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SCALACS

September 2019

A Joint Publication of the Southern California and
San Geronimo Sections of the American Chemical Society

Southern California Section

**Luncheon Honoring our 50, 60, 70
and 75 Year Members**

**With a Special Presentation by Our
Project SEED Students**

Saturday, September 14, 2019

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San Geronimo Section

**Recognition of 50- and 60- Year ACS Members
and**

College and University Chemistry Clubs

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Southern California and San Gorgonio Sections of the
American Chemical Society

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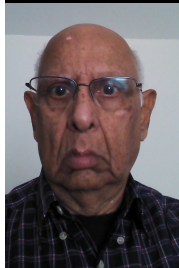
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Southern California Section

Chair's Message



Hello Fellow Members of the SCALACS:

Hope you all had a fine summer and enjoyed a week or two of vacation spending quality time with your family and friends. The ACS National Committee selected 70 chemists for the Fellow awards for 2019. My congratulations to all of them. In particular, one of our own SCALACS Executive Committee Members, Dr. Brian Brady, was one of the recipients of this prestigious award and our congratulations to him for getting this honor. Six other candidates from California also received this award: Prof. William H. Casey, University of California, Davis; Prof. Richard L. Deming, California State University Fullerton; Prof. Miguel A. Garcia-Garibay, University of California, Los Angeles; Margaret M. Faul, Amgen, Inc.; Prof. Richmond Sarpong, University of California, Berkeley; and Prof. Brian M. Stoltz, California Institute of Technology.

I am also happy to announce that SCALACS was awarded a small grant under "Science Café Mini grant" program of ACS. Utilizing this grant, we will be organizing a symposium celebrating the 150th anniversary of the discovery of the periodic table by Mendeleev, and will announce the details shortly.

We are celebrating our Senior Chemists with a luncheon on September 14th, 2019, details can be found on Page 3. Also, the ACS National Meeting at San Diego is honoring Senior Chemists with a breakfast on August 27th, 2019. Of particular interest is the event "Gerald Meyer – the first 100 years" honoring his life as a professional, educator, scientist, leader, volunteer, mentor and friend on August 27th, at the ACS National Meeting in San Diego.

We are gearing up for our Fall 2019 Election. There will be elections for Member-at-Large and Councilor positions. We invite our SCALACS membership to not only participate in the voting for the elections, but also contest for these positions. After all, SCALACS is your Section and we are in dire need of new faces bolstering the efforts of current Executive Committee Members in serving the community with various activities.

We are also organizing events in connection with the celebration of the National Chemistry Week in October and will keep you posted. Also on the slate are the High School Teachers meeting and the Agnes Anne Green Award/keynote address in November. Stay tuned in!

Krishna Kallury, Chair ,
(kkallury@socal.rr.com)

September Luncheon Meeting

Saturday, September 14, 2019

**Honoring our 50, 60 and 70 Year Members
With a Special Presentation by
Our Project SEED Students**

at

Stevens Steakhouse

5332 Stevens Place
Los Angeles, CA 90040

11:30 a.m. Check-in and Students' Presentations

12:15 p.m. Luncheon

Presentation of Certificates immediately following luncheon

We are celebrating our 50, 60 and 70 year members and having our Project SEED students give a brief presentation of the research they completed this summer. Project SEED takes high school students and places them in a laboratory environment to provide them an opportunity to engage in an authentic research experience. We hope our veteran members will enjoy hearing about their research.

Our 50 Year Members are:

Alexander Cu
David A. Davenport
Michael E. Jung
Stephen H. Leung
Arlene A. Russell
Catherine W. Smirnoff
John A. Starkovich
Robert R. Trussell

(Continued on Page 4)

Southern California Section

50/60/70 Year Member Luncheon (Continued from Page 3)

Our 60 Year Members are:

Frank De Haan
Peter Gluck
Harry B. Gray
Keith L. Johnson
James M. Ross
Lawrence A. Singer
Jimmy O. Tarbell
Harold Taylor

Our 70 Year Members are:

Stanley Kritzer
Lois Haraughty

The students who took part in our Project SEED Program this summer are Catherine Dezha Peralta, Josefina Arroyo, Anny Flores and Ryan Rivas. There will be a presentation of their research prior to lunch.

Reservations: There is a choice of King Salmon or Prime Rib Sandwich for luncheon. The cost of the luncheon is \$27 per person including tax and tip; cash or check at the door. Please email Nancy Paradiso in the Section Office at office@scalacs.org by **Monday, September 9, 2019** for reservations.

Directions: To access Google maps from their website, go to <http://stevenssteakhouse.com/>. There is a location button on their home page. There is parking in the rear of the building.

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Southern California Section

Congratulations to the Southern California Section 2019 Fellows

We would like to congratulate our local section members who were awarded fellowships at the ACS National Meeting in San Diego in August. The following awards were presented:

Brian B. Brady, The Aerospace Corporation

Miguel A. Garcia-Garibay, University of California, Los Angeles

Margaret M. Faul, Amgen, Inc

Brian M. Stoltz, California Institute of Technology

We would also like to congratulate **Richard L. Deming**, California State University, Fullerton, of our sister section, Orange County.

Call for Nominations SCALACS 2019 Election

The Nominations, Elections and Awards Committee of the Southern California Section is still soliciting nominations for the election of 2020 Section officers (Chair-Elect and Secretary), Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee, and Councilors. These are important positions that could enhance your networking abilities and leadership training.

If you wish to propose names (including your own) for consideration, send them to Nancy Paradiso in the Section Office at office@scalacs.org by **September 15, 2019**. We offer you a great opportunity to network with other chemists and promote chemistry.

Southern California Section



In Memoriam

Rita Rose Boggs, Ph.D.

March 20, 1938 – August 10, 2019

Educator, Entrepreneur, Citizen Activist

Dr. Rita Boggs was an educator-chemist who mentored young people entering the chemical professions, an entrepreneur-chemist who championed fair employment practices, a scientific work product of high integrity, professional involvement, and professional development, and a citizen-activist who helped her community understand and confront chemical pollution and safety issues. She spoke inconvenient truths to power, and held everyone's feet to the fire as she pushed people to do their honest best for the greater good. Rita passed away on August 10, 2019. A breast cancer and lymphoma survivor, Rita lost her feisty, stubborn life-force to complications of dementia.

Inspired by her high school chemistry teacher at St. Joseph Hill Academy of Staten Island NY, Rita went to a local college for a BA in chemistry, then spent 14 years as a Roman Catholic nun. She taught chemistry at Notre Dame High School in Schenectady NY, and worked on her MS in chemistry at Union College. She then taught chemistry at her alma mater, Notre Dame College of Staten Island NY. Rita enrolled in the PhD program at University of Pennsylvania to study physical chemistry under the guidance of Professor Jerry Donohue. Her PhD Thesis was entitled "The Crystal and Molecular Structures of l-tyrosine, trans-4a-acetoxy-8a-chloro-1,4,4a,5,8,8a-hexahydronaphthalene, spermine copper(II) perchlorate and auromycin hydrochloride". In other words, her doctoral work involved determining the crystal and molecular structures of some biologically important molecules, which resulted in five published papers. Rita's plan for her Ph.D. was to become a full chemistry professor back at Notre Dame College. However, when NDC was reorganized and consolidated with another catholic university, Rita parted from her religious community and went on to work in chemical industry. Rita moved to Southern California in 1979 to take a management position with a global testing company.

In 1982, Rita founded American Research and Testing Inc., a chemistry and materials testing laboratory. Throughout her years at the helm of American Research and Testing Inc., Rita continued to teach part time at
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Southern California Section

In Memoriam , Dr. Rita Boggs (Continued from Page 6)

the local colleges – at El Camino Community College in the early 1980's, and California State University Dominguez Hills from 1985 to 2008. A proponent of higher education and post-graduate education, Rita mentored many chemistry students on their career paths, as well as encouraged and supported continuing education for her own laboratory staff.

Rita's initial involvement with the Southern California Section of the ACS – on the Employment Committee in 1980 – grew to increasing levels of responsibility and leadership. Besides serving as Section Chair in 1990, she chaired the Directory, Employment, Tolman Award, and Nominations/Elections Committees, as well as volunteered to be Registration Chair and Exhibits Chair for three Western Regional Meetings. The year Rita was Chair of the local Section (1990), she averted the Section from certain financial disaster by moving the Section administrative office and archives to her place of business, and training/supervising the Section's administrative staff for the next eight years. For this, the Southern California Section ACS named Rita Boggs as the 1992 recipient of the Agnes Ann Green Distinguished Service Award.

When Agnes Ann Green retired from Section leadership in 1993, Rita Boggs took her place as Southern California Section ACS Councilor and served continuously in that capacity until 2015. A force to be reckoned with when it comes to fairness and opportunity, Rita was a strong advocate of adequate travel reimbursement to Councilors attending national ACS meetings on behalf of their Sections, serving on the Task Force on councilor reimbursement policy in 1995 and 1998. For her volunteerism and leadership roles, Rita was elevated to the rank of ACS Fellow in 2010, and honored with the Western Region ACS Ann Nalley Award for Volunteer Service in 2013.

After retirement in 2008, Rita focused her attention on local politics in the City of Carson, where she was an activist-scientist who helped her community understand and confront chemical pollution and safety issues. For her civic involvement, the City of Carson gave Rita a beautiful Proclamation of Recognition in 2019.

Please consider donating to ACS Scholars in Rita's memory. The ACS Scholars program is designed to support disadvantaged college students majoring in chemistry: <https://tinyurl.com/ritaboggs>

Southern California Section



Congratulations US International Olympiad Team!

Albert Liu of North Hollywood High School (far right) won a Silver Medal at the 51st International Chemistry Olympiad in Paris in July. Congratulations to him and his fellow participants, including two Gold Medalists from the Orange County Section.

The other students to win medals were:

- Edward Jin, Arnold O. Beckman High School in Orange County—Gold Medal.
- Anton Ni of University High School in Orange County—Gold Medal
- Yajvan Ravan of Churchill High School in Detroit, MI—Gold Medal



This Month in Chemical History

Harold Goldwhite, California State University,
Los Angeles
hgoldwh@calstatela.edu

This month I am presenting a guest column, written by my colleague, retired Professor of Chemistry at Cal. State, Los Angeles, Costello Brown, who is African-American. It is a reminder of how things used to be even for chemistry students not so many years ago. Here is Costello's story:

I can assure you that this may have been the most traumatic experience in my life and maybe the only time when I felt that my life was in danger. Yet, there is no comparison to the heroes of the Civil Rights Movement; my story represents what can happen to ordinary folks doing ordinary things, like washing clothes at a laundromat. I was participating in a college summer internship program at a federal laboratory (Oak Ridge National Laboratory).

At the end of my sophomore year (1961) at Hampton Institute, I applied for and was accepted into a summer research program at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. I needed a low-level security clearance, which required that the FBI go out to the Sweet Gum community in Caswell County where I grew up and interview our neighbors about me. They asked questions like "Do you know if he drinks alcohol? Did he ever get into any trouble or bother anybody?" Our neighbors gave me a clean bill of health and I was approved for the summer program at Oak Ridge Tennessee.

There were 20 college students from colleges and universities throughout the United States (but mostly from the south) in the program; 16 were white and four black. We were all housed in a renovated army barrack that had been turned into a hotel. The four black students were housed as roommates in two adjoining rooms on the second floor. Two of the black students were from colleges in Mississippi and two from Hampton Institute (now Hampton University). The other student from Hampton was a physics major and was originally from Sierra Leone, in West Africa. He was very proud to be an African and would often tell the three of us that he was better than we were because he knew who he was, he was pure African and *we had no idea who we were*. We often joked that he was "pure" all right, "a pure fool."

All four of the black students were told that it would be best if we did not come downstairs and sit in the lounge area. In addition, everyone else could pick mail up daily at the office but our mail was put under the doors of our rooms each day. In contrast to these living arrangements, the summer research experience was going well at the Laboratory, and I was having a really great research experience with an excellent mentor. We were analyzing isotopes of nitrogen from ammonia samples using a mass spectrometer.

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This Month in Chemical History

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But there were a few unanticipated experiences. A white participant in the program went out of his way to be my friend (I seem to remember that he was a Mormon from a college/university in Utah). My friend had a car and I would often ride to the lab with him. One morning on our way to work we decided to stop at a local restaurant to get some breakfast. When we walked in the guy at the cash register told us that the restaurant did not serve colored folks and that I would have to leave. My friend who was white said that he would also leave and after that I did not go to any restaurant in Oak Ridge for the whole summer.

We four black students had been washing our clothes (mostly underwear) in the washbasin in the bathroom and then hanging them up in the room to dry since we had been told that we could not use the local laundromat. The laundromat was about a block and a half away from where we were living. It was hot and humid in the rooms and the wet clothes, which often dripped onto the floor made it worse. One afternoon, our African colleague announces that he is tired of washing his clothes in the washbasin and that he is going down to the laundromat. He wanted to know if anyone would go with him. The two students from Mississippi shook their heads right away but I said, "I'll go with you." We had all joked that he needed to take his clothes out somewhere and destroy them because the odor was overwhelming. I put my wash into a large brown paper bag and off we went to the laundromat.

As soon as we entered the front door of the laundromat, this older frail looking white lady who seemed to be the only person in the laundromat at the time came up to us immediately and said, "I am sorry but you boys can't wash your clothes in here." My companion then says in a very strong and almost arrogant cocky tone, "*I am from Africa and I have a card in my pocket from the State Department that says I can go anywhere in this country and I am not to be discriminated against.*" She gets right up in front of Garrett, almost nose to nose and says "*Fer as I'm concerned, you jest like all the rest of 'em.*" At this point, I am standing just inside of the entrance so I quickly turn and walk out with my companion following close behind.

We walk about a half a block and as soon as we turn the corner we see three police cars coming directly toward us, sirens blaring and red lights blinking. One of the cars actually drives up onto the sidewalk so that we are hemmed in. At this point my heart is pounding so hard and all I could think of was that my Mother would never see me alive again and that I was going to die right there in Oak Ridge Tennessee. A uniformed officer with boots that went almost to his knees gets out of the car first and approaches my companion. The whole time, I am inching backwards. The officer is talking very fast and nervously; so fast in fact, you can't really understand what he is saying. My companion just looks at him from head to toe, then interrupts him and says in the same strong, arrogant tone "*Who are you?*"
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This Month in Chemical History

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At this point, I know I am dead. Then a plain clothes officer approaches. I am standing as far away as possible with my back to a wall. The officer says, "We got a call that you two boys were disturbing the peace down here". My companion then tells the story about the card in his pocket from the State Department and that he is to be treated differently. The police officer then tells him "you are now in Tennessee and you will have to obey our laws and customs." He then says, "Why don't you boys get in the car and I will take you over to Gamma Valley (where the black folks live) and you can wash your clothes over there. I will wait for you and bring you back." I started shaking my head while thinking to myself "no way am I going to get into this police car". I quickly said "no thank you." The lieutenant then says, "If you boys promise me that you will not cause any more problems, I will let you go". I made the promise. The whole encounter took only about 15 minutes but it seemed like hours had passed. We walked back to our rooms and washed our clothes in the washbasin and hung them up to dry for the rest of the summer.

I was only 18 at the time, but I know I would not have had the courage to remain in that laundromat that day after being told to leave. This experience gave me a greater appreciation and admiration for the extraordinary courage of the civil rights heroes who would have chosen to stay in that laundromat until they were arrested. They did choose to remain seated in buses when asked to go to the rear, and they did choose to remain at the Woolworth lunch counters when they were asked to leave. For the choices they made, jobs, homes and yes, even lives were lost. These events during the summer of 1961 and my experiences in contrast, seem in retrospect to be quite trivial.

To this day, I seldom use laundromats. My African companion went on to get a Ph.D. in physics and probably still has the card in his wallet from the State Department stating that he is not to incur discrimination.

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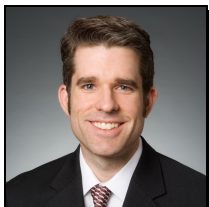
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Insights Into IP Law

Keith Orso*, Irell & Manella LLP
KOrso@irell.com

Publicly using an invention before filing a patent application on the invention can forfeit patentability and commit the invention to the public as “prior art” unless the use is deemed “experimental.” A public use may be experimental if it is designed to test the features of an invention or to determine if the invention will work for its intended purpose. But what if the features and workability of the invention are not being tested for the purpose of filing a patent application?

In one case, a company was accused of infringing a patent directed to a method of repairing high-pressure piping. The accused infringer contended that the patent claims were invalid because they described subject matter that the inventor demonstrated in public more than three years before filing a corresponding patent application.

The patent holder acknowledged that the demonstration occurred and that it was public, but argued that it was experimental because the demonstration was designed to determine the durability of the repair method—i.e., whether it would work for its intended purpose. The court found that the record did not expressly evidence such a purpose. Rather, written reports of the demonstration stated that the purpose was to demonstrate the steps of the method to attendants and guests, to begin training of maintenance personnel in the use of the method, and to seek input from people in the industry on the performance of the method and the practicality of its use.

The court acknowledged one report suggesting that the demonstration was for durability testing. The report stated that “recovery and analysis of installed composite [per the patented method] after several years of exposure in pipeline settings was the only means of verifying the long-term performance of [the] composites in moist soils.” But there was no suggestion in the record that the demonstration at issue was designed to test durability for the purposes of filing the patent application. In fact, the evidence made clear that the durability testing was for “acceptance by regulators and the pipeline industry,” and that the demonstrated installation was not unearthed and examined until almost a year *after* the patent application was filed. By filing the patent application, the court ruled, the inventors were representing that the invention was already at that time ready for patenting. Accordingly, studies done after that point could not qualify as experimental uses justifying an earlier delay in filing the patent application. The court ruled that the patent claim at issue was invalid due to prior public use.

* The author earned engineering and chemical engineering undergraduate and graduate degrees, and is a patent attorney and partner at the law firm of Irell & Manella LLP. This column does not constitute legal advice and does not necessarily reflect the views of the firm or its clients.

Chair's Message



Since my last SCALACS message, we had a very successful Student Awards Meeting at Cal Baptist University (CBU) where we announced/recognized our highest scorers on the CHEM Olympiad from each participating high school and the overall top five who will be eligible for our scholarship money (\$3300 total) once they have notified us of their enrollment at a university. SGS was declared a finalist for the Senior Chemists Committee (SCC) ChemLuminary Award for the "Best Ongoing Senior Activity in 2018 in a Local Section that Benefits the Community, Local Schools, or Legislative Government" for my February "Sweet Wine Chemistry Talk". By the time this message is published, we will know if we won.

We hope that our first time ever SGS meeting at Big Bear as part of our 70th Anniversary Celebration was a big success with over 40 attendees expected including two sons of Dr. Francis Gunther, Founding Chair of SGS in 1949, who if he were still alive would be 101. I have tried finding most of our SGS Officers from our first two decades without much success. Not surprising since most would be over 80 today. I was amazed that the National ACS Membership Office was able to give us the names of all our officers back to 1949. During my search I discovered that since ca. October 2018, we have lost several SGS members whom we will recognize at our Saturday, September 21 Meeting (see page 12). Besides their years of ACS membership, Dr. Julian (Jay) Roberts (U. of Redlands) and Dr. Mits Kubota (Harvey Mudd College) also served as SGS Officers.

During the summer our wonderful Board Members (Dr. Ralph Riggins-Chair Elect, Dr. David Srulevitch- Secretary, Ms. Eileen DiMauro-Councilor, Dr. Dennis Pederson-Treasurer, Ms. Emily Viggers-Alternate Councilor, Dr. Jenifer Nalbadian-Special Events and candidate for Chair Elect in 2020, and I as Chair and Councilor) have been working hard on 2019 events and improving our website and social media profile. In October we are planning one or more
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San Gorgonio Section

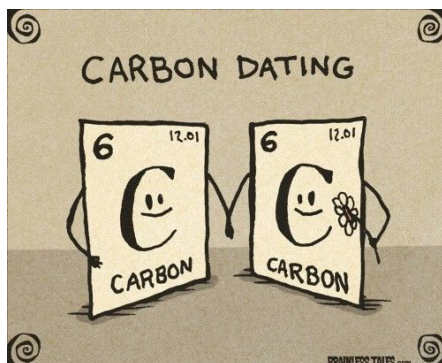
Chair's Message (Continued from Page 13)

NCW events with tentatively NCW Lab Activities / Demos for Kids at CBU on Saturday, October 26. Stay tuned for our November meeting at UCR culminating our 70th Anniversary Celebration and hopefully honoring and hearing from/about UCR and other VIPs.

In November SGS will hold our electronic Officer Elections. We really welcome newcomers like Emily and Jenifer because we work as a team and don't just throw newcomers into the water to sink or swim. We have plenty of committees where we need leaders and helpers. No previous experience is needed but welcome. I would like to have a vibrant Younger Chemists group going by this time next year. We love SGS/ACS but most of our Board are retired and may not be able or want to continue their voluntary ACS service. We also welcome industry members to get more involved in SGS.

Please contact me at jesimpson@cpp.edu if you're willing to get more involved. Finally, as the time nears for our members to renew their ACS membership for 2020, please contribute/renew your \$10 for your voluntary San Gorgonio Section dues. Every \$10 (or more) goes a long way to improving/helping SGS activities such as lowering meeting costs for students and seniors and increasing money for CHEM Olympiad Awards and Project Seed support to name just a few.

Ernie Simpson, Chair



San Gorgonio Section

San Gorgonio Section September Luncheon Meeting

Saturday, September 21, 2019

Recognition of 50- and 60- Year ACS Members and College and University Chemistry Clubs

Eddie's Italian Eatery

1065 W. Foothill Blvd.
Claremont, CA 91711

Check-in and Social: 11:00 -11:30 am

Luncheon: 11:30 am -12:30 pm

Program: 12:30 – 2:00 pm

This gathering showcases American Chemical Society members with the longest and shortest tenures in the ACS. The San Gorgonio Section (SGS) currently has over sixty chemists with fifty or more years of ACS membership. As in the past, ACS and SGS have recognized members who have reached exactly the 50- and 60-year milestones. Please join us in celebrating these remarkable accomplishments and hearing their ACS Stories! There are over 300 years of chemical experience and knowledge in the list of honorees!

50 Year Members

Dr. William Boberski
Dr. Miles Chedekel
Dr. Howard Gunderson
Dr. Richard Thibedeau

60 Year Members

Dr. Mitsuru Kubota
Dr. Robert Meyers

In Memoriam

Dr. Leland Lutz – 75 year member
Dr. Walter Maya – 63 year member
Dr. Julian Roberts – 61 year member
Dr. Kathy Webster – 39 year member

(Continued on Page 16)

San Gorgonio Section

Luncheon Meeting (Continued from Page 15)

COLLEGE and UNIVERSITY CHEMISTRY CLUBS

At the other end of the spectrum, many newer members of ACS have taken advantage of undergraduate and graduate student programs, sometimes through Student ACS clubs. We have invited representatives from the San Gorgonio Section's college and university Chemistry Clubs to share their activities. Please help us welcome our newer members!

Our event will emphasize a Speed Mentoring/Networking activity for all senior chemists (50+), younger chemists (35 years or younger) and all in between. There will be plenty of great food and beverages at very reasonable prices made possible by the SGS and an anonymous donation by a SGS member. Make your reservations early because space is limited.

Lunch: Served family style. Salad, platters of Chicken Parmigiana, Spaghetti Marinara (with/without meat sauce), a variety of one topping pizzas, and housemade bread. Dessert (Spumoni/vanilla ice cream), coffee, iced tea, soda and water are included. Wine and beer are available for purchase.

Cost and Reservations: The cost (meal, tax and tip) is \$15.00 members, \$20.00 non-members, \$10 seniors and retirees, \$5 students, FREE for ACS members receiving their 50- thru-75-year certificates. Cash or checks only please, at the door. Please make your reservations no later than **Tuesday, September 16** by contacting Ernie Simpson (jesimpson@cpp.edu or 909 762-9169) . Include your contact information (phone number and email address) and names of persons attending. Please be certain to honor your reservation.

Directions: EDDIE'S ITALIAN EATERY is located in the NE quadrant of the intersection of Foothill Blvd. and Towne Ave in Claremont easily accessed from the I-10 or the 210 freeways (Towne Exit). Parking is free in the adjacent Stater Bros lot. See www.eddieseatery.com for more info or call (909) 398-1985

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Bi-Section Chemists' Calendar

For more information on these events, please check our website at
www.scalacs.org

September

- 14 SC 50/60/70 Year Member Luncheon—see page 3
17 SG Recognition of 50- and 60- Year ACS Members and College and
University Chemistry Clubs—see page 15

October

- 20-26 National Chemistry Week—The Chemistry of Metals

Check our websites for activities:
www.scalacs.org
www.sangorgonio.sites.acs.org.