



Dear Fellow Chemists,

Your Louisville Section #229 of the American Chemical Society has continued to serve you in small ways these past few months since the last newsletter—but perhaps done just enough in these busy wintery times to be helpful but not intrusive. Here are the activities.

Completed:

1. NCW activities on Color Chemistry at the KY Science Center during National Chemistry Week were smaller than usual because many schools are still recovering from the COVID and slowly striving to do field trips.
2. Gold mass on Nov 18th, with a special blessing for all scientists by the Louisville Archbishop, Most Rev. Shelton Fabre. This was followed by a talk over pizza salad and soft drinks (provided by your local ACS section). The excellent talk by Prof Chris Baglow of Notre Dame Univ. revealed the (falsely contrived) conflict between science and faith—and how that was generated in the late 1800s by falsifying history to create a conflict that never existed—and does not exist but plagues young students who are faith-filled but like science and are “torn” by this fake conflict.
3. Our Councilor, Jim Francis, participated in the National meeting and will fill anyone in on any details from there to whomever is interested. Most anything important was already in C&EN.
4. Executive Committee approved fund expenditures for these ongoing activities: Chemistry Olympiad, the Gold Mass reception (like a chem. café), and other reimbursable expenses like our website or those costs incurred by our councilor at the ACS National meeting.
5. The annual report was sent in to ACS National and we are in good shape financially—though suffering like many organizations from lack of participation at events both as a COVID residual and ongoing reluctance of many folks to join groups or engage in activities.

Upcoming:

1. Chem Olympiad and Science Fairs are in full swing, and we thank our local section secretary Kaya Muller, for coordinating the Olympiad, and for helping recruit science fair judges. If you are interested in helping judge the science fairs, please contact Kaya at kaya.muller@kctcs.edu
2. At 6:30 pm on Tuesday, February 25th at the Bristol Bar and Grill on Hurstbourne Lane in Louisville, all are invited to an EXEC meeting, where we plan upcoming events. For anyone interested, we have openings for a chair-elect, IUSE liaison, and member(s) at large. The meeting includes a free delicious meal and the chance to get to know the workings of the local section and become involved.
3. Our yearly Awards Banquet this year will be at the Wildwood Country Club, as usual, at 6:30 pm on Tuesday April 8th. This is a bit earlier than usual because of the close proximity of Easter to Derby week.
4. Our Summer Outing for the past few years has centered on water, either the Belle of Louisville boat ride with pizza afterwards or the Louisville Waterworks this past year. This coming year we plan on approaching the properties of fire. We hope to visit either Payton Glass or Flame Run glassblowing activities and request your opinion as to which we should pursue (or one this year and the other next year). Dates and times TBD.

May God's blessings be with you all—and even with your sometimes uncooperative chemical reactions.

Fr. Pat

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