



April 2011
Vol. 96, Issue 3

Central Texas ACS

Established 1917

Newsletter of the Central Texas Section of the American Chemical Society

www.CentralTexasACS.org

Central Texas ACS Annual Awards Ceremony

Tuesday, April 12th

Social Hour Begins at 6:30 pm, Dinner begins at 7:00 pm

The Shroud of Turin and Other Mysteries: Uncovering Traces of the Past through Science

Mary Virginia Orna
College of New Rochelle

Fogo de Chao
309 E. 3rd St., Austin, TX 78701
(3rd and Trinity, Valet parking \$6, or street parking if you can find it!)

Dinner is \$20 for members, \$15 for students
Please RSVP to Ben Martin by April 11 by email at bmartin@txstate.edu
or call (512) 245-6077

Abstract

Applications of the methods of archaeological chemistry can help scientists and non-scientists alike to appreciate our recent and ancient past. Chemistry in particular is an aid to (1) understanding the techniques used to create artifacts and works of art; (2) gain knowledge of the provenance, or origins, of the work; and (3) providing evidence that can support or "de-authenticate" the claims to authenticity of such famous artifacts as the Shroud of Turin. This talk will examine stained glass techniques, uses of atomic absorption on ancient pottery, analysis of ancient lead, and the radiocarbon dating of ancient linen in the case of the Shroud of Turin, which is said by many to be the winding sheet of Christ. In the latter case, the present theories regarding the Shroud will be discussed including some evidence that the radiocarbon date of the shroud may not be valid because of fire damage experienced in 1532. Pro and cons will be discussed.

Central Texas ACS: April 2011

Letter from the Chair

Dear Members,

We look forward every year to our awards ceremony. It is an opportunity for us recognize outstanding senior undergraduate students, and those members who have served our profession for 50 or 60 years. We can consider our awardees to be our past and our future, and all are worthy of our praise and support. We always hold this meeting at a special location to add to the dignity and formality of the ceremony. We are also honored to have an excellent speaker to entertain and educate us in a multidisciplinary presentation.

This meeting will be the final section meeting of the spring, and a good time for our volunteers to relax after putting together our Earth Day event on April 9. If you have not already done so, there is still time to volunteer for Earth Day (information can be found on this page). We have an ambitious plan for this event, and we are also trying something new: free career counseling for our volunteers!

Over the summer we will be hosting a Science Café (an open, advertised meeting). I would like for the focus to be on relevant government policy. We will not be sending out another newsletter until the fall, but we will send emails, advertise in the local media, and post information on our website. I hope you can join us.

Best Regards,
Ben Martin

CONGRATS to Jackie Padilla and her husband on the birthday of their beautiful daughter Isabel!!!!



Fogo de Chao
309 E. 3rd St.
Austin, TX 78701
(512) 472-0220



Chemists Celebrate EARTH DAY!

The Central Texas Section will hold this year's event at The Sheffield Education Center (Splash Exhibit) in Zilker Park from 12 noon to 4 PM on April 9. The theme has lots of potential:

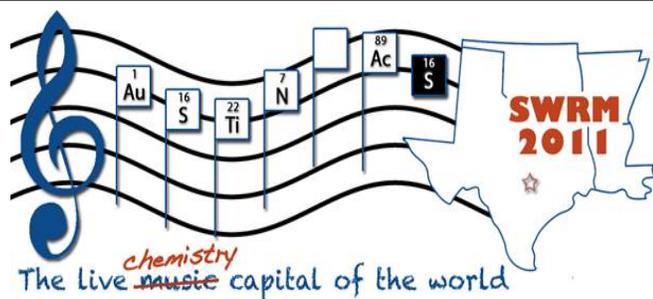
Energy – It's Everywhere

with an emphasis on renewable energy. With a format similar to what we used for National Chemistry Week, we will have a mix of hands-on activities and demonstrations. We are also expanding our focus to include activities of interest to kids through at least 7th grade. We will need lots of volunteers. Sign up for the first shift, 11:45 to 2:00, the late shift 2:00 to 4:15 (or better yet both shifts!) Email Dodie Wells to sign up, dodiewells4@hotmail.com.

Outstanding Senior Award Nominees

HTU: Ugochukwu Anokwuru
Southwestern University: Travis Valadez
St. Edwards University: Mina Nakhla
Texas State: Catelyn Gallier, Stephen Gates,
Tyler Nash
University of Texas: Robert Newberry, Cynthia
Chen

Central Texas ACS: April 2011



SWRM 2011: Energy in the International Year of Chemistry

Please mark your calendars for the 67th ACS Southwest Regional Meeting hosted by the Central Texas Section of the ACS. This will be held in Austin, Texas on November 9-12, 2011 at the Doubletree Hotel Austin, (6505 IH-35 North, Austin, Texas). We have an exceptionally strong program for this event including undergraduate and high school programming as well as employment and career based activities. For the current list of symposia and sponsorship opportunities please contact Dr. Richard Jones (rajones@mail.utexas.edu, 512-471-1706). We invite you to attend the presentations to hear about the latest cutting edge research or present a paper or poster describing your research. For more information please visit:

www.SWRM2011.org

Meeting Information

- Meeting Registration will open soon and advanced registration ends on October 19, 2011.
- Abstract Submissions will open May 11, 2011 and run through September 14, 2011.
- Hotel registration is open and the preferred rate will run through October 26, 2011.

Please check the website for more details and links.

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL ACS MEETING (SWRM) IN AUSTIN, TEXAS – NOVEMBER 9 – 12, 2011

As we all know, financial support for these regional meetings is crucial to their success. Several of your local members have been working diligently on the program, venue, plenary session and speakers, *etc.*, including seeking funding from many sources. There are four levels of support possible. The names are based on a music theme, hence the record names. If anyone is in a position to solicit a sponsorship from employers or special contacts in the area, please contact Patrick Cassidy (pcassidy@txstate.edu) before you contact them so that we do not have duplicate approaches to a potential donor. All assistance and suggestions are welcome to make this SWRM successful.

SWRM Needs

- The SWRM Committee is currently looking for a local company to host an industry tour on the afternoon of Tues. November 8th. Anyone interested should contact Betsy Shelton at retrosynthesis@gmail.com
- We are asking members to submit creative names for a specialty beer that may be brewed for our meeting. Any names should be sent to Betsy Shelton at retrosynthesis@gmail.com

Calendar of Upcoming Events:

April 9: Chemists Celebrate Earth Day
in Zilker Park

April 12: Section meeting and
Awards Ceremony