

THE CAPITAL CHEMIST



A Publication of the Chemical Society of Washington Section of the American Chemical Society

Message from the President

Contributed by Dennis Chamot, CSW President

At the time this is being written (mid-March), it is still unsettled as to who will be the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates in November. What can be said, though, is that the process for choosing the candidates has been rough, very expensive, and occasionally, embarrassing to our national image around the world. Much can be done to improve the process.

Far less is at stake in ACS presidential elections, but here, too, the process can be improved. As a candidate for national president a few years ago, I got a good look at how things are going these days. Considering that this is mostly an honorary position with little real power (the business side of this half billion dollar organization is run by the professional staff with oversight by the Board of Directors, and the president is only one out of 15 voting members on the Board), the hoops one has to jump through, and the vast effort that needs to be expended today to campaign and get elected has become a real turn-off to many highly qualified people who choose not to bother.

The national Committee on Nominations and Elections has received many comments and complaints about how things have developed over the years, and I am pleased to see that they have created a task force to look into all aspects of ACS elections. I have been invited to serve on the task force, as one who is very familiar with the process, both as a long-time observer as well as a direct participant. If you have any thoughts on this subject, whether it be on national ACS elections or local CSW elections, I would like to hear from you. Just send a note to dennischamot@yahoo.com.

On another subject entirely, I am very pleased to note that the April CSW member meeting will be devoted to chemistry, and in particular, to honoring the latest winner of the CSW Hillebrand Award (see details elsewhere in this issue). This is the highest honor the Section bestows for scientific achievement. Come out and leave the politics behind for at least one evening, and enjoy the beauty of chemistry.

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- Learn more about Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) and the Illustrated Poem contest
- The Chemathon will take place on 4/30

4th USA Science & Engineering Festival: 4/16-17

The USA Science & Engineering Festival will take place April 16-17, 2016 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. The mission of the Science & Engineering Festival is to re-invigorate the interest of our nation's youth in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) by producing and presenting the most compelling, exciting, educational, and entertaining science festival in the United States. The American Chemical Society will once again be a sponsor and exhibitor at this event. The Chemical Society of Washington will be partnering with ACS by providing volunteers to help man the booth and to assist with hands on activities for the children. If you are interested in volunteering for the festival, please contact Kim Morehouse via email at kim.morehouse@fda.hhs.gov. Additional information about the Festival can be found on their website (<http://www.usasciencefestival.org/>).



Hillebrand Prize Recipient Stephen A. Wise to Speak at April Meeting

On April 26, 2016 Dr. Stephen A. Wise, Senior Analytical Chemist and Program Coordinator for Food and Nutrition within the Chemical Sciences Division of NIST, will receive the 2015 Hillebrand Prize and be the featured speaker for the evening. Logistical details can be found on the next page.

The selection of the recipient of the Hillebrand prize, the highest award given by CSW, is difficult due to the fact that all nominees have an extensive record of publications and other research accomplishments in wide-ranging areas of the chemical sciences. This year's recipient, Dr. Stephen A. Wise, of NIST has over 200 peer-reviewed publications and over 80 book chapters. Eight of his papers have been cited over 200 times and 18 over 100 times. This is a record not matched by many well-known analytical chemists. In addition to his outstanding publication record, Dr. Wise has helped shape his field as Chair of the Analytical Division of ACS, President of the International Society for Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons, Editor for *Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry*, Topical Editor for *Analytical Separation Techniques for Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds*, and service on the Editorial Board of *Accreditation and Quality Assurance*. Dr. Wise has received numerous awards in recognition of his scientific contribution. These include the 2001 Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbon Research Award of the International Society of Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds (ISPAC), the 2006 Harvey W. Wiley Award from AOAC International, and the 2014 Reference Material Achievement Award from the Technical Division on Reference Materials of AOAC International. In 2013, he was selected as a Fellow of the American Chemical Society. For his achievements at NIST, he was recognized with the Department of Commerce Bronze Medal Award (1989) and Silver Medal Award (2008). Dr. Wise has made significant contributions to many aspects of analytical chemistry, including a landmark publication relating that the retention of polyaromatic hydrocarbons on reversed phase LC columns was correlated with the shape of the molecules.

Dr. Stephen A. Wise recently retired from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, Maryland after 40 years of government service. He is currently a scientific consultant for the Office of Dietary Supplements at the National Institutes of Health (NIH-ODS) in Bethesda, Maryland. He received a B.A. in Chemistry from Weber State University and a Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry from Arizona State University. He began his career at the National Bureau of Standards (NBS), now NIST, in 1976 as a research chemist involved in the development of liquid chromatographic methods for determination of trace organic constituents. Dr. Wise's research efforts have focused on (1) development of chromatographic methods for the determination of organic contaminants (e.g., polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), polychlorinated biphenyls, and chlorinated pesticides) in environmental matrices such as sediment, tissue, and air particulate matter; (2) development of Standard Reference Materials (SRMs) for trace organic constituents in environmental, clinical, food, and dietary supplement matrices; (3) investigations of chromatographic separation mechanisms and chromatographic selectivity for PAHs and related compounds; and (4) development and implementation environmental specimen banking procedures.

Throughout his career at NIST, Dr. Wise interacted extensively with other federal government agencies, including the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), through interagency agreements to develop SRMs to support the regulatory needs of these government agencies. From 2002 until his retirement, he was responsible for managing a significant collaboration between NIST and NIH-ODS to develop analytical methods and reference materials for nutrients and/or active constituents in dietary supplements and for nutritional assessment markers in human serum and food.

April Dinner Meeting Details

Date: Tuesday, April 26, 2016

Time: 6:00 p.m. Check-in and social hour

6:30 p.m. Dinner

7:15 p.m. Hillebrand Presentation

Cost: \$28 (Members and Guests); \$14 (Students)

Location: ACS Headquarters, Marvel Hall

1155 16 St., N.W., Washington, DC

Menu: Meal will be catered by M.K. Catering, serving Tuscan Roulade (flank steak stuffed w/spinach mushrooms) and roasted garlic potato puree with salad, bread, and gourmet cupcakes. Vegetarian option: Eggplant Parmesan.

RSVP by noon on Friday, April 22, 2016, to csw@acs.org or by phone at 202-659-2650. Please provide the names in your party when you RSVP. The public is invited to attend. You may attend the talk only, but reservations are appreciated. Those who make a reservation, but are unable to attend, should send a check for the cost of their meal to the CSW office.

Further details and directions can be found on the Capital Chemist website, <http://www.capitalchemist.org>.

If you need any further information or would like to make a reservation, please contact the CSW office by email at csw@acs.org or by voicemail at 202.659.2650.

Parking: Parking is available in nearby commercial parking garages. Please be aware that garage closing times vary. Parking is also available on the street after 6:30 pm, but be aware that most parking meters are in effect until 10:00 pm and may be limited to 2 hours. You should check the individual meters for details and payment methods as some are no longer coin-operated.

Metro: Blue/Orange/Silver Line: McPherson Square or Farragut West. Red Line: Farragut North.

March Dinner Meeting Photos

CSW Past-President Alan Anderson presented the Gordon and Schubert awardees with their certificates at the March dinner meeting. From left to right: Jennifer Young Tanir accepts the Gordon Award, Tiffany Ann Reid Reddinger accepts the Schubert Award, and Brita Johannessen-Kluk accepts the Schubert Award.



83rd Retired Chemists Group Luncheon

Wednesday, May 11, 2016
Alfio's La Tratoria Restaurant
4515 Willard Ave., Chevy Chase, MD

Social: (no- host bar): 11:30 am – 12:00 noon
Lunch: 12:00 – 1:00 pm
Speaker: 1:15 – 2:00 pm

Speaker: Robert Luskin, Attorney

Subject: "What do Lance Armstrong and Karl Rove have in Common?"

Abstract

From Abscam to Benghazi, every few years, Washington falls victim to scandal derangement syndrome, with obsessive, 24/7 coverage of whatever has captured the imagination. Mr. Luskin will discuss modern Washington scandals and talk about what they have in common, their relationship to the political process, and how the criminal justice does (and does not) manage to handle the challenges they pose to fairness and justice.

Speaker Biography

Robert Luskin is one of the best-known and most highly-regarded lawyers in Washington, DC. First in government service and later in private practice, he has played a leading role in virtually every high profile US criminal case over the last three decades.

Mr. Luskin has represented senior advisors to both Republican and Democratic Presidents, cabinet secretaries, federal judges, and congressmen, as well as leading multi-national corporations.

A graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School, he was a doctoral candidate in English Literature at Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. Mr. Luskin teaches Global Anti-Corruption at Georgetown University as an Adjunct Professor of Law, and was formerly a Lecturer in Law at the University of Virginia.



Luncheon Information

Menu choices: (1) Chicken Dorati, (2) Veal Piccata, (3) Veal Parmigiana, (4) Broiled Filet of Flounder, (5) Eggplant Parmigiana. Your entrée selection will be served with house salad, bread, beverage, and dessert. Cost: \$27.00

Reservations: Please send your menu selection(s) and names of those in your party, along with a check made out to Retired Chemists Group, for \$27 per meal to Dr. Jerome McDonald, 19636 Olney Mill Road, Brookeville, MD 20833 (Tel: 301-570-4865) **to be received by Friday, May 6, 2016.**

Alfio's LaTratoria has free valet parking and the Friendship Heights Metro Station is within walking distance.

Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED)

Earth Day was first officially recognized on April 22, 1970 as a way to demonstrate support for a healthy environment, raise awareness about environmental issues, and remind

people that we all need to contribute to a sustainable planet. For years, chemists have been promoting a better world through recyclable plastics, cleaner-burning fuels, phosphate-free detergents, environmental monitoring, and green chemistry initiatives. The American Chemical Society joined the Earth Day celebration on April 22, 2003.

The Great Indoors – Your Home's Ecosystem



The Chemical Society of Washington (CSW) will once again participate in Chemists Celebrate Earth Day (CCED) activities. Chemistry is all around us and is vital to our planet's sustainability. Whether it's used in recyclable and biodegradable materials or through the reduction of waste, chemistry is involved in ensuring that we can be eco-friendly and kind to our environment. CCED seeks to bring international focus to environmental causes, such as clean air, water, and energy. ACS offers events, contests, and educational resources for members, chemical educators, and chemistry enthusiasts to illustrate the positive role that chemistry plays in preserving the Earth. The CCED 2016 theme is "The Great Indoors--Your Home's Ecosystem!" This year's theme investigates indoor air and the role chemistry plays in the home ecosystem. The electronic version of the Celebrating Chemistry newsletter for CCED as well as additional information about this year's CCED celebration is available from the ACS website (www.acs.org/earthday).

CSW, in conjunction with the Chemistry Department at Montgomery College, Rockville Campus will participate in Rockville Science Day on Sunday, April 24, 2016. Rockville Science Day is open to the general public and CSW encourages you to attend. Rockville Science Day is intended to provide a friendly environment for students and their parents to participate in some hands on demonstrations and to learn more about how science and engineering are important to our society. There will be more than 70 exhibitors with hands on activities. Additional information about Rockville Science Day can be found on their website (www.rockvillescience.org/rcsday.html).

This event will be co-sponsored by the CSW Outreach Committee and the CSW Environmental/Sustainability Committee. Volunteers from CSW will be providing hands on activities for children who attend the event as a part of CSW's participation in CCED. Volunteers will also hand out copies of the Celebrating Chemistry publication for CCED, and various CCED themed products. If you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact the CSW CCED coordinator, Kim Morehouse (Kim.Morehouse@fda.hhs.gov).

CCED Illustrated Poem Contest

As part of the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day activities, the American Chemical Society is sponsoring an illustrated poem contest for students in Kindergarten through 12 grades. Students are asked to write and illustrate a poem using the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day 2016 theme, "The Great Indoors—Your Home's Ecosystem!" The illustrated poems should relate to indoor air, water, indoor plants, mold and odor eliminators. Detailed rules and guidelines are available on the Chemists Celebrate Earth Day website; www.acs.org/earthday. All Entries must provide the information that the ACS request via the entry form which is available via the ACS or CSW websites. Teachers at schools in the Chemical Society of Washington area are encourage to have a contest at their school and then submit the winning entries from the school to:

Chemist Celebrate Earth Day Coordinator

Chemical Society of Washington

1155 16th Street, NW, Stop O-218

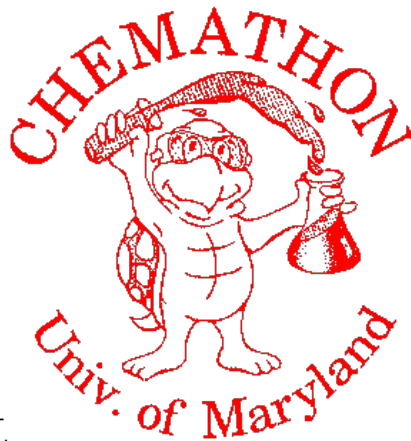
Washington, DC 20036

Electronic submissions should be sent to: Kim.Morehouse@FDA.HHS.GOV

All entries must be received by Monday, April 25, 2016 so winners at the local section level can be submitted to the ACS by Friday April 29, 2016.

31st Annual Chemathon To Take Place 4/30

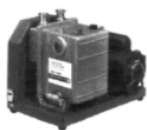
The Thirty-first Annual Chemathon will take place on Saturday, April 30, 2016. The Chemathon is an annual chemistry competition for high school chemistry students in Maryland, Northern Virginia, and the District of Columbia. The Chemathon competition is organized by a committee of area high school chemistry teachers and chemists, and is hosted by the Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at the University of Maryland at College Park. The Chemathon is open to all area high schools who would like to participate. There are two competitive tracks; Level I: for students who have not taken and are not currently taking AP Chemistry or IB Chemistry and have not previously participated in Chemathon, and Level II: aimed at students at the AP and/or IB level as well as previous contestants. The theme for the posters this year is "The Chemistry of Global Infectious Diseases and Their Treatments and Cures." There is no entry or registration fee. If you are a high school chemistry teacher and would like to have your students participate in this event, please see the Chemathon website for information on how to register your school (<http://www2.chem.umd.edu/chemathon/>).



The Chemical Society of Washington will once again be a sponsor of this event. Volunteers are needed to help judge the poster contest as well as to assist with some of the activities that the students will be competing in. If you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact Kim Morehouse via email at kim.morehouse@fda.hhs.gov.

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Capital Chemist Staff

Voice: 202-659-2650

Email: thecapitalchemist@gmail.com

Twitter: @CapitalChemist

Chair, Publications

Dennis Chamot

Editor, Business Manager

Jessica L. Rasmussen

Publisher

Chemical Society of Washington

Advertising Manager

MBO Services

PO Box 1150, Marshfield, MA 02050

Vince Gale, Advertising Manager

vincegale@mboservices.net

781-837-0424 voice

CSW Correspondence

CSW, 1155 16th Street, NW, O-218

Washington, DC 20036

202-659-2650 voice

email: csw@acs.org

<http://csw.sites.acs.org>

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CSW Calendar of Events

April

4/16-17: USA Science & Engineering Festival

4/24: Rockville Science Day

4/25: CCED Illustrated Poem Contest Deadline

4/26: April CSW Meeting

4/27: MARM Acceptance Notices Sent

4/30: Chemathon

May

5/16: CSW Board Meeting

June

6/9-6/12: MARM

September

9/12: CSW Board Meeting

November

11/21: CSW Board Meeting