

the Alembic



Chair's Corner

Our next meeting is on Earth Day, April 22, in Eau Claire. We are fortunate to have an outstanding speaker, Bill Carroll, who happens to be very active in environmental and Earth Day activities. Dave Lewis, who is Dr. Carroll's host for this meeting, says that Dr. Carroll wants to conduct some Earth Day activities in Eau Claire that day. Because of this request, we have appointed Dave Lewis as the section's coordinator for Chemists Celebrate Earth Day activities. Dave will work with Dr. Carroll to arrange these activities. National ACS wants every section to have a Chemists Celebrate Earth Day coordinator, and they want every section to observe Earth Day, much like we celebrate National Chemistry Week. Maybe Dr. Carroll can get us started on a new annual activity that can be extended throughout our section. I hope we get an Earth Day report from Dave and Dr. Carroll at our meeting.

The program for the rest of this year is falling into place:

- Awards Night. May 15 in the Legacy Room of the newly renovated Dreyfus University Center on the Stevens Point Campus.
- No meeting in June, July, or August (as usual)
- September 18, Stevens Point, Al Hazari (previously announced)
- October 15, Wisconsin Rapids, E. Gerald Meyer (previously announced)
- November 11, Marshfield, Meeting in Miniature
- No meeting in December

Awards Night honors an outstanding high school chemistry student, an

outstanding high school chemistry teacher, an outstanding college chemistry student, a section member who has provided outstanding service to the section, and a section member who has made outstanding contributions to chemistry. Also, we have a special "Salute to Excellence" award this year.

We are still soliciting nominations for the Outstanding Service and the Outstanding Contribution to Chemistry awards. Please send nominations to me before the April 22 meeting. We hope that executive committee members present at that meeting can select these awardees that evening, so that award plaques can be prepared in time for Awards Night. No special format is required for nominations. Just indicate who you think deserves the award and why.

Long time active section member Ron Haas has moved to Fridley, Minnesota (near Minneapolis) to be closer to family. He sends his best wishes to his friends and colleagues in CWS-ACS and also wishes continued success for the section. Ron has arranged at least two section tours of his outstanding laboratory at Marshfield Clinic, has hosted several other meetings, and has arranged some excellent programs by Clinic staff. We'll miss him. Ron sent his new email address, ron.haas@yahoo.com.

Dave Thiel

Visit the new ACS web site at:
portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content

ACS - CWS Mini-Directory

Chair

Dave Thiel
 911 Craig Ct.
 Port Edwards, WI 54469
 phone (home) 887-4338
 phone (office) 346-3714
 email dthiel@uwsp.edu

Chair-Elect

Dave Lewis

Secretary - Treasurer

Tip Randall

Councilor

C. Marvin Lang

Alternate Councilor

Dave Lewis

Newsletter Editor

Tom Zamis
 Dept. of Chemistry, UW-SP
 phone (715) 346-3258 (office)
 email tzamis@uwsp.edu

ACS-CWS Web Page

www.uwsp.edu/chemistry/acscws/
 Up-to-date information about section activities including the **Alembic** and meeting notices.



From Garbage to Stuff: How We Recycle Plastics

Dr. William F. Carroll
OxyChem

April 22, 2008 7:30 PM
Chemistry Department, Phillips Hall 401
University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire



Is that recycling bin the springboard to giving material a new life or is it simply a blue wastebasket? What about surplus materials from industrial processes? Do they find their way out the back door to the landfill? This presentation discusses the four critical steps in recycling - collection, separation, reprocessing and remanufacture - and how they relate to plastics. The technology, the cost and the efficacy of the processes all matter. And the operative word, plastics, really is plural. Presentation includes a primer in the basic kinds of plastics, how they differ and how they're used in common articles, especially packaging. The presenter brings a few common articles for demonstrations, and promises not to recycle an old quote from "The Graduate."

*** About the Speaker ***

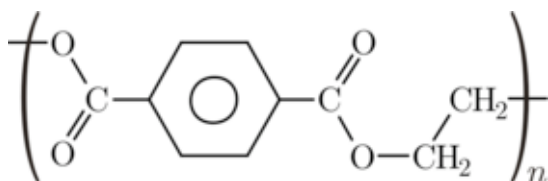
Dr. William F. Carroll, Jr. holds a B.A. in Chemistry and Physics from DePauw University, Greencastle, IN, an M.S. from Tulane University in New Orleans, and a Ph.D. from Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, majoring in Organic Chemistry. Bill started his industry career in 1978 and after a year with Rohm and Haas Company, Bristol, PA, moved to what is now known as Occidental Chemical Corporation. He is currently Vice President, Chlorovinyl Issues for OxyChem and works on public policy issues and communications related to chlorine and PVC. He is also Adjunct Professor of Chemistry at Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana and teaches polymer chemistry there. Bill is a past President (2005) of the American Chemical Society, a member of the ACS Budget and Finance Committee, and past chair of its International Activities Committee. He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry, a member of the US National Committee for the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry, and chair of the Science Advisory Board for DePauw University. He has been an active member of and chaired various committees for a number of chemistry, plastics, fire protection and recycling organizations. He has served on expert groups commissioned by the United Nations Environmental Program, the State of Florida, and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. He received the Vinyl Institute's Roy T. Gottesman Leadership Award for lifetime achievement in 2000.

Gather at 5:30. Eat at 6:00 at Sweetwaters Restaurant, 1104 W. Clairemont Ave, Eau Claire (near the intersection of Clairemont (US 12) and State Highway 37). Reservations should be made by contacting **Dave Lewis** at **715-836-4744** or email **lewisd@uwec.edu** before noon on Monday, April 21.

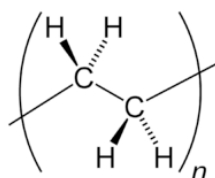
ACS - Central Wisconsin Section 2008 Meeting Schedule

DATE	LOCATION	SPEAKER	TOPIC	HOST
April 22	Eau Claire	William F. Carroll	From Garbage to Stuff: How We Recycle Plastics	Dave Lewis
May 15	Stevens Point		Awards Banquet & Spouses Night	
Sept. 18	Stevens Point	Al Hazari	Periodic Fun	
Oct. 15	Wisc. Rapids	E. Gerald Meyer	Green Chemistry and Coal	Dave Thiel
Nov. 11	Marshfield		Meeting-in-Miniature	

Molecules of the Month



Polyethylene terephthalate (PET) is a plastic resin used to make bottles for soft drinks and other household and consumer products. Soft drink bottles remain the biggest user of PET resin. "Custom" bottles are used for other products such as salad dressing, peanut butter and jellies. PET is also used for film, oven trays, sheeting for cups and food trays, and other packaging. Half of all polyester carpet made in the United States is made from recycled PET bottles.



High-density polyethylene (HDPE) resin is produced from the chemical compound ethene. HDPE is defined by a density of greater or equal to 0.941 g/cm³. HDPE has a low degree of branching and thus stronger intermolecular forces and tensile strength. Blow-molded bottles are used for detergents, shampoos, motor oil, milk and other liquid products. Injection-molded HDPE containers are used for products such as margarine and yogurt. HDPE resin also can be used to make bottle and container caps, and flexible packaging such as sacks and trash bags.

both are excerpts from articles in wasteage.com by Chaz Miller, state programs director for the Environmental Industry Associations, Washington, D.C.

Baseball Food And Drink: Healthy Chemistry ScienceDaily (Jul. 8, 2005)

A baseball stadium may not be the first place that comes to mind when looking for healthy foods, but researchers are finding that some ballpark favorites, including beer, contain compounds that are good for you -- in moderation, of course. Whether you plan to attend a game in person or watch one on television, consider these intriguing findings from studies originally published in the American Chemical Society's Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry:

Sunflower seeds may lower blood pressure -- Researchers in Spain have shown in lab studies that the popular seeds appear to release a compound upon digestion that has the potential to lower blood pressure and could serve as a natural weapon to help strike out hypertension.

Moderate beer drinking may reduce heart attack risk -- A beer a day may help keep heart attacks away, according to a group of Israeli researchers. In preliminary clinical studies of a group of men with coronary artery disease, the researchers showed that drinking one 12-ounce beer a day for a month produced changes in blood chemistry that are associated with a reduced risk of heart attack.

Anti-cancer compounds found in sauerkraut -- You might want to add a little more sauerkraut to your hot dog: The tangy topping, made from fermented cabbage, contains a class of compounds called isothiocyanates which were previously identified in other studies as potential cancer-fighting agents, researchers say.

Onions battle osteoporosis -- Go ahead and toss more onions on your hamburger or hot dog: They're good for your bones! In lab studies using bone cells from rats, researchers at the University of Bern in Switzerland found a peptide compound in onions that appears to decrease bone loss.