Volume 52 Number 3 April 2020

## TRIAD CHEMICAL TIMES

Central North Carolina Section American Chemical Society

## <u>All Section Meetings are</u> <u>cancelled through the end of</u> <u>May</u>



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#### **Upcoming Events**

To be Determined

### **CNC-ACS Officers**

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## Letter from the Chair, Rod Bennett

Dear Friends and Colleagues,

As we all face the challenges of these CORONA VIRUS (COVID 19) times, we can reflect on the many blessings and opportunities that we have everyday to make a positive difference in the world. From a single act of kindness (to a friend or a stranger) to researching new vaccines for tomorrow, we each have talents that can improve and advance science and benefit society. The ACS has established a resource page for getting the most current information on ACS efforts. Website: https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/covid-19.html

Hopefully some of you were able to connect remotely to the ACS Spring National Meeting programming that was conducted via many forms of electronic media by the divisions. It was indeed unfortunate that we were not able to meet in Philadelphia, but the decision to have an open access programming remotely was an excellent alternative. ACS (in partnership with ACS Publications) launched a virtual platform, <u>SciMeetings</u>. This platform is fully open access and allows for the virtual posting of the research. As of Sunday, March 22, <u>SciMeetings for ACS Spring 2020</u> was opened for viewing of the uploaded posters and presentations. The platform includes robust search capabilities to make it easier to find the science of most interest to you. Because presenters have until April 30, 2020 to load their materials, it is anticipated that the content will continue to grow and evolve as a resource over the next month. Many ACS divisions are working to organize virtual symposia, webinars and talks as well. Please look for notifications about these upcoming events.

Your Central North Carolina Section ACS is continuing to monitor the situation carefully. We had to cancel all meetings and activities through the end of May 2020, including our Chemistry Olympiad 2020 that was scheduled at High Point University and our Spring Stream Clean-Up in Greensboro. TJ Mayer was able to conduct a small scale (hermit style) clean-up effort. I want to thank all of the volunteers that have continue to work on programs for the section. Your efforts are what keep our section vibrant and growing! All of these efforts, whether they are put into action this year, moved to a virtual platform or postponed until a future date are important and vital to our section and our community. Our Bur-Mil Summer Picnic is currently scheduled for June 12, 2020, from 6:15 to 8:15 PM at Bur-Mil Recreation Center in Greensboro. We shall continue to review all of our events based upon the local, state and federal advisories. Please keep tuned into our website and the May Newsletter for updates.

As our national ACS team continues to work with the local sections and divisions, new and innovative ideas are arising to allow us to stay connected with all of our members and our local community. ACS is providing the local sections access to its enterprise Zoom license until May 31, 2021. After that date, local sections that wish to continue to use Zoom will secure individual account licenses directly with Zoom. The Central NC Section has taken the opportunity to accept one of these licenses. There is only one license allowed per local section which may be used for multiple events as one event per time. The Zoom license may be used to conduct executive committee meetings, regular monthly meetings, interactive networking events and other virtual activities to engage the local section. Please look for notifications about upcoming local events and opportunities. Our Central NC ACS website is <a href="https://cnc-acs.org">https://cnc-acs.org</a>.

Although the in-person events that were scheduled for March, April and May were cancelled, the programs are being re-scheduled for this fall. This will include the "Masons That Were Chemists" and the "Update on NASA and Space Exploration" lectures. Hopefully, the COVID 19 issues will have subsided by that time. If not, we may move these events to the virtual platforms as well.

I wanted to remind everyone that it is time to make your 2021 Committee Preference choices and submissions for the ACS National Committees. Although only a limited number of members are able to serve at any specific time, it is greatly appreciated by ACS to see the interests, skills and background of potential candidates for these committees. If you are interested in serving on an ACS Committee, the online committee preference form for committee assignments will be open from March16-June 5, 2020 at <a href="https://www.yellowbook.acs.org">https://www.yellowbook.acs.org</a>. Some committees are only open to Councilors, but many of the ACS Committees are open to all of the members in good standing.

Save the date for the next National Chemistry Week campaign, which takes place October 18-24, 2020 with the theme "Sticking with Chemistry." More information will available on August 1, 2020 at <u>www.acs.org/ncw</u>.

In closing, I want to "Thank Everyone" in the local section for their support of the Central NC Section and for your enthusiasm! The ACS is your professional society and exists to provide service to you and the community. Please Keep Safe and Practice the Personal Distancing and Stay At Home recommendations from our local, state and federal authorities. Remember that WE (the CNCS-ACS) are here for you!

All the Best!

Rod

### North Carolina Science Festival becomes a virtual event.

The NC science festival, <u>https://www.ncsciencefestival.org/</u> has become a virtual event. The month long event will feature presentations from science centers throughout the state. The link also contains information on science experiments that you can do from home.

# Senior Chemist News

Dear Senior Chemists,

We had a fun and interesting meeting March 9 at WSSU not realizing at the time that it would be the last Senior Chemists Group (SCG) Meeting for the foreseeable future. The May meeting is also cancelled. In addition, Science Coach activities were postponed for Cynthia Williard, Beth Williard, Dennis Ergle, Debbie Pritchard, Tim Ballard, Matthew Ballard, myself, and possibly other coaches I may be inadvertently omitting. Nevertheless, we remain hopeful for a CNC picnic this June and a Senior Chemists meeting in July. However, we must wait and learn if COVID19 ceases to be a threat.

In the meantime, your SCG chair has been participating in a few virtual National Senior Chemists meetings so the work of the Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) continues. Some of my responsibilities include writing and editing articles for the Senior Chemists newsletter (all Senior Chemists should be on the e-mail distribution for this national ACS publication), assisting other local sections with the start-up of a Senior Chemists Group, and assisting with the planning and manning of a SCC booth in the exhibition hall at National ACS meetings. Of course, the National ACS meeting in Philadelphia was cancelled but we are reasonably optimistic that the meeting in San Francisco in August will proceed as planned.

I will send an announcement to the SCG in mid-May with an outline of potential upcoming activities. In the meantime, contact me if you have comments/ recommendations/etc. about future SCG activities, potential guest speakers, or other ideas.

Stay safe.

Robert A. Yokley Chair, Senior Chemists Group CNC Councilor

#### **CNC-ACS Executive Committee**

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