



# AICHE Orange County

NEWSLETTER OF THE ORANGE COUNTY SECTION, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS

No. 126

<http://www.aiche-orangecounty.org>

September 2004

## First Joint Meeting With American Chemical Society SEPTEMBER 28 DINNER MEETING

### A Light-Hearted Look at a Chemist's Life

Vance Gritton

Professor Emeritus, Chapman University

**Tuesday, September 28, 2004**  
**5:30 PM**

**Abstract:** This talk will teach you very little chemistry. There will not be an exam. Half a dozen decades or so of a fun-filled chemical career has produced some anecdotes that should not be totally lost. These include a few of Professor Gritton's marvelous accomplishments:

- Could you start a fire under liquid nitrogen?
- Who would need a thousand pencils (one kilopencil)?

Included will be a few logistical and economic services, which are tangential to chemical operations. Also included will be an introduction to several notable characters that have enriched his experiences.

The majority of these events took place while Professor Gritton was a technician at the Hanford plutonium plant and when he was a research associate at the Los Alamos National Laboratory.

**Biography:** Professor Gritton received his Bachelors and Masters degrees from Oregon State University. He then taught at San Francisco State University from 1962 to 1967, when he relocated to Chapman University in Orange. He retired from Chapman as Professor Emeritus in 1995. He has done part-time teaching at Chapman and has taught, and continues to teach an on-line chemistry course for Coastline Community College. He may someday actually retire!

#### Meeting Schedule:

5:30 p.m.	Social Hour
6:30 p.m.	Dinner
7:20 p.m.	Break
7:30 p.m.	After-Dinner Program

#### Place: Wyndham Garden Hotel, Costa Mesa

**Directions:** From Interstate 405, go north on Bristol Ave., right on Anton, left on Avenue of the Arts. The Wyndham is on the right at 3350 Avenue of the Arts, Costa Mesa.

**Reservations:** *Please make a reservation at (949) 261-2622 by voice by Friday, **September 24, 2004.** Or, you may email your reservation to [west@research.ge.com](mailto:west@research.ge.com).*

**Cost:** Members, \$20 with a reservation, \$25 at the door; Non-Members, \$25 with reservation, \$30 at the door; Students **Free** with reservation, \$5 at the door, Unemployed/Retired, \$5 with reservation, and \$10 at the door.

**Starting with the month of January 2004,  
every third meeting a member attends is  
FREE with reservation**



## Society of Women Engineers (SWE) Orange County Section - Upcoming Events

### 1. **Wescon: IEEE conference** - September 21 - 23, 2004

Location: Anaheim Convention Center  
Cost: Free if you volunteer at the SWE-OC booth.  
More information can be found at:  
[http://www.wescon.com/W2004/pages/exh\\_exhservices.htm](http://www.wescon.com/W2004/pages/exh_exhservices.htm)

This is a fun event to attend and a great way to get SWE & SWE-OC's name out there. It is also a great networking opportunity. Since this is a mid-week activity, members who are retired or are in-between jobs may want to consider volunteering time to help promote the section and sit at the booth. If you don't want to volunteer, but would like to attend, the registration form is attached.

Contact Vicki Gaston at [VJGaston@earthlink.net](mailto:VJGaston@earthlink.net) or Jen Wong at [jenwong@water.ca.gov](mailto:jenwong@water.ca.gov) if you are interested in volunteering or have any questions.

### 2. **New Faces of Engineering Nominations** - Due Wednesday, September 22

*The New Faces of Engineering* strives to promote the accomplishments of young engineers by highlighting their engineering contributions and the resulting impact on society. Candidates must be engineers 30 years of age or younger and a SWE member. However, significant participation in SWE activities is not a requirement.

Write ups should emphasize what is of interest to the public rather than technical impressiveness.

If you know someone that qualifies and deserves to be recognized, please contact Vicki Gaston at [VJGaston@earthlink.net](mailto:VJGaston@earthlink.net) or 562.761.2393. Each section is only allowed to nominate 1 candidate, so we will select from those suggested and submit the best of the best to represent Orange County. More information can be found on the attachment.

### 3. **\*Diversity Event\* Persian Harvest Festival** - Saturday-Sunday, October 2-3 11am - 11pm

Location: Orange County Fair & Expo Center, Costa Mesa

Cost: \$20 before discount, kids under 10 free **\*we are working on getting a group discount rate**  
(More tickets = lower price)

You, your family, your friends and your coworkers are invited to enjoy the wonderful Persian food, art and games. Carpool can be arranged if preferred. For more information about the festival, please visit <http://www.nipoc.org/mehregan/index.htm>

There is still time to attend, but send your RSVP's in ASAP to reserve a discounted ticket. Contact Hoiyin Ip at [hoiyin.ip@swe.org](mailto:hoiyin.ip@swe.org) or 949-439-0358 if you are interested.

4. **2004 National Conference** is fast approaching. The festivities run from October 14 - 16, 2004 in Milwaukee, WI. Visit [www.swe.org](http://www.swe.org) for details and the registration form.

## COASTAL CLEANUP DAY AT CAPO BEACH

SEPTEMBER 18 - 9AM to 12PM

The International Coastal Cleanup is the world's largest one-day volunteer effort on behalf of the marine environment. In 2003 more than 450,000 people from all 55 U.S. states and territories and over 90 countries around the world participated in the cleanup collecting over 7.55 million pounds of marine debris.

<http://www.coastalcleanup.org/index.cfm>

Come join the fun at the Capo Beach site (35005 Beach Road, Capo Beach, CA 92675) on Saturday, September 18, 2004 from 9am to noon (only three short hours!). This event is great for families and will make picking up trash fun! Join us for snacks, prizes and giveaways in Capo Beach! The more, the merrier!

Volunteers will collect trash and record data during the cleanup, providing important clues about the nature and source of the debris. (Don't worry, we'll have gloves!) Although most people believe that beachgoers and ocean dumping cause the litter and pollution, data from past cleanups shows that over 60% of the



trash collected originates from inland sources. So wear your sunscreen, soak up some rays and take a purposeful stroll to make our beaches just a little more clean and beautiful.

Interested? Contact Janice West (Capo Beach captain) with your questions or to RSVP (west@research.ge.com, 949 859-8851 x151)

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

Cleanup sites are located all over California (also at inland waterways).

If you can't make it to Capo Beach, find the cleanup site nearest you at:

<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd2.html#locate>

The California Coastal Commission coordinates the effort locally <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html> through the County of Orange Harbors Beaches and Parks Division <http://www.ocparks.com/newsroom/default.asp?Show=1000841&subshow=A>

**Newsletter Contributors Wanted**

The newsletter editor would like to hear from you if you have one or more brief articles to contribute, especially a review or brief discussion of a good website, technical book, etc.

**Professional Engineering Employment Update**

Job Seeking Members can receive a list of web sites of area companies that sometimes hire ChEs. Contact the Senior Member Everett Knell at [EWKnell@aol.com](mailto:EWKnell@aol.com) to receive this list by e-mail. Put "OCAICHE Company List" in the subject line of your email request.

- ① If you have an employment opportunity in Southern California for a chemical engineer, the newsletter will advertise it for free.

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- *Suing?*
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