



THE FILTER PRESS

Newsletter of the Georgia Section of the American Chemical Society

Volume 12, Number 6

September, 2002

Chemistry In the Dark

Lillian Johnston, Co-Director Math and Science Academy - Retired
Stephenson High School

Chemistry is fun, but Chemistry in the Dark is Phenom-enal!

Did you know that if you brush your teeth with Sensodyne toothpaste your pearly whites fluoresce under a black light? Did you know that brighteners in laundry detergent are the reason your clothes show up as glow-in-the-dark? Did you know that different elements exhibit characteristic colors in a flame test? Be sure to join us as we delve into the mysteries of chemicals and chemical reactions in the dark...

Just a month before National Chemistry Week and its celebration of hands-on science, Lillian Johnston will take us on a fantastic journey through the world of chemistry in the dark. Whether it is rapid oxidation or fiber optics, flame testing or soap suds, catalyst activity or pyrotechnics, it all involves turning out the lights...

Lillian Johnston is a recently retired award winning chemistry teacher from Stephenson High School. Her skills and background have enabled her to get students and other teachers excited about science in general and chemistry in particular. She served as the director of the Outdoor Classroom and co-director of the Wetland Study and the Math and Science Academy for many years. With a BS in Chemistry and Biology and a Masters in Science Education, Lillian has contributed to the Dekalb County School System in many different ways. She has

served on the Chemistry Curriculum and Textbook committees, the Television and Technology Advisory Board, and as a Project Wet and Project Wild facilitator. In addition, she has served on the Education Outreach Advisory Board, the Board of Regents Science Committee for the Performance Assessment of Colleges and Technical Schools, and the National Science Teachers Association.

Further underlining her contributions for the benefit of science, her publications include The Georgia Science Teacher for Fall/Winter 2000, Interactive Education: Outdoor Classrooms, and the Dekalb County Schools Science Curriculum for the last two decades.

Major awards include: The Atlanta Journal-Constitution 2001 High School Honor Teacher Award, The Georgia Science Teacher's Association District Twelve Science Teacher of the Year for 1998 and 2000, the Outstanding Teacher Award from Radio Shack Tandy Scholars and the 1993 Excellence in Teaching Award from the Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Spectroscopy. She has conducted numerous research projects in tandem with the CDC, Agnes Scott College and the Dow Chemical Company.

This is one evening of chemistry fun at SciTrek that you do not want to miss!

Thursday, September 26, 2002 at SciTrek



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September Chair's Message

Summer vacation is over, the kids are back in school, the temperature is a degree or two cooler and a fall breeze brings on its wings...Chemistry! I hope everyone had a restful and resourceful couple of months. Your ACS officers have been working diligently on the programs for the rest of this year and into the next one. We have a variety of things happening over the next few months that we hope you'll enjoy participating in and it is time for us to get back full swing into the fun of chemistry.

Why did I become a chemist? It was...well...umm...that's right!...It was all the cool stuff you can do with Chemistry in the Dark! We are pleased to have Lillian Johnston bringing us into the light about chemical happenings in the dark. She is part of our ACS leadership and an outstanding chemistry teacher known for getting her students excited about science. Be sure to join us in September to get a firsthand look. Along the same lines of hands-on chemistry, we are celebrating National Chemistry Week in October and her demonstration will give teachers and demonstrators a wealth of ideas, so please invite the teachers and high schoolers you know to enjoy her presentation with us.

Our October meeting focuses on the efforts of our COLGA volunteers. What might be unknown to some of you is that we have ACS member volunteers coordinating with most all of our state and federal representatives from Georgia. They are one of the hardest working groups of people in the local section and they have arranged a panel discussion with several of our elected officials. Not only should we all vote on Election Day, we should work hard the rest of the year to have our voices heard. The stories the committee hears from the representative's offices about how even a few concerned scientists can have a real impact on state and federal policy are amazing. Be sure to accept this opportunity to sit face to face with them and discuss the issues important to you.

Ever wonder what is in that cold cream you slather on your face or perhaps the aftershave lotion you use everyday to soothe the sting of razor burn? Or how they go about testing it? Then you want to be part of our November presentation on cosmetics. Bringing in a nationally known speaker to discuss the consumer goods you have in your bathroom cabinet is just one more way your ACS tries to serve your interests.

We always welcome new volunteers and people interested in serving in an officer capacity. SERMACS is a little more than a year away now and galloping toward us so that we need all the people power available. Contact Tom Netzel to see how you can assist. Election for chair-elect, secretary and council positions are coming up. Nominations will close on October 1st, so if you or anyone you know is interested let one of your officers know. As always address any correspondence for me to bstar1@bellsouth.net. I'm happy to help in any way I can and I hope to see you in our local ACS meeting soon!

Brian

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Postmaster: Send address changes to Brian Fowler, 3466 Irwin Bridge Rd., Conyers, GA 30012

September Meeting**Chemistry in the Dark**

Lillian Johnston

SciTrek

Atlanta, GA

Date: Thursday, September 26, 2002

Time: 6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Arrive
 7:00- 8:00 p.m. Dinner
 8:00- 9:00 p.m. Program

Dinner: Choice of Pizza - *Vegetable* - Fresh mushrooms, red onions, green peppers, tomatoes and black olives. *Pepperoni*; *Cheese*; *Combination* - Pepperoni, Italian sausage, ham, bacon, beef and pork toppings.; *Supreme Pizza* - Pepperoni, beef and pork toppings, green peppers, red onions and mushrooms.
 Dessert: Homemade Cookie Assortment, Selection of Soda,, Iced Tea, Water
Be Sure to Indicate Your Pizza Choice When Making Your Reservation.

Location: SciTrek
 395 Piedmont Ave.
 Atlanta, GA
 404-522-5500
 www.scitrek.org

Directions: **From the North** Take I-75 or I-85 heading south, to the downtown connector. Exit at Courtland Street and merge left. Turn left at the second light onto Harris Street. Turn left onto Piedmont Avenue SciTrek's parking lot will be on your right, adjacent to the Civic Center.

From the South Take I-75/85 North to Exit 249 B Pine Street, Peachtree Street, Civic Center. Follow the exit ramp and merge to the center lane. You will be on Pine Street. Go through 2 traffic lights. At the third traffic light, cross Piedmont Avenue. Make an immediate right into the first driveway into the SciTrek parking lot. .

Cost: \$ 17.00 per person, full-time students with ID and high school teachers, \$12.00. Payment should be made to the **ACS Georgia Section** and will be collected at the door.

RSVP: Brian Fowler, Bridgestar Inc. 770-602-4222, bstar1@bellsouth.net
 When making reservations, please state your name, professional affiliation, telephone number and dinner choice. **Reservation deadline is 5:00 PM on Tuesday September 24, 2002. If you make a dinner reservation but fail to attend, you must still make payment for your meal.**



**2002
 Georgia
 Section
 Meetings:**

October 22
 COLGA

November 22
 Cosmetic Chemistry

Analytical Consulting
 Automation/Networking

GC/MS/DS & UPS
 Service & Support



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Editor Wanted

The Filter Press is looking for a new editor. Some experience with page-layout software required. Contact Alan Gabrielli (agabriel@spsu.edu) or Joe Stoner (joe.stoner@juno.com) if interested.

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