

INTERVIEWS with SCHULZ AWARD WINNER and ACS PRESIDENT. Pt 3....p. 5

Southwest

REPORT

**November
2008**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

50 Years Ago.....	2
Interview with ACS President Bursten	5
Bernabo is Schulz Award Winner	7
December D-FW Local Section Meeting	8
Letters to the Editor	8
Borden Symposium at UNT	9
Chem Gems & Joules	10
In Memoriam: Donald Woessner	10
New Website for D-FW Section.....	10
Around-the-Area.....	12
U of Arkansas.....	12
Heart o' Texas	12
Wichita Falls-Duncan.....	13
East Texas.....	13
South Plains.....	13
D-FW.....	13
In Memoriam: Fish and Zimmerman.....	13
Doherty Nominations / New Officers.....	14
December Metroplex Seminar Schedule	16

INDEX OF ADVERTISERS

American Polymer Standards Corp	6
ANA-LAB	4
Applied Analytical.....	10
Huffman Laboratories	3
Kelly Scientific Resources	10
Southern Methodist University.....	11
Sponsor Members	3
Texas A&M University-Commerce	9

PERIODICAL

Fifty Years Ago in The Southwest Retort

The 1958 ACS Southwest Regional Award is being given to **Dr. Kenneth A. Kobe** of the Department of Chemical Engineering at the University of Texas (*now UT-Austin*). He was cited for his research in unit processes, process development, and the thermodynamic properties of industrially important chemicals. Dr. Kobe received B.S. and M.S. degrees in chemical engineering and a Ph.D. in physical chemistry, all from the University of Minnesota. In 1955 the University of Minnesota honored him with its Outstanding Alumnus Award. He served on active duty during World War II, reaching the rank of major, and he is currently a Lt. Col. in the Air Force Reserve. He has written four books, over 200 articles, directed theses for over 200 B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. students, and holds eight US and foreign patents. He has been active in both ACS and AIChE.

The ACS Southwest Regional Meeting will be held in San Antonio Dec 4-6. The keynote speaker will be **Allen V. Austin** of the National Bureau of Standards. Special emphasis of the meeting will be on air pollution, wastes, and water. There will also be a symposium on the chemical industry of and opportunities in Mexico.

This month's tour speaker will be **Dr. Harry Walborsky** of Florida State University. His topic will be "Cyclopropanes."

The University of Arkansas ACS Chapter is receiving the 1959 ACS Local Section Public Relations Award. The speaker at the Section's Nov. 6 meeting will be **Dr. H. P.**

Broida of the National Bureau of Standards, whose topic is "Trapped Free Radicals."

At Humble Oil **R. B. Williams** is the author of the chapter on "Characterization of Hydrocarbons in Petroleum by Nuclear Magnetic Resonance" in the book *Chemical Composition of Petroleum Oils* published by ASTM. Williams and **S. H. Hastings, B. H. Johnson,** and **H. E. Lumpkin. J. H. Futrell** has joined the R & D Division. He recently received a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from UC-Berkeley.

At Baylor **Dr. Thomas C. Franklin** attended a meeting of the Electrochemical Society in Ottawa, Canada. **Dr. John W. Belew** will participate in a Varian NMR workshop in Palo Alto.

Texas A&M faculty who attended the Chicago ACS meeting and gave papers were **Dr. H. K. Zimmerman, Jr., Dr. A. F. Isbell,** and **Dr. R. A. Zingaro.** The faculty winner of the \$1000 award given by the A&M former students association for excellence in teaching and research was **Dr. C. K. Hancock.** At UT **Dr. Norman Hackerman** attended the Electrochemical Society meeting in Ottawa, Canada, giving a paper on polarization at hafnium electrodes. New post-docs in the department are **Dr. William H. Wade** and **Dr. H. Nawa.**



Southwest Retort

*Published for the advancement of
Chemists, Chemical Engineers
and Chemistry in this area.*

Published by

The Dallas-Fort Worth Section, with the cooperation of five other local sections of the American Chemical Society in the Southwest.

Vol. 61 November, 2008 No. 3

Editorial and Business Offices:

Editor: E. Thomas Strom, 1134 Medalist Dr., Dallas, TX 75232, 214-376-9602; FAX 817-272-3808; tomstrom@juno.com.

Managing Editor: Mary Teasdale, PO Box 461051, Garland, TX 75046; 972-276-9376; owlcritic75@yahoo.com

Business Manager: Kirby Drake, 9715 Dartridge, Dallas, Texas, 75238-1827; 214-553-9810; kdrake@fulbright.com

Southwest Retort (USPS 507880) is published monthly, September through May by the Dallas-Ft. Worth Section of the American Chemical Society, Inc., for the ACS Sections of the Southwest Region. Subscription rates are \$3.24 per year. Periodical postage paid at Dallas, Texas. **POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to American Chemical Society, Southwest Retort, Box 3337, Columbus, Ohio 43210.

Sponsor Members

**Alcon
Laboratories**

**Halliburton
Energy Services**

OxyChem

**Dr. Linda
Domelsmith**

Texas Eastman

**!!Be among the first to know
what's happening in D-FW!!**

**Point your browser
to the D-FW Section
Website for**

- **Announcements**
- **Current Events**
- **Meetings**

<http://www.acsdfw.org>

Elemental Analysis

**CHNOS Ash
ICP · AA · ICP/MS
TOC · TOX · BTU
Problem Solving**

HUFFMAN LABORATORIES, INC. *Quality Analytical Services Since 1936*

Phone: (303) 278-4455
FAX: (303) 278-7012
chemistry@huffmanlabs.com
www.huffmanlabs.com



22 Ti 47.867	23 V 50.942	24 Cr 51.996	25 Mn 54.938	26 Fe 55.845	27 Co 58.933	28 Ni 58.693	29 Cu 63.546	30 Zn 65.38	31 Ga 69.723	32 Ge 72.64	33 As 74.922	34 Se 78.96	35 Br 79.904
40 Zr 91.224	41 Nb 92.906	42 Mo 95.94	43 Tc (98)	44 Ru 101.07	45 Rh 101.07	46 Pd 106.32	47 Ag 107.87	48 Cd 112.41	49 In 114.82	50 Sn 118.71	51 Sb 121.76	52 Te 127.60	53 I 126.90
72 Hf 178.49	73 Ta 180.95	74 W 183.84	75 Re 186.21	76 Os 190.23	77 Ir 192.22	78 Pt 195.08	79 Au 196.97	80 Hg 200.59	81 Tl 204.38	82 Pb 207.2	83 Bi 208.98	84 Po (209)	85 At (210)
104 Rf (261)	105 Db (262)	106 Sg (266)	107 Bh (264)	108 Hs (277)	109 Mt (268)	110 Ds (281)	111 Rg (282)	112 Cn (285)	113 Nh (286)	114 Uuq (289)			

ANA-LAB

CORP.®

THE COMPLETE SERVICE LAB

Quality Analytical & Environmental Services Since 1965

57 La 138.91	58 Ce 140.12	59 Pr 140.91	60 Nd 144.24	61 Pm (145)	62 Sm 150.36	63 Eu 151.96	64 Gd 157.25	65 Tb 158.93	66 Dy 162.50	67 Ho 164.93	68 Er 167.26	69 Tm 168.93	70 Yb 173.04
--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	-------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------	--------------------

ANA-LAB CORPORATION

2600 Dudley Road • P. O. Box 9000

Kilgore, Texas 75663-9000

903-984-0551 • Fax: 903-984-5914

www.ana-lab.com • Email: corp@ana-lab.com

Ana-Lab Corporation provides superior, innovative and cost effective solutions for clients through exceptional science, processes and people. With a staff of experienced, professional and talented chemists and technicians supported by sophisticated laboratory testing equipment, Ana-Lab is the preferred environmental testing laboratory serving clients nationwide.

Regional Service Centers

Amarillo, TX

806-355-3556 • Fax 806-355-3773
Email: panhandle@ana-lab.com

Arlington, TX

817-261-6404 • Fax 817-261-7115
Email: northtex@ana-lab.com

Austin, TX

512-821-0045 • Fax 512-821-0237
Email: centex@ana-lab.com

Brownsville, TX

956-831-6437 • Fax 956-831-6438
Email: rgvtex@ana-lab.com

Houston, TX

281-333-9414 • Fax 281-333-9614
Email: gulfcoast@ana-lab.com

Norman, OK

405-292-6630 • Fax 405-292-3676
Email: oklahoma@ana-lab.com

Shreveport, LA

318-219-9300 • Fax 318-219-8300
Email: arkla@ana-lab.com

Madison, AL

256-461-0500 • Fax 256-651-7264
Email: alabama@ana-lab.com



Southwest Retort

SIXTY-FIRST YEAR

November 2008

AN INTERVIEW WITH ACS PRESIDENT BRUCE BURSTEN – PART 3

Interviewer. E. Thomas Strom

The last part of the write up of our interview with ACS President Bursten ended just before he commented on “the pipeline.” Everyone shakes their head wisely when asked about “the pipeline.” This is the conveyor belt that runs students through an academic curriculum in high school, into the sciences in undergraduate school, then into a more limited curriculum in graduate school, possibly followed by a postdoc, with the newly minted Ph.D. emerging at the end with a high-paying job. Obviously any clogging of the pipeline early in the sequence results in a diminished number of Ph.D.’s coming out the other end. The late Norman Hackerman felt that, with the increased productivity of scientists due to advances in instrumentation, we already have all the scientists we need. All that is needed is enough graduates to replace those scientists retiring or deceased. To the usual academician, Norm’s heresy was like yelling “intelligent design” to a geologist. Your typical academician believes that increasing the number of scientists and engin-

eers is an unequivocal good. My view is, if the job market accepts them, then it is good. If the market doesn’t, then it isn’t.

Let’s forget about my view. What is Bruce Bursten’s view? He says whether there is a need for growth in “the pipeline” is a critical question. He states that he went into chemistry because he thought it was interesting; his choice of a major was not linked to getting a job. It was his opportunity to learn about something he was passionate about. Today’s students don’t always take that view, so we have to be concerned about what people think. However, Bruce told his daughter to follow your passion, and she has just graduated from Rice with a degree in philosophy and plans to work for a Ph.D. in the history and philosophy of science. Bruce believes that there is nothing more important than choosing something that you love. The challenge is getting a job that you love as much as your discipline.

As an academic he sees the job market indirectly and at the level of

what Ph.D. chemists are doing. He thinks too many students choose an area, because they are trying to guess that there will be a number of jobs in that area. Instead he thinks you need passion about the area you are going to choose. If you are good enough, jobs will be available, an assumption that many people would disagree with. This hasn't yet addressed the pipeline question, but he thinks the pipeline is changing. The skill sets needed 30 years ago are very different from the skill sets needed today. Today's chemist will definitely need to be part of a team.

Another approach to this topic is to ask the related question, "Is chemistry a young science or a mature science?" Bruce's approach is similar to that of George Whitesides, recent Priestly Award winner. Whitesides says that a lot of people when they think of chemistry think of paint, and paint is less exciting than things such as stem cells. So, do people not go into chemistry because they don't think there are jobs available, or do they shun chemistry because they view it as a mature and dull science? Whitesides and Bursten believe that chemistry is in fact a young science, and tools have been developed to be able to tackle some big, hairy problems. Whitesides notes that biological functions are just simply a series of chemical reactions. When will we be able to build a cell? When will we understand the chemical basis of human life? The body has 10,000 chemical reactions going on all at once and all coupled. If you wonder why we need supercomputers, that is the reason, to understand these coupled processes. When will we be able to make materials by design?

Bruce thinks the pipeline has

changed. Jobs to produce a commodity chemical are not going to be available. In many cases they have been replaced by jobs that didn't exist 30 years ago, because the technology didn't exist 30 years ago. This doesn't address the question of gross numbers. Are there more jobs or fewer jobs now than 30 years ago? Bruce doesn't know the answer to that. Some of the jobs filled by chemists are not being called jobs for chemists, so a lot of the jobs have been retitled. What we can say is that the number of large companies that used to hire numerous chemists has decreased due to mergers. Mergers within the oil patch, chemical companies, and pharma have put pressure upon employment for chemists. Furthermore, the US is no longer in a labor cost position to manufacture commodity chemicals; that's all off shore now. We are now in specialty and fine chemicals in the US, and India and China are starting to compete in those areas also. Bruce is worried about making dogmatic statements about the situation. However, he still thinks, with all the uncertainties, that it is a wonderful time for students to go into chemistry.

I was very impressed with how thoughtful and articulate Bruce Bersten was. He has done, and continues to do, a wonderful job of representing ACS to the outside world. I am grateful that he gave me so much of his time to share his thoughts with the chemists here in the Southwest.

* GPC/SEC Analysis * GPC/SEC Polymer Standards

*GPC/SEC Columns * Waters™ 150C Parts

Request your free catalog online

www.ampolymer.com

American Polymer Standards Corporation

8680 Tyler Blvd., Mentor, OH 44060

Phone: 440-255-2211 Fax: 440-255-8391

YOU CAN GO HOME AGAIN! JENNIFER BERNABO WINS 2008 SCHULZ AWARD

by E. Thomas Strom

You Can't Go Home Again by Thomas Wolfe told the tale of novelist George Webber, who returned to his hometown after writing about it. The townspeople didn't like the novel or George. In a larger sense, after leaving home for a while, you really can't go home again, not to the same home. Both home and you have changed. Still, not all change is for the worse; sometimes it is for the better. This year's Schulz Award winner, Jennifer Bernabo, graduated from Plano East Senior High (PESH) in 1995. Now thirteen years later she is back there as Head of the Science Department, helping revitalize the teaching of science in general and chemistry in particular at PESH. Her principal notes one striking example of this. Jennifer's senior TAKS classes had a number of students who had failed the test numerous times. Under Jennifer's tutelage, ALL of the students in the class passed the TAKS science retest. When the previous science department chair moved away, the principal took a chance and appointed Jennifer to that slot at the remarkably young age of 28, where Jennifer has served admirably administering her group of 23 teachers while herself teaching not only AP/IB chemistry, but chemistry for students who are not well-equipped to learn the material.

Jennifer went to UT-Austin as a biology major intending to go to vet school. She did have a job as a resident assistant, helping students with their

test-taking skills. Thus she got her feet wet in teaching. After receiving a BA degree in biology in 1999, Jennifer was getting tired of school (she notes funny behavior for a future teacher). She thought she would take a break for a couple of years and teach instead, as she needed the money. She got the additional training for teacher certification at UT-Arlington and wound up at her old school in 2002. She is currently working on a master's degree.



Jennifer has had an impact not only on the students in her classroom but on students over all the Plano school district with her involvement in chemistry and physical science curriculum writing. The curriculum has become more student-centered, purposeful, and responsive to student needs. In the classroom her students use sensors to take measurements, do research, produce electronic presentations, make ice cream, root beer, and all kinds of concoctions in the lab using technology. All this is based on set standards, so that in the end the students are having fun while learning the required concepts of chemistry. She has also set goals for the science department to ensure that students are involved not only in science competitions, but also participate in opportunities provided outside the district, such as the Anson Clark lecture at UTD.

One of Jennifer's hobbies is quilting. Quilting needs to be very precise, but it has a creative side. She also likes

water sports, eating out, and it a big UT-Austin fan.

I wish more people had been present for her Schulz lecture on Oct. 14, when she talked about "Progress in Pedagogy of Chemistry in the High School Classroom." A big problem looming for high school chemistry teachers is the 4 by 4 curriculum mandated by the state legislature. This demands that all students take four years of math, four years of science, four years of English, and four years of social studies. Over the long haul this will eventually improve the quality of high school education (although Maynard Keynes pointed out that over

the long haul we all are dead). In the short term, what this means for high school chemistry teachers is that now 100% of the student body will take chemistry instead of the previous figure of 25%. There are going to be a lot of unprepared students taking chemistry. Fortunately, with a dynamo like Jennifer Bernabo, chances are that Plano East Senior High School will rise to the challenge. Jennifer is a wonderful example of the chemistry teachers given this award; teachers who, like Werner Schulz, brought something extra to the teaching of chemistry.

DECEMBER, 2008 D-FW SECTION MEETING

In view of the crowded holiday schedule, there will be no December meeting. However, there will be a January meeting. Full details will appear in the December *Retort*.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor:

I disagree that we have exhausted discussion on the topic of anthropomorphic global warming. The now copious amount of evidence supporting this view has hardly been touched upon in *The Retort*, nor would I expect it to be in the near future.

In contrast, rather uninformed comments on your part regarding this topic have been an occasional but consistent feature of *The Retort* that led me to cancel my subscription. By the way, I believe that my replies did address the heart of Dr. Spessard's article. The absence of a reply from Dr. Spessard would seem to confirm this.

I find it curious that you apparently found it necessary to refer to a study, published nearly forty years ago and focused on population growth, to bolster your case. In addition, the *Newsweek* article (Aug. 13, 2007) you

refer to was mainly an expose covering well-funded attempts by Exxon and others to distort the scientific consensus on anthropomorphic global warming. Your problem, of course, is the overwhelming amount of scientific evidence supporting the existence of global warming caused by human activity and the near nonexistence of up-to-date evidence to the contrary.

Thank you for the opportunity to air my views and, more importantly, to summarize the views of those more informed than either of us. I think that the careful reader will have little trouble distinguishing the overwhelming scientific consensus on global warming from your somewhat wishful and defensive thinking.

Lawrence F. Brough, Ph.D.
Professor of Chemistry,
Northeast Texas Community College

Dear Editor:

I very much liked your response to Professor Brough concerning global warming in the September 2008 issue of *The Southwest Retort*. We must keep an open mind about everything. Your view is “that global warming is real and probably has been going on for a long time,” I would generally agree with, although there are many who feel that we are not in a state of global warming at present. There is also little doubt that there have been times of global cooling.

Your second point that “most recent warming is man-made ought to always be on the table for continued discussion and evaluation” may be a bit overstated. Man has recently been burning wood, coal, natural gas, gasoline, and fuel oil. He has also stacked up uranium to give off heat. These may be minor in comparison with the total energy we obtain from the sun, but they are still manmade increases. Whether they are significant in comparison to the sun’s radiation bears further discussion and evaluation as you suggested.

Referring now to your comments in “The Chemist’s Bookshelf” section, I also support your “man on the moon” project of developing US energy independence. I am rather hesitant on carbon dioxide sequestration, because of its very high cost and questionable need. It also does not give us increased energy. Solar hydrogen seems very ‘iffy’, but we should keep working on it.

Dr. Arthur V. Sucsy, Director of Environmental Compliance, Lubbock Christian University, Lubbock, TX

“The greatest barrier to success is the fear of failure.” – Sven Goran Ericksson

Hello *Southwest Retort* Editors:

I have been a member of ACS for over 50 years, but not always as a member of the D-FW Section; because prior to 1978 I lived in northern New Jersey and commuted to Manhattan. Before we moved to Dallas, I took little interest in the ACS, but, since we moved to Dallas, I have steadily found the Society interesting because of your *Southwest Retort* with its well-written profiles of talented and successful chemists. Of course you bring your professional skill to the editing task, but beyond that you guys really have your hearts in the job. Well done!

Oliver Axtell, Fellow, AICHe

Borden Symposium at UNT

Renowned theoretical chemist and UNT Welch Professor **Wes Borden** is being honored with a Festschrift on the occasion of his 65th birthday. The symposium is being held Dec 5 in Room 106, Chemistry Building. The event will begin at 1:30 p.m. A number of distinguished lecturers will be taking part. They are **Professor Joseph Michl** of the University of Colorado, **Professor Thomas Bally** of the University of Fribourg, **Professor Matthew Platz** of Ohio State University, and **Professor Barry Carpenter** of the University of Cardiff.

“Science investigates religion interprets. Science gives man knowledge which is power; religion gives man wisdom which is control.” – Martin Luther King

Texas A&M University-Commerce
**Quality
Chemistry**

The advantages of a small college
at a major national university

www.tamu-commerce.edu

CHEM GEMS & JOULES

The Mean Green Chemistry Demo team from UNT performed at the Hall of State at Fair Park on Oct. 11 following the Texas-OU game. On Oct. 18 **Dr. Diana Mason** and **Dr. Bob Shelton** presented a demo show in Stockton, CA for Astronaut Jose Hernandez's "Reaching for the Stars" program for middle school students. On Nov. 13-14 Dr. Mason is taking the

Renowned Chemist Donald Woessner Dies.

One of the pioneers of NMR passed on with the death of **Dr. Donald E. Woessner** on Nov. 3 as a result of a stroke he had suffered in May. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m., Friday, Nov. 21, at King of Glory Lutheran Church in Dallas. Don Woessner was one of only three chemists from the D-FW area to win the ACS Southwest Regional Award and was also a winner of the section's Doherty Award. Two of his early papers were designated by the Institute of Scientific Information as Citation Classis. A tribute to this renowned chemist will appear in a later issue of *The Southwest Retort*. Don's stature in the field of NMR is best summarized by a statement Nobel Laureate Paul Lauterbur once made to me. "Nobody knows more about nuclear relaxation than Don Woessner."

Mean Green Chemistry Demo team (**Bob Shelton, Cathy Molina, and José Cordero**) to Phoenix, AZ to perform for the national meeting of the society for Hispanic Professional Engineers.

Send material for this column to Mary Teasdale at owlcritic75@yahoo.com or to Tom Strom at tomstrom@juno.com.

New D-FW Section Website

The D-FW ACS Section now has a new website separate from our previous UTD site. The address is (<http://www.acsdfw.org>). The site will contain the list of officers, the monthly meeting notice, the web version of *The Southwest Retort*, nomination forms for the Doherty and Schulz Awards, etc. Try it out and let the officers know if you have any suggestions as to how the site can be even more useful.

APPLIED ANALYTICAL INC.



Responsive. Reproducible. Right.
Whatever the challenge, Applied delivers.

Applied Analytical is a premium, high-end custom laboratory staffed by experts who solve customer purity problems daily.

16713 Picadilly Court
Round Rock, TX 78664

Phone: 512-339-1462
Fax: 512-339-1486

www.applanal.com
csv@applanal.com

Kelly Scientific
RESOURCES

Aubrey R. Hemphill

District Manager
Kelly Scientific Resources

2560 SW Grapevine Parkway, Suite 120 / Grapevine, TX 76051

Main: 817-416-0918 / Toll Free: 866-352-2062

Direct: 817-442-5219 / Cell: 469-585-9985

E-mail: aubrey_hemphill@kellyservices.com / Website: www.kellyscientific.com
Kelly Scientific Resources, a Kelly Services Company

SMU Chemistry

- Ph.D. Program -

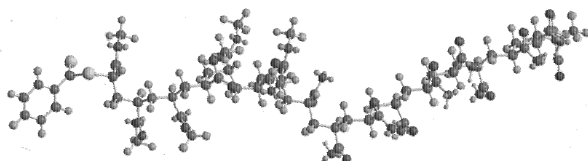


**Southern
Methodist
University**

Created in 2004, the Chemistry Ph.D. program at Southern Methodist University is designed to be unique in preparing excellent scientists with aspirations in a variety of fields. There are many opportunities to conduct high-profile research in the department's main focus areas of materials and bioorganic chemistry. In addition to a competitive stipend, all tuition and fees are covered by the department or the student's research advisor. Health insurance is provided free of charge.

Highlights

- ◆ Excellent student-to-faculty ratio
- ◆ Unique curriculum structure
- ◆ Ten one-semester hour courses in core subjects
- ◆ Departmental history of excellence in research and teaching
- ◆ Newly-renovated facilities
- ◆ State-of-the-art research instrumentation
- ◆ Opportunities for travel to regional, national, and international meetings and conferences
- ◆ Exciting area with low cost of living just five miles north of downtown Dallas



For additional information and an online application, please visit

www.smu.edu/chemistry/graduate.asp

Department of Chemistry, Southern Methodist University

3215 Daniel Ave, Dallas, TX 75275-0314

(214) 768-2480, chem@smu.edu

Around-the-Area

University of Arkansas

The department is again hosting the Arkansas INBRE Research Conference Nov 7-8. The featured speaker is University Distinguished Professor **David G. I. Kingston** of Virginia Polytechnic Institute. His talk is on "Chemistry, Drug Discovery, and Conservation: What is a Chemist Doing in the Rain Forest?" **Dr. Kirshan K. Arora** of NIH will present a talk on "NIH IDEa Program and Mentoring in Building and Enhancing Research Capacity." **Dr. Matt McIntosh** of U of A will present "The Role of Organic Synthesis in Drug Discovery," and **Dr. Jack Lay** will give a mass spectrometry workshop. Since July, **Dr. Roger Koeppe** has become Director of the Outreach Core for the Arkansas INBRE, replacing **Dr. Donald R. Bobbitt** who recently became Provost at UT-Arlington.

Suresh Kumar gave a seminar at the University of Missouri Oct 3. **Matt McIntosh** visited Arkansas Tech in Sept for recruiting. **Joshua Sakon** gave a presentation at the meeting of the American Society in Bone and Mineral Research in Montreal Sept 13. **K. M. Kathir** of the Kumar group gave a poster Oct 3 at the GRASP meeting at Kansas State. **Julie Stenken** attended an NIH study session on Washington, D.C. Oct. 7.

Faculty members either attending, chairing sessions, or presenting papers at SWRM 2008 in Little Rock were **Paul Adams, Bill Durham, Ingrid Fritsch, Bob Gawley, Jack Lay, Matt McIntosh, Julie Stenken, Charles**

Wilkins, and Nan Zheng. Post-doc and researcher presenters were **Raja Dakshinamurthy, Jennifer Gidden, and Huimin Liu**. Grad student presenters were **Coy Batoy, David Clay, Dan Eddings, Ryan Farris, Penny Lewis, Tamilselvi Marutharaj, Chris Mazzanti, Sasa Miladinovic, Maha Shresthta, Vitaly Vostrikov, and Milissa Weston**. Undergrad presenters were **Emily Edwards, Antony Herbaugh, Christena Hooten, Miles Ritter, and Sean Stevens**.

Presentations were made at the Arkansas Biosciences Institute Fall Research Symposium Oct 7 by graduate student **Estelle Huff** from the Pulay group and research associate **Raja Dakshinamurthy** from the Kumar group.

Heart o' Texas

Baylor University. **Dr. Andreas Franken** attended the International Meeting on Boron Chemistry in Platja d'Aro, Spain, Sept 19-24 where he presented a paper. **Drs. Ken and Marianna Busch** attended the meeting of the Federation of Analytical Chemistry and Spectroscopy Societies in Reno, Oct. 1-3, where they presented a paper coauthored by **Patricia Diamond and Jody Dogra**.

Joshua Bell, who received his chemistry degree in May, is now playing for the Denver Broncos in the NFL. Former graduate student **Thiru Munsamy** and graduate student **Sharon Ely** were married on Oct 25.

Colloquium Speakers: Oct 3, **Andreas Franken**, Baylor. Oct 10, **Christy Landes**, University of

Houston. Oct 24, **Seiichi Matsuda**, Rice. Oct 31, **Gene Carlisle**, West Texas A&M.

Wichita Falls-Duncan

Tom Dealy presented a talk on "An Introduction to Oil Well Cement" at the 11th Annual Cement Chemists Society Mtg in San Diego Oct 27. The November meeting of the Section will be held Nov 18 at Halliburton's Duncan Technology Center. **Dr. Charles Rice** of the University of Oklahoma will be the featured speaker. His topic is "Caution: Heating May Cause Freezing." His talk involves polymers based on N-isopropylacryl-amide for which heating causes a reduction in motion, contrary to what one expects.

East Texas

The next section meeting will be Tuesday, Nov 18, at Texarkana College. The speaker will be **John Fortman**, whose topic is "Demonstrating the Awesome Variety of Things Chemists Do." The 2009 officers will be elected at the November meeting.

South Plains

Texas Tech. Dr. Bill Poirier has received a two-year \$100,000 ACS-PRF "New Directions" grant. The grant deals an accurate quantum dynamical study of carbon nanotubes as potential hydrogen storage devices.

Dallas-Fort Worth Section

In Memorium: John Fish and John Zimmerman. The D-FW section recently suffered the loss of these two long-time members. Former Section Chair **John Fish** died Oct. 9, 2008, age 70, after a fifteen year long battle with

multiple myeloma. When I last saw him, he said that the cancer marker, the M spike, had shown up again. However, he had fought a long, hard battle against the disease. Because of damage from the chemotherapy, he had undergone a double hip replacement. When the disease reoccurred, he was treated with thalidomide and responded very favorably to the treatment. This most recent reoccurrence proved too much, as his lungs failed, possibly in reaction to the chemotherapy.

John Fish was born in Chicago and grew up in the Homewood/Joliet, IL area. Later he moved to Kalamazoo, MI, where he met his wife of 47 years Shirley. He received a BS degree in both chemistry and physics from Western Michigan in 1962. There followed a Ph.D. in physical organic chemistry from the University of Cincinnati in 1968. He joined TI in 1966, working first in organosilicon chemistry, and later he initiated the polymer lab at TI where polymer analysis and characterization was carried out. He then moved into recruiting for TI. His disease forced his retirement from TI in 1994, but he then became Industrial Practicum Coordinator for UT-Dallas. He also taught English-As-A Second Language to foreign students and émigrés.

He was an ardent lover of classical music. He participated in the choir programs of 1st Baptist Church of Richardson. He was interested in the history of chemistry and gave a rousing talk on the "History of Semiconductor Research at TI" at the Dallas ACS National Meeting. On his recruiting trips, he would take along his copies of books authored by university

faculty and have them autograph his books. He would also on his trips buy books on the history of the War of 1812, a particular interest of his.

John is survived by his wife Shirley, four children, and nine grandchildren. He was a devout Christian, and his sons led an inspiring memorial service. His life of service to his profession, community, and God should be an inspiration to us all.

NMR pioneer **John R. Zimmerman** died Sept. 8, 2008, in Commerce, TX. He was preceded in death by his wife of 63 years Lenore. He is survived by three children and four grandchildren.

Although he was trained as physicist, John was a 50+ year member of ACS. He started out as a physics and mathematics major at Kansas State Teacher's College in Emporia, KS. He received a Ph.D. in applied physics from Ohio State University. After employment with the US Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C., he joined the faculty at the University of Colorado. From there, he came to the Field Research Laboratory of Magnolia Petroleum Co., the precursor of Mobil in the Southwest. His early entry into management truncated a promising research career in NMR. He had a number of significant early papers in NMR published in *J. Phys. Chem.* and *J. Chem. Phys.* One paper in particular was determined by the Institute for Scientific Information as a Science Citation Classic. It was "Standardization of N.M.R. High Resolution Spectra" published with M.R. Foster as coauthor in *J. Phys. Chem.*, **61**, 282, (1957). Working with Joe Madden of Wilmad Glass Co., Zimmerman used a

glass coaxial spinning system to reduce chemical shift measurement errors to one part in 10^8 .

As manager of the Petroleum Geochemistry Group at Mobil, he worked to develop a strong magnetic resonance capability at the facility. He hired electronics wiz Bob McKay, NMR specialist Don Woessner, and your Editor as an ESR specialist. John later went to Southern Illinois University as chair of the physics department and then returned to Texas as Dean of Science at East Texas State University, now Texas A&M-Commerce. After he retired from A&M-Commerce, he spent his retirement years in Commerce. Younger chemists may not know that Dallas was an early hub of important NMR research, and John Zimmerman was a key player in that effort.

2009 Section Officers Following are the results of the recent D-FW elections: Chair-Elect, Denise Merkle; Treasurer, Kirby Drake; Councilor, Angela Wilson; Alternate Councilor, Jeff Kelber.

Call for Doherty Award Nominations Nominations are invited for the 2009 Wilfred T. Doherty Award. Nominations forms may be obtained from and should be submitted to the D-FW Awards Committee Chair, **Luis R. Yudice**, Pepsi, 1000 113th Street, Arlington, TX 76011, Tel. 817-695-3226, E-mail luis.yudice@intl.pepsico.com. Forms may also be obtained from the section's website.

Nominations are due by Jan. 20, 2009. Nominations may be accompanied by seconding letters. Each nomination should contain a cover letter that carefully highlights the nominee's accomplishments in more detail than is

possible on the nomination form. Nominations remain active for five years, but nominators should consider annual updates to past nominations.

Purpose of the Award The purpose of the award is to promote the advancement of chemistry and chemical engineering, to emphasize the contributions to modern society of those fields of science, and to recognize publicly the contributions of chemists and chemical engineers in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

Requirements for Receiving the Award Excellence in chemical research or chemistry teaching, meritorious service to the ACS, establishment of a new chemical industry, solution of pollution problems, advances in curative or preventive chemotherapy; are some possible fields for consideration. The impact of these accomplishments may be either of local or national significance. Nominees may come from industry, academia, government, small business, etc. The nominee shall be a member resident in the area assigned to the D-FW ACS Section. The work on which the award is based usually should have been done in this area.

Character and Presentation of the Doherty Award The award consists of a \$1500 honorarium and an engraved plaque. A photograph of the awardee will permanently reside in the Gallery of Doherty Award Winners in Berkner Hall at UT-Dallas. The winner will normally receive his/her award at a fall D-FW ACS meeting at which time he/she will present an award address.

UT-Arlington **Dr. E. Thomas Strom** is organizing a symposium for the San Francisco ACS Meeting in Spring 2010 with the title "One Hundred Plus Years of Plastics. Leo Baek-

land and Beyond." The symposium is being sponsored by the Divisions of the History of Chemistry, Polymer Chemistry, and Polymeric Materials, Science, and Engineering. While papers will be by invitation only, Tom is looking for suggestions about potential presenters. A special seminar was given on Nov. 7 by Dr. Gary Christian, Editor of *Talanta* and Professor at the University of Washington. His topic was "The Ethics of Scientific Writing: How to Write and How not to Write a Paper."

Tarleton State University. A new faculty member is **Dr. Lance Whaley**. Lance earned his Ph.D. at the University of Arkansas and did postdoctoral work at Harvard Medical School/Massachusetts General Hospital. He taught at Emory University School of Medicine and TAMU-Commerce before joining Tarleton State.

The Tarleton State ACS Student Affiliate Chapter presented a poster and received a Top Chemvention Award at the ACS Spring Meeting in New Orleans. The Chapter was written up in the April/May issue of *InChemistry*, the National Student Affiliate magazine, for their 2006 Chemvention project. They were recently notified that they were voted a commendable chapter for 2007.

UT-Dallas. The chemistry department welcomes **Jie Zheng** as assistant professor. Jie earned his Ph.D. from Georgia Tech with **Dr. Robert Dickson** and did postdoctoral research with **Dr. Xiaowei Zhuang** at Harvard. His research involves investigating fundamental structure-property relationships of nanomaterials at bulk and single molecular levels and exploring their applications in bioimaging, catalysis,

and energy conversion.

Congratulations to Associate Chair **Dr. Inga Holl Musselman** for her promotion to full professor. On Oct. 5 Welch Professor **Ray Baughman** was formally inducted into the National Academy of Engineering at a ceremony in Washington, D.C. In addition, Ray's George A. Jeffrey NanoExplorers program was a finalist for the Metroplex Technology Business Council's Tech Titans Award. Over 30 faculty, staff, and students from the Alan G. McDiarmid NanoTech Institute participated in the NanoTX'08 Conference in Dallas last month.

Southern Methodist University
Dr. Edward Biehl and his group presented five posters at SWRM 2008 in Little Rock. He also presented a poster at the Al Meyer Symposium in October at Colorado State University. **Dr. John Buynak** attended the 10th International β -Lactamase Meeting in Athens in June.

Dr. John Maguire received a three-year renewal of \$210,000 from the Welch Foundation for "Studies of Heterocarboranes and their Charge Compensated Analogues."

Dr. Mark Schell presented a talk in July at the Gordon Conference on Oscillations and Dynamic Instabilities held at Colby College in Waterville, ME. **Dr. David Son** gave an invited lecture June 3 at the 15th International Symposium on Organosilicon Chemistry held in Jeju, Korea. **Dr. Brent Sumerlin** gave three invited lectures at the recent Philadelphia ACS Meeting and an invited lecture in July at the Northeast Regional ACS Meeting held in Burlington, VT. **Dr. Patty Wisian-Neilson** gave a poster at Dalton Dis-

cussions 11, Renaissance of Main Group Chemistry held in Berkeley, CA.

December Metroplex Seminar Schedule

Seminars are occasionally postponed or cancelled. Check departmental websites or call the department before attending.

UT-Arlington. Dec. 5, Paresh C. Ray, Jackson State University, "Nanoparticle-Based Surface Energy Transfer Probe for Environment Protection."
Dec. 10 (Note change of day) Nina Berova, Columbia University, "Porphyrin-Based Chiroptical Sensors for Conformational Studies of DNA." Seminars are normally at 2:30 p.m. in Room 114, Baker Chemical Research Building.

University of North Texas. Dec. 5, Borden Festschrift, Details on p. 9.

Texas Christian University. Dec 4, Katja Michael, UTEP, TBA. **Dec 9**, Nina Berova, Columbia University, TBA. Seminars are normally at 11 a.m. in Room 139, Tucker Technology Center.

UT-Southwestern Biochemistry. Dec 4, Carol Prives, Columbia University, "Pioneer in Studying P53." **Dec. 11**, Erik Sontheimer, Northwestern University, "Biochemical Mechanism of RNA Interference." Seminars are normally at 12 noon in Biochemistry Lecture Hall L4.176.

UT-Southwestern Biological Chemistry. Dec 16, Alison Frontier, University of Rochester, TBA. Seminars are normally at 12 noon in Biochemistry Lecture Hall L4.176.