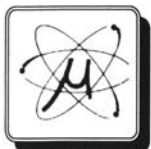




The Minnesota CHEMIST



November 2008



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For rate information, contact: Heather Sklenicka, (507) 288-2772,

hms@cloudnet.com.

MN ACS Holiday Social

Date: Tuesday, 12/16/08

Location: Degidio's, 425 7th St W, St Paul, MN 55102

Map/Info: <http://www.degidios.com/maps.asp>

Full Italian Buffet, Door prizes,

Cash Bar, FUN!

Cost: \$10

RSVP by COB 12/10/08

Online RSVP at www.mnacs.org (Available 11/24/08)

-Or-

email MN ACS Chair at: chair@mnacs.org

-Or-

leave a detailed message at 651-795-6615.

THE MINNESOTA CHEMIST

Official Publication of the Minnesota Section of the American Chemical Society

(ISSN 0026-5416)

VOLUME LXI

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Cover Photo: Photo courtesy of Carol Bosse'

– Editor's Page

Have you ever noticed, that the busier you become, the more effective you get? I sure have.

I m in the middle of a snowstorm (perhaps too soon to use that word....) of activity recently. My sister will have a baby soon. I am planning a wedding. My company is adapting and changing with the rapidly moving economy and repercussions therein. It is nearing the end of the year, and year end goals are needing to be finished and accounted and documented accordingly. The garden needs winter preparations; not to mention the house.

In the midst of all of this activity, it seems that these are the times that bring me a true clarity of focus. I am able to see what true priorities are. I can start to worry less about the small

Senior Chemists Meeting

Come join our ACS Senior Chemists Group on Thursday, November 13th at 12:30 p.m. in the Dining Room at Concordia College in St. Paul Midway. Concordia College is on the southeast corner of I-94 and Hamline Avenue. Parking is usually available on Concordia Avenue, just north of the student cafeteria or in the adjacent north parking lot.

For information, call
Lyle Hall at (651) 647-0611
or (651) 231-3968
or John Ring at (651) 645-4350.

THE MINNESOTA CHEMIST is published by the Minnesota Section of the American Chemical Society monthly except June, July, August and December for a total of 8 issues per year. Business office: P.O. Box 16562, St. Paul, MN 55116. Printing: Sexton Printing, Inc., W. St. Paul. Subscription price: \$6.00 per year, included in dues paid by Minnesota Section Members. The Minnesota Section is not responsible for the opinions expressed herein. The Editorial Staff is responsible for all unsigned articles. Periodicals postage paid at St. Paul, Minnesota. Publication #32490.

ACS Minnesota Section Upcoming Events Calendar

November 13th, 2008

November monthly meeting:

Century College, White Bear Lake MN
Shawn Lawrence Otto: The Top 14 Science Questions Facing America / Where Do We Go From Here?

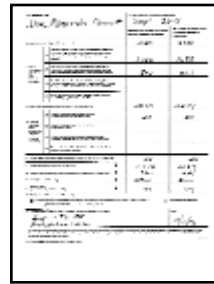
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details that seemed previously urgent. I think that some of this comes from surrounding myself with energizing and upbeat people. Seeing the many things that they endeavor to accomplish in their professional and personal lives is invigorating!

I read a book recently that focused on using a positive mental attitude to achieve your goals. I poo-pooed the book as trite and pop psychologybut some of the ideas intrigued me. As a scientist (deep down), I thought, what could a little experiment hurt? After implementing a few of the techniques, silently, and without telling anyone of what I was doing, I could see differences. I felt more energized, more able to accomplish my day to day tasks, better able to take on new and challenging projects and overall, I was happier!

So, I suppose I have no one to blame but myself. Surrounding yourself with winners means you will be inclined to do more too. Maintaining a positive mental attitude means you will be inclined to do more. I'd best sharpen my pencil, and get to making more checks on the great to do list of life!

--ntm



The Minnesota Chemist is required by the USPS to print these forms yearly.

Views expressed on this page are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Minnesota Section of the ACS.

A Note from Rich Walsh, Chair ...

I would like to write to inform everyone in the section that receives AND reads the MN Chemist of recent goings-on in your local chapter. Note these are not mutually inclusive qualities; if you are reading this, please pass it along or point it out to someone you suspect may be a recipient but not be a regular reader and encourage them to read it. I know I have a few people in mind!

First and foremost, 2008 has been a year of infrastructure rebuilding for the MN Section. In January, I laid out my plans for my tenure, and tried to reassure the bedrock members of our chapter that I had a vision to expand the opportunities and capabilities of our chapter, but that we needed to upgrade our electronic organization to increase efficiency in performing the routine duties of the chapter. If we are faster at conducting the "routine" things in our volunteer duties (e.g. event planning, RSVP-taking, etc.), we will have more time to promote our mission, and, ideally, reach more members and potential members.

What were the goals? In no particular order:

1. Mnacs.org Website Makeover
2. MN Chemist - Option Electronic/Print
3. Improve Local Chapter Professional Development

What have we accomplished? Thanks to our Chair-Elect, Dave Blackburn, we have completed number 1, and hopefully you have noticed. In addition to expanding capabilities for updates, we now have the capability to RSVP and pay for dinner in advance of attending a meeting. In the past, we typically had up to 10% of RSVPs not show up; this costs the entire section, as the bill for dinner always reflects the number we reported would attend, not the number that actually attend. At \$15/plate or more, this adds up!

Goal #2. We will be improving our ability to publish the MN Chemist electronically, and ideally offer this as an option in the near future. Note that C&E News is moving towards an electronic option as well. The cost to get the MN Chemist to you in print is currently about \$18,000/year. Potentially, the cost savings are tremendous. The survey in the spring, however, indicated that half want electronic, half want print. Perhaps knowing the cost, opinions may change.

Goal #3. Kim McKimmy has identified with jump-starting this goal. This will be a work in progress, but throughout the year Kim has repeatedly brought great ideas to the table, and I look forward to continued development as a result of her efforts.

In closing, I can not stress enough the value and importance of our volunteers. Our volunteer core is strong and dedicated, but they can always use help. If you are wondering how to participate in your local ACS chapter, come to a meeting - you might be surprised at what you find and who you meet. I look forward to meeting you in person!

Richard Walsh
MN Section Chair, 2008

Why Take an ACS Webcast Short Course?

Few companies are immune from the economic hardships in the headlines and many budgets have been trimmed. But it is still crucial to your career to engage in continuing education to expand your skills and stay abreast of new topics. So save your time and money and take a look at the courses available online through the American Chemical Society. ACS offers a wide variety of webcast short courses and our fall schedule is open for registration now.

ACS courses are well-respected throughout the industry. ACS Webcast Short Courses provide the same quality training that ACS has long been known for, but, because the courses are presented over the Internet, they offer added convenience and flexibility.

Small Class Sizes and In-Depth Personal Attention The average class has 12 participants, and our instructors are available by email in-between sessions so you will have ALL your questions answered.

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More Application Time Instead of getting all the information in a few days, you have time between sessions to apply what you've learned and come back to class with your burning questions. Overall, an extended learning schedule means more impact for you.

There are expanded course offerings in analytical, organic, pharmacology, engineering, instrumentation, and other areas. For the full list of Webcast Short Courses and more information on available discounts, visit www.acs.org/webcourses.

Please Verify Contact Information

ACS has recently upgraded its member database. Please take a moment to review your contact information included with this or any other communications that you receive from ACS (The Minnesota Chemist receives its list directly from National ACS) to verify that it is correct.

To help maintain the integrity of our roster files please report any changes to service@acs.org. Please be sure to include your Member ID along with any changes that you report.

779th Meeting of the American Chemical Society Minnesota Section
Thursday, November 13th, 2008
Century College, White Bear Lake MN

Shawn Lawrence Otto:
The Top 14 Science Questions Facing
America / Where Do We Go From Here?



Abstract: Science Debate 2008 supporters include dozens of Nobel laureates, policymakers from Newt Gingrich to Bart Gordon, leading business CEOs, over a hundred university presidents, and nearly all of the major American science and engineering organizations, as well as 39,000 scientists and engineers. These signers submitted over 3,400 questions for the candidates for president. Science Debate worked with other organizations (including the American Chemical Society) to cull these down to "The 14 top science questions facing America." The group received answers from both Senators McCain and Obama, which are online at www.sciencedebate2008.com.

Mr. Otto will tell the story of Science Debate 2008 initiative and the overwhelming response to it, including how the questions were developed and the candidate responses. His remarks will also cover how this initiative met at the juncture between science, policy, the media and the public. Since this speaking event is post-election, he will also address "Where do we go from here?" with regard to the top science questions facing America.

Biography: Shawn Lawrence Otto is a screenwriter, political strategist, self-described science lover (he studied physics, psychology and neuroscience in college) and cofounder and CEO of Science Debate 2008, the national initiative working to elevate science and technology issues in the presidential election, and going forward, in other federal races.

Shawn was also co-chair of the recent national conference on science policy at the Center for Science, Technology and Public Policy at the University of Minnesota, featuring keynotes by Ira Flatow (Host of Science Friday, National Public Radio) and Minnesota native and chemistry laureate Peter Agre.

Meeting Date: Thursday, November 13th, 2008

Meeting Location: Century College, 3300 Century Avenue, White Bear Lake, MN.

Meeting Schedule:

Executive meeting: 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm in Room 2854, East Campus (new Science/Library Building)

Dinner: 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the Foyer outside Room 2854, East Campus (new Science/Library Building)

Presentation: 7:30 pm in Room 2862, East Campus (new Science/Library Building)

Dinner: A buffet dinner of chicken breast in mushroom sherry cream sauce with new potatoes, vegetables, bread, and assorted cookies and bars. Vegetarian Option available. If making reservation through PayPal, please choose which type of dinner desired. If making reservation for Pay at the Door, please indicate which type of dinner desired in comments ("Meat" or "Vege").

Cost: Either Advance Payment OR Payment at the Door requires a Reservation. \$16 advance RSVP via PayPal online at www.mnacs.org/meetings/nov2008.html, or \$18 at the door. NEW! STUDENT RATE: \$10 advance RSVP via PayPal online at www.mnacs.org/meetings/nov2008.html, or \$12 at the door.

Reservations: Register online at <http://www.mnacs.org/meetings/nov2008meeting.html> or leave a detailed message at 651-779-3487 or email to joann.pfeiffer@century.edu by COB Friday, Nov 7.

Directions / Parking:

Take Century Ave north from I694 in the northeast metro. At the third stop light (just under the Century footbridge), make a right turn onto Century College's East Campus. The first right and right will take you into the new parking lot next to the new Science/Library building. (Parking is free in any lot on campus.) Upon entering the breezeway connecting the new building to the old one, go through the doors on your right and up the stairs on your right to the second floor.

779th Meeting of the American Chemical Society Minnesota Section
Thursday, November 13th, 2008
Century College, White Bear Lake MN

Reservations due
November 7, 2008
See page 11 for details

The Minnesota
Chemist



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OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

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