



# the Alembic

I was sorry to miss last month's meeting in Wisconsin Rapids. David Thiel, our April host, reported that I missed a good one. We had a small but very engaged group. Unfortunately, I had a last minute trip scheduled to Interphex in New York.

Interphex is a pharmaceutical manufacturing trade show and exhibition. This conference showcases technology from drug discovery to full production including chemical precursors, manufacturing, testing, and packaging equipment. It also covers contract manufacturing as well as biomedical devices.

One of the more interesting developments in the industry on display at the conference was technology supporting an area nicknamed "designer" pharmaceuticals. These products target medical conditions that have smaller afflicted populations. In the past, it was difficult to bring products forward in these areas due to issues in scale-up from bench scale to large process or due to prohibitive costs. New technology in this area allows generation of 3L to 300L batches instead of the typical 1000L to 5000L reactor sizes used in normal production.

Much of this technology centers on disposable, pre-sterilized (autoclaved or gamma radiated), polymer based equipment replacing large, expensive stainless steel that is difficult to sterilize and clean. Much of the equipment used in large scale production also constitutes a biohazard for facility personnel during cleanup after production runs. The used disposables can be utilized as a fuel source for incineration, eliminating these cleanup hazards. By reducing the size and expense of equipment, drug companies hope to push down drug development time and costs. There may also be possibilities for using this equipment in other chemical production, reducing required plant foot prints as well as cleanup and environmental disposal concerns. It is an exciting new technology platform that looks to revolutionize many areas of pharmaceutical production.

Our May meeting will be our annual Banquet and Spouse Night in Marshfield. Hopefully you will be able to join us as we present our annual awards for Outstanding High School Senior Chemistry Student, Outstanding High School Chemistry Teacher,

Outstanding Contributions to Chemistry, and Outstanding College Senior Chemistry Student. I hope to see you on May 23.

Wishing all of you a great summer!

**Steve**

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American Chemical Society

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**AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY - CENTRAL WISCONSIN SECTION  
ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET AND SPOUSES NIGHT**

Wednesday, May 22, 2006

Belvedere Supper Club

M329 State Highway 97

Marshfield, WI

5:30 - 6:30 Cash Bar

6:30 - 7:30 Dinner

7:30 - 8:00 Awards Presentations

**OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO CHEMISTRY  
AWARD**

**OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER AWARD**

**OUTSTANDING COLLEGE CHEMISTRY STUDENT  
AWARD**

**OUTSTANDING HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY  
STUDENT AWARD**

The meeting will be at the Belvedere Supper Club. Directions from Marshfield: Take Central Ave north (Central Ave turns into Hwy 97). After passing Walmart/Applebees/Menards, Belvedere is about 5 miles north (not exactly sure about the distance) on the left (west) side of the highway. Dinner reservations should be made by contacting Steve Nieland at (715)258-5525 x114 or email [snieland@waupacaonline.net](mailto:snieland@waupacaonline.net) before 4:00pm on Tuesday, May 22.