



October 2011
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Central Texas ACS

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Newsletter of the Central Texas Section of the American Chemical Society

www.CentralTexasACS.org

Central Texas ACS Meeting

Tuesday, October 18th

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

Tinctures, Tonics, and Patent Medicines: A History of Commercialized Quackery

Ned Heindel

Lehigh University

Nuevo Leon Restaurant
1501 E. 6th St., Austin, TX

Dinner is \$10 for members/adults, \$5 for students
RSVP to Ben Martin by Oct. 17 by email at bmartin@txstate.edu
or call (512) 245-6077

Abstract

While folk medicines and natural product derivatives have, in many cases, proven a fruitful source of modern, medically accepted therapeutics, they have also proven an abundant source for quackery. From Dr. Bateman's Pectoral Drops, recommended for "rheumatism, afflictions of the stone, gravel agues, the hysterics", to Munyon's Miracle Kidney Cure, which was claimed to "cure Bright's disease, all urinary problems, and pain in the back and groins from kidney diseases", the 19th century witnessed nearly unbelievable excesses in pharmaceutical advertising. Beginning in colonial America and extending to the passage of the Pure Food and Drug Act, a plethora of quack pharmaceutical manufacturers produced and aggressively marketed home remedies of dubious origin and questionable chemical purity. Whether the ingredients were opium and ethanol or simple milk sugar, no regulations governed their manufacture or sale. Dr. Heindel will trace the birth of America's patent medicine industry in the late 18th century and its heyday of unregulated commercial success in the 19th century. The role of chemistry in the production, analysis, and eventual legal regulation of patent medicines will also be treated.

Central Texas ACS: October 2011

Letter from the Chair

Dear Members,

This is a busy time of year for everyone, but this is also the time that the Central Texas Section is the most active. Over the coming two months we are organizing to bring the excitement of chemistry to children at our annual National Chemistry Week activity (see the information box on this page), and we will of course be hosting the Southwest Regional Meeting in November. Both of these events are full of opportunities for us to volunteer our time and energy.

The full page description in this mailing provides a good summary of some of the highlights of the upcoming regional meeting, but what it doesn't describe is the expected *size* of the meeting, based on abstract submissions and preregistration numbers. This is expected to be the largest Southwest Regional Meeting to date, and it is an excellent opportunity for us to welcome our more distant colleagues and to share our scientific findings. It is worth noting that the preregistration deadline for the meeting is rapidly approaching, so now is the time to act if you wish to attend this meeting.

I hope that our section members can make a strong showing at these events. This is looking to be an excellent year for the Central Texas Section!

Best Regards,
Ben Martin

Rep. Mark Strama (far left) with attendees at the September meeting at the State Capitol.



Nuevo Leon
1501 E. 6th St., Austin, TX
(512)479-0097

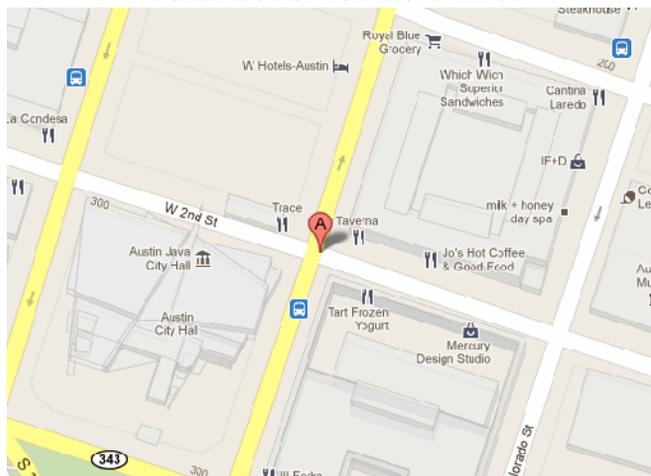


National Chemistry Week!!

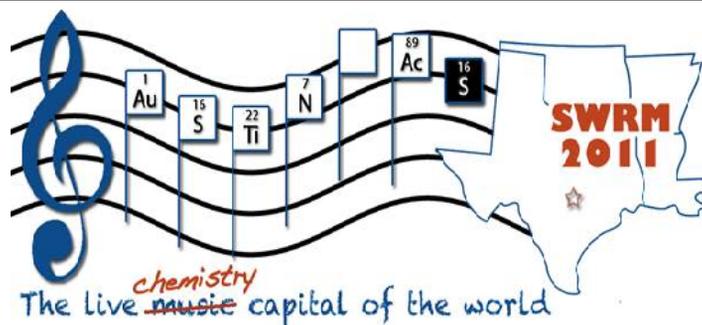
This year National Chemistry Week will be held on Sunday October 9th, 2011 from 12pm-5pm at the Children's Museum in Downtown Austin.

Volunteer times are 11am-1:30pm, 1:30-3:30, and 3:30-5:30pm. No experience necessary with all materials and instructions provided. Snacks provided. Parking is available in the AMLI garage on Lavaca (\$3 with stamp from the museum). Contact Dodie Wells

dodiewells4@hotmail.com or 512-369-3668 to volunteer or for more info.



Central Texas ACS: October 2011



67th ACS Southwest Regional Meeting

The Central Texas Local Section of the American Chemical Society will be hosting the 67th Southwest Regional Meeting this year in Austin, Texas on November 9-12, 2011. This year's meeting will be held at the Doubletree Hotel Austin. We have arranged an exceptionally strong technical program, including various informative workshops, undergraduate and high school programming, employment and career based activities as well as education and professional development workshops, including

- Over fifty technical sessions spanning all areas of chemistry
- Opening reception at the historic site of Jefferson Chemical
- International Year of Chemistry Plenary by Dr. Susumu Kitagawa
- Awards banquet featuring Nobel Prize Winner, Dr. Bob Curl
- Full day of high school student and teacher programming
- Expanded undergraduate and graduate student programming including the "Science in the Movies" road show
- Career, workshops, resume reviews and networking events

We hope you will join us in November as we celebrate Energy in the International Year of Chemistry. For more information please visit our website www.SWRM2011.org.

Meeting Information

Early registration deadline:
October 18, 2011.

Early bird hotel rate:
\$99/night, single or double,
while they last!!!

*Please check our website
<http://swrm2011.org>
for more details.*

Chemistry Idol!!!!!!

Through the generous sponsorship of the ACS Innovative Grant Project and Capitol Scientific, Inc., SWRM will be presenting "Chemistry Idol," an innovative workshop positioning chemistry as a central science. It will which will highlight careers in chemistry, explore creative ideas for teaching the new TEKS, and focus on EOC preparation while creating relevance for their students. November 12th, 2011 from 7:30am – 3:30pm. Registration is available at www.swrm2011.org for only \$20. Hope to see you there!!!