athens, Greece, July 4-15.

The Regional competition is sponsored each year by the Richland Section. Special thanks should be given to volunteers Royace Aikin and Ron Sothern for working to put on the competition.

Jeopardy Answer #3

The synthesis of this organometallic iron complex has become a very popular experiment for inorganic laboratory courses. It is used as a fuel additive and a catalyst, but it also has current and potential biomedical, nanotechnology, and electronics applications.

Arbor Day Celebration



Richland Section Celebrates Arbor Day

Scouts (from left) Nat Kruger, Sean Leistritz, and Rachel Gardner help plant a "ChemisTREE" in Jason Lee Park in Richland. The tree was donated to the city by the Richland Section to celebrate Arbor Day. The scouts are supervised by the watchful eye of city arborist Terry Deines. All three scouts earned the chemistry merit badge during Section sponsored training last fall.

Student Chemists

Eastern Oregon University Affiliate Wraps Up a Busy Year

As reported in the last newsletter, eighteen students and a faculty advisor attended the ACS national meeting in New Orleans in March. The student affiliate chapter received an outstanding award for the chapter activities in 2001-2002. In addition, ten research posters were presented in the areas of analytical, organic, physical, and computational chemistry.

Once home, the students, along with members of the Richland section Women & Minority Affairs Committee, participated at a Math and Science Carnival on April 12 at the Umatilla Indian Reservation in Mission, OR. On April 18 the students affiliates traveled to Haines, OR, a very small town close to Baker City. They performed hands-on activities around the theme of chemistry and art and also a magic show for the elementary school children. On April 25 the club performed one more magic show for home schooled children across six counties in Oregon. The magic show was held at the 4-H center in La Grande.

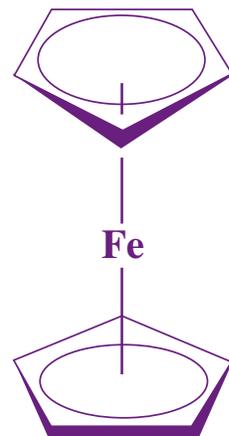
The students and their research posters will be at the Chemist of the Year reception at the CREHST on **Tuesday, June 3, 2003**. Being able to meet these talented and hard working students is another great reason to attend this member function!



Students Mandy Conrad, Torri Wood, Carl Fahlstrom, and faculty advisor Anna Cavinato participate in a Chem Demo exchange at the National meeting in New Orleans.

Jeopardy Question #3

What is Ferrocene?



EOU student Carl Fahlstrom entertains home schooled children with a reaction between sucrose and sulfuric acid.

National ACS Vote

I am happy to report to you that you will be voting on one of the most significant issues that has arisen in the ACS in my tenure as councilor. This issue will affect your local section, the Richland Section, as well as any division in which you may be a member. The issue passed the ACS council with a membership of about 400 members with only three votes to the negative. Here is the issue:

There are more than thirty divisions, examples are the Inorganic Division, Physical Division, Biochemistry Division, Organic Division, Division of Chemical Education, etc. The proposal that you will vote on in May or June from the ACS national office will be to fund the divisions and local sections to a larger degree. With these additional funds, the divisions can increase their programming at the national level as well as increase programming at the regional ACS meetings. The local sections will receive increases in their annual allotment and use these funds to increase their activities in the local area.

Increases in funding to divisions and local sections cannot occur without increasing the income of the Society especially in these economic times. The

Board of Directors of the ACS gave notice that a \$2.00 surcharge will be made on each member if the vote of the membership of the Society passes by a 2/3 affirmative vote. The following year it will be a \$4.00 increase. This rate of increase will last for four years and then be eliminated. Compared to the dues we currently pay, it is a small increase for the ultimate benefit we will receive in divisions and local sections. If you have any questions about this issue, please feel free to contact me at rhermens@granderonde.com.

As your councilor, I strongly encourage you to vote FOR the measure.

Richard Hermens
Councilor, Richland Section

(Editor's Note: Additional information concerning this issue can be found in the April 28, 2003, issue of Chemical and Engineering News.)

Hail & Farewell

It is a pleasure to welcome many new members since the last newsletter. They are: **Aruna Arakali, Mary Bliss, Kiran Boggavarapu, Greg Coffey, Richard Daley, Gary Dewinkle, William Deutsch, Do Heui Kim, Jane LePage, Loren Lund, Kathleen Mcateer, Abel Mendoza, Richard Ozanich, Eric Pierce, Gail Ristow, William Slovinsky, Dayle Smith, Elizabeth Tomaszewska, Vicki Welch, John Zachara, Hai Feng Zhang.** We hope to see you all at an upcoming section event.

We wish departing members **Mudan Chow, Michael Goshe, David Monk, Lyle Mudge, and Ronald Walters** the best of luck in their future endeavors.

Member Benefit

To help chemists master the basics of intellectual property protection, the ACS Committee on Patents and Related Matters has released the printed version of the recently updated booklet, "What Every Chemist Should Know about Patents." The booklet introduces important topics such as the basis for U.S. patent rights, an overview of the U.S. patenting process, how to obtain a patent, and how to extend patent protection to other countries.

Copies are available through the ACS Office of Society Services by calling 800-227-5558. The first copy is free, and additional copies are \$5 per copy. The booklet is also available on the ACS Office of Legislative & Government Affairs Web site at <http://www.chemistry.org/government/patentprimer.pdf>

Coming Events

May 30

Annual Picnic, Joint Activity with American Institute of Chemical Engineers

June 3

Chemist of the Year Reception and Traveling Chemical Exhibit

June 12-14

Northwest Regional Meeting (NORM) Bozeman, Montana

October

Yorke Rhodes, *Astrochemistry: The Evolution of Organic Molecules in Interstellar Clouds*

October 19-25

National Chemistry Week

November

Reception for 50 Year Members

**Richland Section
Home Page**

www.pnl.gov/acs/



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Point To Ponder

Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. —Margaret Mead