Susquehanna Valley Section
American Chemical Society

Annual Education Awards Banquet

Kehr Union Building, Room 408
Bloomsburg University
Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania

10 May 2006 5:30 p.m.
PROGRAM

I. Welcome ......................................................Dr. Deborah Hokien, Past-Chair

II. Joseph Priestley Service Award.....Dr. William VandenHeuvel
    MR. RONALD BLATCHLEY

III. 50-Year ACS Members......................Dr. Dee Casteel, Councilor
    DR. WILLIAM VANDENHEUVEL
    MR. LARRY SHERMAN
    MR. GORDON AITKEN

IV. Outstanding High School Teacher Award.............................
    Dr. Deborah Hokien, Past-Chair
    MR. RALPH SMITH, Jersey Shore Senior High School

V. David H. Frederick Memorial Awards in High School
   Chemistry..............................................Dr. Eric Hawrelak

ADVANCED EXAM AWARDS

MICKEY ADELMAN Abington Heights High School
Teacher – Carolyn Siwak

KEVIN MUSTO Pittston Area High School
Teacher – Ann Marie Roberts

FIRST YEAR EXAM AWARDS

JOHN WATSON Pittston Area High School
Teacher – Ann Marie Roberts

KALEEN LAVIN Scranton Preparatory School
Teacher – Jane Nagurney

FRANCIS LOVECCHIO Williamsport Area High School
Teacher – Ed Kelley

DAVID SCHWARTZ Danville Area High School
Teacher – Deborah Slattery

DANIEL MANBECK Mifflinburg Area High School
Teacher – Brian Landis

MELISSA WASILEWSKI Abington Heights High School
Teacher – Carolyn Siwak
HONORABLE MENTION

BRIAN MUSTO  Pittston Area High School
Teacher – James Timlin

SEAN DURKIN  Scranton Preparatory School
Teacher – Jane Nagurney

KRISTEN FENOCCHIO  Scranton Preparatory School
Teacher – Jane Nagurney

SARAH GABRIEL  Scranton Preparatory School
Teacher – Jane Nagurney

NATHAN FRAILEY  Williamsport Area High School
Teacher – Ed Kelley

CHELSEA MANDELL  Bloomsburg Senior High School
Teacher – Todd Davis

LINDSAY KAzar  Mifflinburg Area High School
Teacher – Brian Landis

DAKOTA GESSNER  Mifflinburg Area High School
Teacher – Brian Landis

AMANDA NEYHART  Abington Heights High School
Teacher – Carolyn Siwak

J. L. PAULL  Hannover Area High School
Teacher – Jocelyn Holodick

J. A. ERDMAN  Line Mountain Senior High School
Teacher – Shelley Herb

Z. M. BAIER  Jersey Shore Senior High School
Teacher – Ralph Smith

CALEB WILSON  Old Forge High School
Teacher – Adrianna Rubric

VI. International Chemistry Olympiad Entrants

Dr. Amy Bradley

BRANDON KUJAWSKI  Scranton Preparatory School
Teacher – Jane Nagurney

RIMA SHAH  Scranton Preparatory School
Teacher – Jane Nagurney
VII. College Award Winners

Dr. Therese Wignot

LAURA E. THOMPSON
Bucknell University
LAURA GREELEY
College Misericordia
LAURA J. BONIN
King’s College
JOSEMAR CASTILLO
Lycoming College
THOMAS UMILE
Scranton University
TIMOTHY OSWALD
Wilkes University

VIII. “Joseph Priestley’s Chemistry”

Mr. Ronald Blatchley

Joseph Priestley was an 18th Century theologian who also dabbled in political philosophy and in the sciences: optics, electricity, and especially chemistry where he exhibited a special knack for the design and execution of intricate experiments. He was born in England in 1733 and counted many luminaries of the time among his friends and associates. He regularly interacted with such people as Josiah Wedgwood, Erasmus Darwin, James Watt, Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson and John Adams. The focus of his chemical experiments was pneumatic chemistry - the chemistry of air. In the early eighteenth century, the word "air" was used to describe all gases and it was thought that different properties of air samples were the result of something having been added or removed from atmospheric air. When Priestley first turned his attention to the study of chemistry, only two gases other than atmospheric air were known: carbon dioxide and hydrogen. Priestley discovered at least eight new gases, the most famous being oxygen - or "dephlogisticated air" as he called it. In 1794, political and religious persecution led Priestley to leave England and move his family to Northumberland. He continued his chemical experiments here, though with less vigor than in his youth. His most significant Northumberland discovery was carbon monoxide.

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The American Chemical Society is a nonprofit scientific and educational association of professional chemists and chemical engineers. Although the Society is primarily an American organization, virtually every nation is represented among its nearly 160,000 members.

The programs of the Society include meetings, publications, education, awards, and public service activities, including National Chemistry Week. 1500 ACS meetings are held each year at the local, regional, national, and divisional levels. Over twenty ACS journals are the leading resources in the chemical field. Educational activities include services to high school and college chemistry students and continuing education programs for its members. The Society presents numerous awards for outstanding achievement in various fields of chemistry through national, regional, divisional, and local channels. Fellowships and research grants for basic research are administered by the society.

The Susquehanna Valley Section of the ACS includes members from eight counties in central to northeastern Pennsylvania.