



THE OCTAGON

841st LVACS Meeting:
Tuesday May, 21st "America on Wheels"



**Join LVACS members for a fun family night at
America on Wheels - a transportation museum!**

Time: 5:30-8:00 PM - Tour and Ice cream social!

Costs: \$7.00 adults - \$4.00 children (6-16) -
5 and under free !
ice cream \$2.50 per serving

RSVP contact: Tara Baney, tsbaney@gmail.com
NO LATER than 8PM Tuesday, May 14.
Provide number of children and adults
in your party.

Directions and museum information:
<http://americaonwheels.org>



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MEETING DETAILS:

A brief business meeting will be held. The entrance price includes time to tour the museum and enjoy ice cream in the cafe. America On Wheels offers a glimpse of the past, present and future of the nation's over-the-road transportation system and preserve its history by looking back in time, collecting valuable artifacts and vehicles and illustrating the tremendous impact transportation has had on people's daily lives



A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Greetings LVACS Colleagues,

I hope this finds everyone doing well. Spring has showcased via a cornucopia of blooms combined with schizophrenic weather. Cold one day, sunburnt the next! Just as expected, no complaints, solely amazement, wonder, and observation at the beauty of nature in all forms.

Your Executive Committee have been feverishly working together to discuss a variety of topics to help achieve our Strategic Plan goals. The top three, as a gentle reminder, are:

1. Increase active members to 100 within five years with three activities per person per year considered active.
2. Improve and expand communications to our members over the next 3-5 years.
3. Improve outreach to the community through Section-coordinated public events.

Our last issue of the Octagon outlined the various committees and a request for members to get involved. We wish to continue these dialogs, and the invitation to discuss is in continual open state. Please use these opportunities!

Another very important issue centers around the budget. We kindly request your patience and help as we work towards a positive net gain rather than the negative balance we have experienced of late. One item that struck us unexpectedly is Merck & Co., Inc. no longer publishes the Merck Index. As you know, for many years we have received, as a very generous donation, the stand-by reference for our Senior Awardees each year. Currently, the Royal Society of Chemistry publishes the Merck Index, and does not offer equivalent generosity. We provided Barnes & Nobel gift cards this year, along with certificates. We are looking into options for next year and beyond, so please keep an eye out and provide input if desired.

Next, we need to be diligent on the funds spent on meeting meals. We kindly



request each hosting institution to provide an itemized list of member categories (full member, student, guest, retiree, speaker, etc). In addition, the hosting institution has the option of meeting-type flexibility: later dessert or appetizer meeting rather than a full dinner-meal meeting. This will afford members who do not wish or have time for a long meeting including a full dinner to attend and grab a quick dessert with coffee or appetizer after a nice early evening with work, friend, and / or family. This will also decrease costs, as the LVACS will need to determine an appropriate subsidy to minimize a balance sheet in the "red". We are looking at other events and items to help us reconcile. All of this is meant to inform and request patience. We wish to have events and activities that support the Strategic Plan. Anything else which causes us to forego the Plan, or hinders the plan, is not prudent nor officially supported by the Section. We have plenty of great opportunities for all members of the Section!

Please feel free to send ideas for activities that will support all items stated. As always, we can learn and grow from one another. Think about what you want from this section, and how it can happen. Let's plan and do it!

As always, your Executive Committee is here for you, and we will listen to your thoughts, ideas, and action plans for our section.

I look forward to hearing from you. Blessings and Be Well.

Cheers,

Tara S. Baney, PhD, Chair LVACS



Coming Up this Summer!

LVACS at the Iron Pigs - July 10!

See the announcement on page 10 of this issue of the Octagon
Event details coming in the next issue of the Octagon
and on LVACS.net, facebook and Linked in

LOCAL STUDENTS WIN CHANCE TO QUALIFY FOR INTERNATIONAL CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD

The Lehigh Valley Section of the American Chemical Society has announced the names of six outstanding high school chemistry students. The students will take a national exam that will qualify them to become members of the U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad Team that will compete in the 45th International Chemistry Olympiad (IChO) in Moscow, Russia, July 15-24, 2013.

The students are:

Velisa Li	Freedom High School
John Weigand	Freedom High School
Jonathan Neupauer	Bethlehem Catholic High School
Lauren Russo	Bethlehem Catholic High School
Hannah Kim	Parkland High School
Thomas Thachil	Easton Area High School

The IChO involves a series of theoretical exams, laboratory exercises, and other activities aimed at identifying the best chemistry students from participating nations from around the world. The U.S. has participated in this event since 1984. In 2012, the U.S. team won one gold and three silver medals. A total of 283 students represented 72 countries at the 44th IChO, in Washington, D.C. The six local nominees are among over 1,200 nationwide that took a national qualifying exam April 11-15, 2013 to select finalists. Twenty students will be identified and will undergo intensive training June 4-19 at the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado. The top four will be chosen to represent the U.S. in the 45th IChO competition.

CONGRATULATIONS!

GET THE WORD OUT!

Are you volunteering in your community? Do you have any upcoming chemistry or science events planned?

Help is available to help get yourself, your volunteers and your event spotlighted at your college and/or in the local and regional news. Contact the LVACS Public Relations Chair, Greglynn Gibbs, gdw104@psu.edu.



Nothing says "Thank You" like well deserved recognition!



MINUTES

Regular Meeting Minutes - DRAFT April 16, 2013 Cedar Crest College

Started 7:10pm

I. T. Baney (chair) welcomed those members in attendance, students and the career panel.

II. Counselor Report (P. Kistler) from New Orleans ACS Meeting

A. A net positive was reported of \$20.2 million.

B. There was a vote to escalate due to \$154.

C. Discussion was held to accept a new formula for distributing allotments based on the size of the chapters; smaller chapters would receive more money.

D. Our section will again be in the Mid-Atlantic district after the boundaries are confirmed at the September Indianapolis meeting.

III. L. Tribe (past chair) announced winner for the Earth Day Poem Contest

A. Winners included students from Moravian Academy, W. Reading Elementary, and Gov. Mifflin Senior High School.

B. Winners will be invited to the May LVACS meeting.

IV. PSU Berks conferences

A. A conference regarding molecular modeling will be held May 14-17 at PSU Berks

B. A conference regarding MatCAB active learning will be held May 17-18 at PSU Berks

V. J. Freeman announced the Organic Chemistry Scholarship competition that will be held on May 4th at Moravian College. Students will write an essay on an organic molecule, submit a letter of recommendation and take the ACS Organic Chemistry Exam.

VI. May LVACS meeting will be held at American on Wheels Museum in Allentown, PA on May 21. An ice cream social will be provided. The meeting time is 530-8pm.

VII. Iron Pigs Annual Outing will be July 10, 2013. Tickets are on sale (100 total) for \$15, which is the discounted rate. Members should contact Lindsey Welch, Chester Crane or Bill Miles to reserve tickets.

VIII. C. Stein (treasurer) reported that we received our annual allotment from ACS.

IX. J. Berk (chair-elect) is planning meetings for next year.

A. The tentative September meeting will be a Saturday family picnic style event where the area colleges' chemistry and affiliates clubs will help host.

B. November meeting will be at Lehigh University in conjunction with the Lehigh Valley Nanotechnology Network.

X. Meeting Minutes were approved from March meeting at DeSales.

XI. L. Welch (secretary) presented L. Tribe (past chair) with her Past Chair pin.

XII. There will be plans to recognize 50- and 60-year members at a fall meeting. An idea was presented to connect these members with current college students for interviews.

XIII. The career panel was introduced by J. Berk (chair-elect).

Meeting Adjourned 8:40 pm

Regular Meeting Minutes - March 23, 2013 DeSales University

Began: 7:32 pm

I. T. Baney recognized the high school teachers in attendance at the meeting and thanked DeSales University for hosting the evening.

II. The budget was not finalized, but an Executive Committee meeting will be held on March 27th.

III. Committee vacancies will be discussed at the next EC meeting; students are encouraged to be involved to build leadership skills.

IV. Announcements

A. DeSales University natural science club is now officially an ACS Affiliates Club.

B. The annual Iron Pigs LVACS outing is being planned for Wednesday July 10th, 2013. Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm



MINUTES-EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

February 1, 2013

Present: Tara Baney, Lindsey Welch, Jeanne Berk, Pamela Kistler, Carol Stein, Carol Baker-Libby, Michelle Jones-Wilson, Lorena Tribe (via telephone)

Meeting Details:

I. The use of Doodle was suggested as a future method for scheduling a meeting.

II. T. Baney asked the group to offer their thoughts about successes and needs for improvement for our section of ACS.

A. Successes:

- The Iron Pigs event and the schedule postcards were named as successes this year.

B. Improvements Needed:

- The section needs to promote new active membership.

- We need to analyze the geography of the section to hold events which are convenient to all members in the section.

- It was suggested that new members could be escorted to section meetings or events by current active members.

- It was suggested to place the ACS & You video link on the website and other social media such as LinkedIn and FaceBook.

III. Budget

A. An itemized list is needed for certain parts of the budget.

B. Meals were over budget by \$2,000 and miscellaneous costs were not defined.

C. Purchases should be reviewed by T. Baney beforehand.

D. C. Stein will learn to use QuickBooks software to handle the budget as new treasurer.

- The budget is due in mid-February.

E. Merck indexes will be given this year for the undergraduate poster session.

IV. Octagon

A. M. Jones-Wilson requested that information for the issues of the Octagon be submitted in a more timely manner.

B. The goal for the release of the Octagon is three weeks prior to the monthly meeting.

V. Communication

A. The website is not uniformly updated.

B. It was suggested that committee chairs update their pages monthly with a reminder from T. Baney.

C. It was suggested for links posted on the social networking sites to only link to the main LVACS webpage instead of more specific pages.

VI. Student/Young Members

A. IPG (grant) for Chem club "beat down": battle of experiments for children.

B. We should think about a career fair.

C. A recent alumni panel is planned for the April meeting at Cedar Crest College.

D. February 28th a webinar will be broadcasted at Cedar Crest College by chemistry club.

VII. Committees

A. Some committees will need replacement chairpersons.

B. Education- Al Martin is retiring - Pat Smiley was suggested as a replacement.

C. Long Range Plan -Nigel Sanders

D. Mentoring and Minority Affairs Committees need chair(s).

- We discussed combining the committees and L. Welch is a suggested chair.

- We may have a mentor for each geographic area of the section.

- Other suggested chairs were Lee Silverberg (safety chair), Paul Bouis, and Nigel Sanders

E. Women's Chemists Committee: D. Ringhoff is resigning

F. We would like certain members (who are no longer in office) to be kept active.

R. Egolf was suggested as a co-chair on the safety committee and mentoring.

- Public Affairs: Chester Crane, R. Egolf, or Sara Hyack (DeSales) were suggested.

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Feb. EC Minutes -continued from page 6

VIII. Other business

A. Project Seed-scholarship internship opportunity for economically disadvantaged high school students hosted by an academic or industrial lab.

C. Baker-Libby will check on this topic.

B. On February 28th, a woman from ACS will be visiting Muhlenberg College and perhaps also Cedar Crest College to discuss careers with college students.

C. The senior chemists' committee could be combined with the retired chemists' committee.

D. L. Tribe suggested two students for the volunteer of the month award.

- One student was involved with UN Climate Change

- The second student (Kristen from PSU Berks) attended the Leadership Conference.

E. Gifts for N. Sanders, L. Tribe and other outgoing executive committee members

- J. Berk found chemistry clocks on Cafepress.com

F. Gifts for speakers

- The next speaker is Dr. Chriss McDonald (we can ask Joe Keene for a gift suggestion.) Tara—Yes, his name has two S's

G. ACS Student awards

- P. Kistler will send an announcement to local faculty to request names for this year's winners

H. April Meeting

- M. Jones-Wilson has the form for poster title submission

- Students must follow the instructions for abstract format

- Review of abstracts were suggested toward the end of March.

March 27, 2013 - Teleconference

Present: Tara Baney, Lindsey Welch, Jeanne Berk, Carol Libby, Carol Stein, Pam Kistler

Not Present: Lorena Tribe, Michelle Jones-Wilson, John Freeman

Began at 8pm

I. Budget

A. We have an approximate \$6000 deficit (\$5887)

B. A significant amount of money was lost from under-budgeting meals.

C. So far, the leadership course attended by J. Berk and C. Stein has cost \$1175 for registration. Housing costs have not yet been determined. We are waiting for a bill to be sent to us.

D. Our allotment of \$10,707 has not yet arrived, but it did not arrive until April last year.

E. T. Baney will pay for her meal at DeSales.

F. The level of subsidy for meals at meetings was discussed and we also plan to have a meeting report sheet in the future to keep track of the specific costs for meetings. Cedar Crest's meeting will be the "dry run".

G. Fundraising- It was suggested to have a 50/50 drawing for the Iron Pigs outing.

1. Last year, the gifts for attendees was approximately \$1200.

2. It was discussed to either not subsidize the tickets as much or to eliminate or reduce the price of the gifts.

Continued on page 8



EC March 27 - Continued from page 7

II. IT Information

- A. Web access: To provide Michelle Jones-Wilson with a break from handling the webpage and Octagon, a discussion about providing support or backup for this position.
- B. A student or an adult volunteer was suggested as an alternative.
- C. Separating the newsletter and webpage duties was discussed.

III. ACS Mass email session

- A. It will be held on April 24, 2013 as a webinar to improve how mass emails are sent by local sections.
- B. A demonstration of Service Real Magnet will be provided.

IV. Merck Index Award

- A. The publication was transferred to the Royal Society of Chemistry, so we can no longer obtain copies within the US.
- B. Ideas to substitute for the award were suggested, including subsidizing membership dues, a plaque, and a Barnes and Noble gift card.
- C. A Barnes and Noble gift card was decided as the gift for this year.

Adjourned at 9:05pm

April 22, 2013 - Teleconference

Present: Tara Baney, Lorena Tribe, Jeanne Berk, Carol Libby, Carol Stein, Pam Kistler, Michelle Jones-Wilson

Not Present: Lindsey Welch, John Freeman

Began at 8pm

Updates:

Budget - work with hosting parties to balance cost of meals at meetings

Michelle kindly volunteered to update the meeting form to include alternative meal scenarios - dessert or appetizer meetings rather than a traditional full-course dinner meeting

We are going to conduct a retroactive analysis of past meetings to determine the cost charged to the section versus the cost passed on to members. As able, the itemized list of payee categories will be provided. For the Feb/Mar/Apr meetings in 2013, we are working towards a detailed itemized list of payees, and will request this information on an ongoing basis. We can suggest to hosting parties that the LVACS will cover 10% of the meal costs (this percentage requires consensus), and a policy for meals should be developed during the summer months in preparation for the next season of meetings.

A recommendation was made to increase the voluntary local section dues from \$5.00 to \$8.00. This can be implemented via Carol Stein and the National form, due by April 30th.

The senior award was deemed a too pricey and not personalized for the students. To improve this, excellent suggestions were made to have personalized pen sets, or certificates/plaques, or leather portfolios given to students. The EC can also provide personalized congratulatory letters to each student for their academic or career files in support of career progression. We will ask colleagues at the various academic institutions to acquire a "temperature check" with students to determine what type of gift would be most treasured/utilized.

Iron Pigs game: for 2013, LVACS will subsidize the cost and try to recoup lost monies via a 50/50 raffle. This raffle will be offered from the May meeting onward (once Tara confirms with Liz at America on Wheels that we can run a raffle during the event). Future fundraising opportunities is a raffle for a hot-air balloon ride (Jeanne will look into costs and availability). We can start to sell raffles at the September meeting and continue with a spring winner and summer scheduling for the balloon ride.

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EC April 22 - Continued from page 8

We need to have a tally on the return of scientific investment with this outing; any data that are available should be presented to the EC for further development towards the Strategic Plan:

Top three: Increase active members to 100 within five years with three activities per person per year considered active.

Improve and expand communications to our members over the next 3-5 years.

Improve outreach to the community through Section-coordinated public events.

Understanding there was an LVACS table the first year, but not subsequent years, and would like to know if members attending the game are attending chemistry events, meetings, in hopes of sustained participation in the section.

Website: Michelle and Tara have a teleconference April 24 to discuss logistics surrounding website training. Tara will coordinate with Michelle and Danielle for a summer training and updated instruction manual for EC and Committee Chairs.

Other items: Tara and Jeanne will work on activities/meetings for the next season starting in September. Planning a September kick-off picnic, and possibly a combined meeting with Gene Lucadamo (Center for Advanced Material and Nanotechnology) in November at Lehigh.

Tara has requested Jeanne to work with her in committee chair searches, which is ongoing.

Meeting ended at approximately 9 PM

Next meeting Thursday, April 25th at 8 PM

*Minutes Submitted by Lindsey Welch
Secretary LVACS*

LEADERSHIP WORKSHOP REPORT

Dear Members,

Dr. Berks and I represented the Lehigh Valley ACS group in January 2013 at the leadership institute in Dallas, TX. I want to

take the opportunity to express my gratitude and share a little about what I learned at the ACS Leadership Institute. One of the first things we learned is to keep things short; hopefully I have accomplished that requirement.

The presentation that impressed me the most was the "ACS Network and Social Media." The ACS has created a social networking tool similar to the major social networking sites in cyber space today. If you are a computer guru you probably already know that it was created about two years ago. If you're like me on the other hand, I had no idea this even existed. I think this could be a great tool in communicating within our section. If you would like to check it for yourself go to www.acs.org and click on the network button in the upper right corner. Feel free to friend me! Make sure you find our LVACS page to follow.

Another highlight I would like to share is our section's reputation. Numerous people commented about the group as whole and named specific individuals from the section. Our strategic planning and Public relations were only two area of conversation. I was honored to hear the good reports of our local section. May we raise the bar a little higher and each of commit to reaching out and helping the section in a new effort this year.

Lastly on a personal note I learned about myself as a leader. Although, we may not always see ourselves as having much to offer, the willingness to serve is more important. I feel the mark of a good leader is their willingness to serve the people; without you we would be nothing. As your officers we are here to see that ideas are carried through to actions, program, and events. If you have any comments on how we could better serve the section please let us know.

Thank you again, not only for the opportunity to represent you at the leadership training but also for giving me the honor to serve you as treasurer.

Carol Stein



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Check us out of Facebook and Linked In

Did you know that LVACS posts Lehigh Valley chemistry happenings on Facebook and Linked In?

Have an event to share? Post on our wall.

LVACS is on Linked In

Get connected to other professionals in the Lehigh Valley on Linked In

Linked in



5th Annual LV-ACS Iron Pigs Baseball Summer Meeting
7:05 pm Wednesday, July 10, 2013
Pawtuckett Red Sox at LV Iron Pigs
Adult Cap Giveaway (first 3000 fans into stadium)



\$15 per person, contact Lindsey Welch, Bill Miles, or Chester Crane



10:18 PM
03/11/13
Accrual Basis

Lehigh Valley ACS
Custom Summary Report 2012
January through December 2012

	Jan - Dec 12
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
45000 · Investments	
45030 · Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	8,778.36
Total 45000 · Investments	8,778.36
47200 · Program Income	
47230 · Membership Dues	2,881.00
47240 · Program Service Fees	147.69
47250 · Allotment	10,661.00
47260 · Grants	1,200.00
47200 · Program Income - Other	2,500.00
Total 47200 · Program Income	17,389.69
5 · Meeting checks	4,806.00
6 · Councilors Travel deposit	3,937.28
7 · Officers Travel	300.00
8 · Paid by univ	143.15
Total Income	35,354.48
Expense	
1 · Newsletter	4,000.00
11 · Innovative Grants	1,492.52
15 · Mis	120.50
2 · Iron pigs	3,789.20
3 · Olympiad	364.62
62110 · Accounting Fees	44.00
65000 · Operations	
65020 · Postage, Mailing Service	184.98
65030 · Printing and Copying	437.98
65000 · Operations - Other	500.00
Total 65000 · Operations	1,122.96
68300 · Meetings	
68310 · Section Meetings	
68311 · Meals	10,409.20
68310 · Section Meetings - Other	4,534.56
Total 68310 · Section Meetings	14,943.76
68330 · meeting Webinar	1,094.94
68340 · Meeting Speaker	147.70
68350 · Executive Committee Meetings	105.32
Total 68300 · Meetings	16,291.72
68320 · Travel	
68321 · Councilors Travel	5,108.73
68322 · Officers Travel	901.58
Total 68320 · Travel	6,010.31
9 · Scholarship	
9-2 · High School Scholarship + Posta	1,000.00
Total 9 · Scholarship	1,000.00
Total Expense	34,235.83
Net Ordinary Income	1,118.65
Net Income	1,118.65



5:33 PM

04/20/13

Accrual Basis

Lehigh Valley ACS
Custom Summary Report
January 1 through April 20, 2013

	<u>Jan 1 - Apr 20, 13</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense	
Income	
45000 · Investments	
45030 · Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	3.67
Total 45000 · Investments	3.67
47200 · Program Income	
47230 · Membership Dues	150.00
47250 · Allotment	10,707.00
Total 47200 · Program Income	10,857.00
5 · Meeting checks	200.00
Total Income	11,060.67
Expense	
1 · Newsletter	1,500.00
10 · leadership Retreat	1,175.00
2 · Iron pigs	676.00
62110 · Accounting Fees	6.00
65000 · Operations	
65040 · Supplies	210.00
Total 65000 · Operations	210.00
68300 · Meetings	
68310 · Section Meetings	
68311 · Meals	344.00
Total 68310 · Section Meetings	344.00
68330 · meeting Webinar	104.94
68300 · Meetings - Other	300.00
Total 68300 · Meetings	748.94
68320 · Travel	
68321 · Councilors Travel	1,659.13
68322 · Officers Travel	804.72
Total 68320 · Travel	2,463.85
9 · Scholarship	
9-1 · Organic Scholarship	1,100.00
9-4 · senior chem Awards	975.00
Total 9 · Scholarship	2,075.00
Total Expense	8,854.79
Net Ordinary Income	2,205.88
Net Income	2,205.88