



AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

PERMIAN BASIN SECTION

Newsletter

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April 1. — This is the day upon which we are reminded of what we are on the other three hundred and sixty-four.

Mark Twain, *Pudd'nhead Wilson* (1894)
"Pudd'nhead Wilson's Calendar"

April Fool, *n.* The March fool with another month added to his folly.

Ambrose Bierce, *The Devil's Dictionary* (1911)

Upcoming Local Meetings, Events, and Announcements

We're still working on lining up some speakers for the Permian Basin section. Updates will be posted on the Permian Basin web page (<http://permianbasin.sites.acs.org/>) when we have something scheduled.

Upcoming National and Regional Meetings and Programs

ACS Spring 2013 National Meeting & Exposition

New Orleans, Louisiana, USA

April 7 - 11, 2012

Theme: Chemistry of Energy & Food



Permian Basin News

On March 2, Dr. Chris Hobbs, president of the Permian Basin ACS section, with the assistance of some students from his organic chemistry class and the student members of the ACS, did a set of demonstrations at The Old Chicken Farm Art Center in San Angelo. On the first Saturday of every month, the Art Center has an arts fair featuring a number of local artists. At the Chemistry table, the kids who came by were able to make “chromatography butterflies” from filter paper which they drew on, and then sprayed with water to spread the ink out through chromatography. We also did the Blue Bottle and Traffic Light solutions, and the Ketchup Diver.



Angelo State University hosted an Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) program on Saturday, February 23. The EYH program is designed to motivate young women in becoming interested in science and mathematics. A number of workshops and hands-on activities were conducted during the day, and the event concluded with a Magic Show in which students from the ACS and the Society of Physics Students alternated doing chemistry and physics demonstrations.



Chromatography Workshop



Chromatography Workshop

The ACS student group at ASU attended three “Math and Science Nights” at Santa Rita Elementary (January 24), Bradford Elementary (February 7), and Fort Concho Elementary (March 26). They performed several demonstrations, including Elephant Toothpaste, the Ketchup Diver, the Blue Bottle and Traffic Light solutions, the Nonburning Dollar, the Magic Candle, and Guncotton. They also handed out copies of the “Celebrating Chemistry” booklet from the ACS.



Chromatography Workshop



Jet Engine



Laser Show



Scholarship Opportunities

Apply for Priscilla Carney Jones Scholarship

The Priscilla Carney Jones Scholarship was established by Paul R. Jones, in memory of his wife. It provides scholarships for female undergraduate majors in chemistry or related disciplines who are beginning their junior or senior year of study. Priscilla Carney Jones wished to have this scholarship established because of the difficulties she faced as a female chemist early in her career. Visit www.acs.org/diversity for more details. Submission deadline is May 1, 2013. a female chemist early in her career. Visit www.acs.org/diversity for more details. Submission deadline is May 1, 2013.

Apply Now for Overcoming Challenges Award

The ACS Women Chemists Committee (WCC) is pleased to announce a call for applications for the 2013 Overcoming Challenges Award. This award is designed to recognize a woman undergraduate from a two-year or four-year institution for her efforts in overcoming hardship to achieve success in chemistry. The recipient of the Overcoming Challenges Award will receive a

plaque, a monetary award of \$250, and a \$1,000 travel stipend for expenses to attend the Fall 2013 ACS National Meeting where she will be recognized at the WCC Luncheon. Visit www.acs.org/diversity for complete details; application deadline is April 1, 2013.

Chemists Just Want To Have pHun

Why does formic acid neutralize all other acids? Because it's an ant-acid!

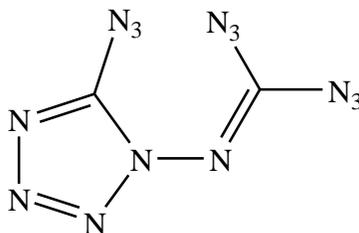
*(Formic acid is found in the venom of red ants.
Needless to say, it's not really an antacid!)*

A Chemical Thought

The glass in the laboratory enchanted and intimidated us. Glass for us was that which one must not touch because it breaks, and yet, at a more intimate contact, revealed itself to be a substance different from all others, sui generis, full of mystery and caprice. ... It was our first victim, or, better, our first adversary.

Primo Levi, *The Periodic Table* (1975)
"Hydrogen"

These Are A Few Of Our Favorite Things: Interesting Molecules



C₂N₁₄ : An Energetic and Highly Sensitive Binary Azidotetrazole

Thomas M. Klapötke,* Franz A. Martin, and Jörg Stierstorfer
Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. **2011**, *50*, 4227-4229

I ran across this molecule at the blog site "In the Pipeline" by Dr. Derek Lowe (<http://pipeline.corante.com/archives/2013/01/>, scroll down to January 9, 2013). I'm quite frankly surprised that the *drawing* doesn't explode spontaneously! This compound explodes when infrared light shines on it (!!!!!), but they were able to get a Raman spectrum (without being turned into Ramen noodles) by using a very weak light source.

Permian Basin ACS Local Section Officers 2013

<p>Chair: Dr. Christopher Hobbs Angelo State University phone: (325) 486-6627 e-mail: Christopher.Hobbs@angelo.edu</p>	<p>Chair-Elect: Dr. Kathryn Louie Angelo State University phone: (325) 942-2181 e-mail: klouie@suddenlink.net</p>
<p>Secretary: Mr. Kevin Boudreaux Angelo State University phone: (325) 942-2181 ext. 6623 e-mail: kevin.boudreaux@angelo.edu</p>	<p>Treasurer: Dr. Kyle Beran University of Texas of the Permian Basin phone: (432) 552-2238 e-mail: beran_k@utpb.edu</p>
<p>Councilor: Dr. Kathryn Louie Angelo State University phone: (325) 942-2181 e-mail: klouie@suddenlink.net</p>	<p>Alternate Councilor: Dr. Christopher Hobbs Angelo State University phone: (325) 486-6627 e-mail: Christopher.Hobbs@angelo.edu</p>
	<p>Past Chair: Dr. Pat Nandakumar Midland College phone: (432) 685-6738 e-mail: pnandakumar@midland.edu</p>

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.