



**AMERICAN CHEMICAL
SOCIETY**

PERMIAN BASIN SECTION

Newsletter

Volume 9, Number 3

September, 2016



Letter from the Chair

Hope all of you had a good summer. Summer break seems to be getting shorter each year or perhaps classes are starting earlier.

We held a summer social this year to provide an informal opportunity for the members of the section to gather. Although a small group attended, we had a good time visiting and networking. Thanks to Adam Alman and Ray Still for making the trek down from Midland. Let me know whether you would like to continue a summer get-together.

We will be holding our annual election in November. If you are interested in running for chair-elect for 2017, let us know. If you have any questions about any of the board positions, please do not hesitate in contacting us. As always, our contact information may be found at the end of the newsletter.

Highlights from the Fall ACS meeting in Philadelphia are reported in the Councilor Corner. The full Councilor's report may be found on the Permian Basin website <http://permianbasin.sites.acs.org/>

Feel free to contact me if you have any suggestions or comments.

Dr. Kathryn Louie
klouie@suddenlink.net

Councilor Corner

1. Philadelphia Meeting Attendance: a total attendance of 12,800 as of Tuesday evening, August 23.

2. **Change in Local Section Territory**
On the recommendation of the Committee on Local Section Activities, the Council approved a petition from the Permian Basin Local Section to annex the Texas counties of Pecos and Brewster. The Committee also approved a petition from the Upper Peninsula Local Section to annex unassigned and adjacent territory, as well as one Michigan county (Menominee) now currently assigned to the Northwest Wisconsin Local Section.
3. On the recommendation of the Society Committee on Budget and Finance, the Board of Directors voted to approve the advance member registration fee of \$445 for national meetings held in 2017.
4. **Special Discussion**
The Council conducted a special discussion to gather input on proposed recommendations from the ACS Presidential Task Force on the U.S. Employment of Chemists. The task force has been examining and considering all known influences that can impact employment in the chemical sciences. Councilors were invited to share their thoughts, comments, and suggestions on the proposed suggestions to date, in preparation for the report's expected release later this year.

A detailed Councilor report may be found on the website <http://permianbasin.sites.acs.org/>

Upcoming National and Regional Meetings and Programs

253rd ACS National Meeting & Exposition – Spring 2017
San Francisco, CA
April 2-6, 2017
Theme: Advanced Materials, Technologies, Systems & Processes



72nd Annual SWRM
Galveston, TX
November 10-13, 2016
Theme: Innovations in Energy and Medicine



Permian Basin News

This year's Summer Social was held at the Cork and Pig in San Angelo on Saturday, June 18, 2016. Adam Alman and Ray Still, both chemists at Catalyst Oilfield Services, traveled down from Midland.

NOTE: News about you makes this publication interesting for our members. Please take a few minutes to jot down what you are doing.

- 1) Speeches, papers, symposia, invited talks
- 2) Publications, patents, grants awarded
- 3) New positions, appointments, promotions, awards, honors, retirements, postdoctoral research
- 4) Offices held in professional societies
- 5) Avocational achievements, miscellaneous

ACS Student Chapter News

On September 20, 2016, the ACS Student Chapter at ASU had invited Drs. Ralph Zehnder, John Osterhout, and Edith Osborne to speak about their research. This meeting provided an opportunity for students interested in undergraduate research to see what is available. The topics covered at this meeting were:

- Dr. Zehnder — “From the Bikini to Research at ASU”
- Dr. Osterhout — “A Peptide Odyssey: From Protein Folding to HIV Inhibitors”
- Dr. Osborne — “Looking for Something? Maybe the Answer is Phage”

A Chemical Thought

As William Crookes noted in 1865 when reviewing a book on stuttering that had been inappropriately sent to *Chemical News* for review: “Chemists do not usually stutter. It would be very awkward if they did, seeing that they have at times to get out such words as methylethylamylophenylium.”

William H. Brock, *The Norton History of Chemistry* (1992)

Chemists Just Want To Have pHun

Did you hear about the man who got cooled to absolute zero? He's OK now.

How do a sulfur atom and an oxygen atom communicate? With a sulfone.

Permian Basin ACS Local Section Officers 2016

Chair: Dr. Kathryn Louie Angelo State University phone: (325) 942-2181 e-mail: klouie@suddenlink.net	Treasurer: Dr. Kyle Beran University of Texas of the Permian Basin phone: (432) 552-2238 e-mail: beran_k@utpb.edu
Secretary: Mr. Kevin Boudreaux Angelo State University phone: (325) 486-6623 e-mail: kevin.boudreaux@angelo.edu	Chair-Elect: Dr. Pat Nandakumar Midland College phone: (432) 685-6738 e-mail: pnandakumar@midland.edu
Councilor: Dr. Kathryn Louie Angelo State University phone: (325) 942-2181 e-mail: klouie@suddenlink.net	Alternate Councilor: Dr. John Osterhout Angelo State University phone: (325) 486-2181 e-mail: John.Osterhout@angelo.edu

If you have news about local activities, student activities, new employees, new members, good (or bad) science/chemistry jokes, or any other events related to the local section that you want to be included in the newsletter, please send the information to Kevin.Boudreaux@angelo.edu.