

PUGET SOUND CHEMIST

BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND SECTION OF THE AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

Volume 60, Number 6



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Chem demos featured in October talk

Need some ideas on dressing up a chemistry lecture? Or just interested in watching stuff go boom? Professor C. Marvin Lang of the University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point, will present "The Elements of Chemical Leadership — Chemical Demonstrations with a Theme" at the Puget Sound Section meeting on Thursday, October 7 at 7:30 p.m. in Lecture Hall 4 on The Evergreen State College campus.

The talk will be preceded by dinner at the Thai Garden Restaurant in Olympia at 6:00 p.m. Deadline for dinner reservations is Wednesday, October 6, and the cost of the dinner is estimated to be \$8-15 depending on choice of dish. Please contact Paula Schofield, schofie@evergreen.edu (360-866-6000 x 6013), or Craig Fryhle, fryhle@rainier.chem.plu.edu (253-535-8314) for reservations or further information.

Dr. Lang was born in Chicago

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Who: Dr. C. Marvin Lang, University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point

What: "Elements of Chemical Leadership"

Where: Lecture Hall 4, The Evergreen State College, Olympia

When: Thursday, October 7 at 7:30 p.m.

How much for dinner: \$8 to \$15 at the Thai Garden Restaurant in Olympia; reservations required by Wednesday, October 6.

THE BULLETIN OF THE PUGET SOUND SECTION, AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY



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Puget Sound Section ACS Executive Committee Future Meetings in 1999

Meetings are open to all members and are held at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month in room 2430C (above the bookstore) at North Seattle Community College in Seattle (across I-5 from Northgate Mall). The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be **Wednesday, November 13**.

Slate for Puget Sound Section officer elections announced

As required by the by-laws of this Section, the following people have been nominated and certified by the Nominating Committee as the slate of Nominees for officers of the Puget Sound Section in 2000.

Chair-elect:

Secretary: **Sara Selfe**, University of Washington

Treasurer: **David Munch**, Seattle Central Community College

Councilor (term expiring 2002): **Mark Wicholas**, W. Washington Univ.

Alternate Councilor (term expiring 2002): **Sue Jackels**, Seattle University

Councilor (term expiring 2002): **Debbie Wiegand**, Univ. of Washington

Alternate Councilor (term expiring 2002):

Sheri Baker, Georgia Pacific (Bellingham)

Each candidate will publish a statement in the next issue of the *Chemist*. A mail-in ballot will also be published and Section members are encouraged to return their marked ballots promptly. As stated in this Section's by-laws, additional nominations for the offices above can be made at the October meeting at the Evergreen State College (please see page one).

Chemist business manager sought

The Puget Sound *Chemist* is seeking a dynamic outgoing person to serve as the business manager. This unpaid position requires billing, maintaining current accounts and soliciting new advertisements, as well as good communication with the editor of the *Chemist*. We wish to thank Kathy Hohstadt, the current business manager, for her hard work and wish her the best as the Chair of the Section. If you are interested in being the business manager (after all, it clearly leads to fame and fortune within the Sec-

tion), please contact Kathy Hohstadt (hohstadt@jps.net) or Tracy Furutani (furutani@seaccd.sccd.ctc.edu).

Liz Allen Weber

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50 year member musings

Archie Spencer Wilson

I was born January 19, 1921, in Tekoa, Washington. My parents were Andre Hamilton Wilson and Viola Sledge. Both their parents had homesteaded land near Ephrata. I have two brothers, Andy of Vancouver, WA, and Milton of Portland, OR.

In the fall of 1939, I enrolled in chemistry technology at Iowa State College in Ames, Iowa. In January 1943, I was asked by Professor Robert Rundle, my physical chemistry teacher, to join the Manhattan Project as his assistant. Dr. Rundle was a crystallographer who got his degree at Caltech under Linus Pauling. I learned during my time as an assistant enough crystallography to publish some papers on my own 30 years later. The project at Ames was a part of the Chicago Metallurgical Laboratory. Our goal was to develop an industrial process for the production of high purity uranium metal, which we did. In 1945, the secrecy of the project ended with the dropping of the bombs.

In 1944, I was married to Ivon Marie Teeter in Ames, Iowa. Our children are Andrea, Ronald, and Steven. I received the BS degree in chemistry at Iowa State in 1946, and then became a second lieutenant in the Army Quartermaster Corps through a nationwide competition for a program in which the awardees attended one of three graduate schools at Army expense while on active duty. Ivon and I moved to Chicago, and I enrolled at the University of Chicago. I received my MS degree in 1950 and became an instructor in chemistry at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln. I received my PhD from the University of Chicago with Henry Taube as my advisor in June 1951. Also that month, I became a research chemist for General Electric Co. at the Hanford Laboratories in Richland, WA. For the twenty years I was there, I specialized in inorganic chemistry of the fission products, mainly ruthenium, and the actinide elements, especially plutonium and uranium. I published a few papers and gave talks on nuclear energy and my chemical research. I was selected

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peaker at the 2nd International Conference on the Peaceful Uses of Atomic energy in Geneva in 1958, where I gave a paper on the extraction of plutonium from aqueous solution.

From 1951 to 1971, I taught a graduate course in inorganic chemistry at the Joint Center for Graduate Studies in Richland. From 1959 to 1969, I was an assistant professor for Central Washington State College at Ellensburg. In 1964, I taught advanced inorganic chemistry for one term at Washington State University in

(continued on page 7)

Lang (continued from page 1)

Dr. Lang earned his Ph.D. in physical chemistry at the University of Wyoming at Laramie in 1970. He is been on the chemistry faculty of the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point since 1964. It has been one of Dr. Lang's special interests to present the science of chemistry to the public through chemical demonstrations and workshops. His research interests include application of electron spin resonance (ESR) spectroscopy to the study of macromolecular aspects of fluids, semi-empirical molecular orbital calculations, chemical demonstrations and chemistry as portrayed on postage stamps.

Dr. Lang is active in the affairs of the ACS, having served as a past Chair and being a current Councilor for the Central Wisconsin Section. He has participated at the regional and national levels of the ACS, including two terms on the ACS Board of Directors. He was named recipient of the 1997 Helen M. Lee Award for Public Outreach by the ACS.

Whether you are coming from the north or south, you can reach The Evergreen State College from Interstate 5; take Exit 104 onto Highway 101. Follow Highway 101 north for 3 miles to The Evergreen State College exit and go another 2 miles on Evergreen Parkway to the campus entrance (on the left).

The directions to The Thai Garden Restaurant (270 Capitol Mall, Olympia,

phone 360-786-1959) start again from Interstate 5 by taking Exit 104 onto Highway 101. Follow Highway 101 north and come off at the first exit: Cooper Point Road. Turn right onto Cooper Point Road and follow this to the Capitol Mall (approx. 2 miles). You will pass the Capitol Car Center and "Toys R Us". Turn right into Capitol Mall immediately after the Red Robin Restaurant. The Thai Garden is 100 yards on your right, opposite the Capitol Mall Cinema.

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Nominate your favorite High School Chemistry Teacher!

The American Chemical Society and the Puget Sound Section is announcing a call for nominations for the 2000 Local and Regional Awards in High School Chemistry Teaching, with the winner of the local award to be presented at the November 12 section meeting at Bellevue Community College.

To qualify, a nominee must be actively engaged in the teaching of chemistry in a high school (grades 9 through 12). The local awardee will receive a commendation and a cash award. All of the local award nominations will be forwarded to the Regional Award Committee for consideration. The regional award will be made at the next annual regional meeting.

The award will be based on four criteria: the quality of the nominee's teaching, the nominee's ability to challenge and inspire students, the nominee's extracurricular work in promoting chemistry and the nominee's willingness to keep up-to-date in the field.

Nominations can be made by any individual, except a member of the award committee or a currently enrolled student of the nominee. Nominations are due Friday, October 29 and nomination forms are available from Randy Engel (206-523-4572) and Craig Fryhle (fryhle@rainier.chem.plu.edu 253-535-8314). Nominations should be returned to Education Committee Puget Sound Section, 7712 18th Avenue NE, Seattle, WA 98115).

The Puget Sound Section Education Committee's membership includes Randy Engel (Chair), Mary O'Brien (Edmonds Community College), Kristina Peterson (Lakeside School) and David Munch and Herb Bryce (both of Seattle Central Community College). This committee is charged with determining the recipient of the award, as well as awarding the Local Section Grants for Education (more details of these grants in the next *Chemist*).

Advertising rates for the *Chemist*

Size	1 issue	8 issues
Full page (4.5" × 7.5")	\$190	\$92
Half page (4.5" × 3.75" or 2.25" × 7.5")	\$127	\$55
Quarter page (4.5" × 1.875" or 2.25" × 3.75")	\$95	\$33
Eighth page (2.25" × 1.875")	\$63	\$20
Card (2.25" × 1.25")	\$32	\$12

Ad copy must be "camera ready". Deadline for ads is the first of the month preceding the month of insertion. Prepayment at the above rates or a purchase order is required.

Wilson (continued from page 4)

Pullman. In 1970, I was a guest associate at the Oregon Graduate Center in Beaverton, OR.

In June 1971, I accepted a position as Professor of Chemistry and Associate Chairman, Department of Chemistry, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, where I taught general chemistry and was the administrator of the department until 1977 when I began full-time teaching and research. My research was in the teaching of chemistry, especially the nature of examinations and their interpretation. Dr. William P. Fox, a psychologist, and I collaborated in publishing several papers on these topics. In 1989, I was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. That was also the year I retired as Professor Emeritus, and moved to an area just north of Edmonds, where we currently live.

Our children all live in Washington state. Andrea, her husband Chris Larson, and son Geoffrey, live in Seattle. Ronald and his wife Karen and their daughter Arika, live in Vancouver. Steve lives in Seattle.

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FUTURE MEETINGS in 1999

- October 2** **Peter B. Dervan, Caltech**
Linus Pauling Award Symposium
(site: Oregon State University, Corvallis)
- October 7** **C. Marvin Lang, University of Wisconsin**
"Elements of Chemical Leadership"
(site: The Evergreen State College, Olympia)
- November 12** **Herb Bryce and Tim Hoyt**
"Another Incredible Evening of Chemistry"
(site: Bellevue Community College)

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