



## American Chemical Society Susquehanna Valley Section

### JANUARY 2021 NEWSLETTER

SVS wishes all of its members a Happy New Year. The Susquehanna Valley Section of the American Chemical Society is putting out a January newsletter to inform the local section of event information during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

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#### LOCAL ACS NEWS:

##### 2021 LOCAL SECTION ELECTION:

THE SVS IS USING A NEW ONLINE BALLOT THIS YEAR. You will receive your ballot from [noreply@electionrunner.com](mailto:noreply@electionrunner.com). Please make sure your email account does not place this email into your junk folder. All active Susquehanna Valley Section ACS members should receive a ballot on Tuesday, January 26 to elect calendar year 2021 Susquehanna Valley Section officers. All ballots received by Friday February 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM will be counted. Any questions can be directed to the section secretary, Ron Supkowski, King's College 131 N River St Wilkes-Barre PA 18711, 570-208-5900x5733, [ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu](mailto:ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu).

##### PENNSYLVANIA JUNIOR ACADEMY OF SCIENCE (PJAS):



The local PJAS regions will be holding their annual high-school science competitions virtually this year. PJAS is always looking for local science professionals to volunteer to judge the STEM projects of the area's 7th through 12th grade students. Region 5's competition (the western half of the SVS section) and Region 2's competition (the eastern half of the SVS section) will be held on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. For more information visit the websites at <http://www.pjas.net/region5> or <http://www.pjas.net/region2>

##### MARM2021:



##### Save The Dates!

The 49<sup>th</sup> Mid Atlantic Regional Meeting (MARM) will be held June 9-12, 2021. The meeting is hosted by the Delaware Local Section of the American Chemical Society. Check the website, [sites.udel.edu/marm2021](https://sites.udel.edu/marm2021), for more information.

## 2021 CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD:



U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad

The local section will not be sponsoring the 2021 Chemistry Olympiad due to uncertainty over COVID-19. The section is also looking for a new Chemistry Olympiad Chair. See the rules for organizing a local competition at the [national website](#). Contact a [local section officer](#) for more information

## 2021 SVS HIGH SCHOOL CHEMISTRY EXAMS:

The local section will not be sponsoring the 2021 SVS high school chemistry exams due to uncertainty over COVID-19. To recognize outstanding local chemistry high-school students the section will again ask local chemistry teachers to nominate an outstanding student in their class for an award. Please contact Dr. Charles Mahler, Education Chair of the Local Section, at [mahler@lycoming.edu](mailto:mahler@lycoming.edu) for more information.



## 2021 SVS AWARD BANQUET:

The local section will not be sponsoring the 2021 SVS awards banquet due to uncertainty over COVID-19. All of the awardees who are normally recognized at this event will be highlighted in a June 2021 newsletter.

## THE 2021 MEETING OF THE PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCE:

The annual PAS meeting will be held virtually on Saturday April 10. The abstract deadline will be March 1, 2021. See the website for more information: [pennsci.org](http://pennsci.org)



## LOCAL STEM COMPETITIONS:



A list of all STEM competitions for high school students is posted on our [website](#). You will have to follow up with event contact persons to see if there are any COVID cancelations this year. If you have any questions about the contests or have suggestions for others, please contact either the person indicated on the site or the section webmaster, Ron Supkowski at [ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu](mailto:ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu) or 570-208-5900 x5733

## OPEN POSITIONS IN THE LOCAL SECTION:

Do you want to use your talents to help other chemists in the Susquehanna Valley section? Listed below are examples of positions that need to be filled by willing individuals along with websites that give organizing ideas:

- SVS Chair-Elect  
*This two-year position is the usual office taken on by local chemists who want to begin to become more involved in the local section.*
- [Chemistry Olympiad](#) Chair  
*Administer Local Chemistry Olympiad Competitions in coordination with the National Chemistry Olympiad.*
- WCC ([Woman Chemists Committee](#)) Chair  
*Help attract, retain, develop, promote, and advocate for women to positively impact diversity, equity and inclusion in the Society and the profession*
- Project SEED ([Summer Experiences for the Economically Disadvantaged](#)) Coordinator  
*Coordinators are responsible for establishing programs, identifying mentors, recruiting students, fundraising, and organizing activities such as field trips*
- CMA ([Committee on Minority Affairs](#)) Chair  
*Help increase the number & participation of racially & ethnically underrepresented scientists in the Society and its governance*
- CH&S ([Chemical Health and Safety](#)) Committee Chair  
*Help provide authoritative technical resources and mentorship in chemical health and safety for all*
- SCC ([Senior Chemists Committee](#)) Chair  
*Help improve communication among senior chemists, increase the number of senior chemists' groups and the level of their engagement within local sections, and encourage the involvement of senior chemists in programs focused on K-12 education, undergraduate networking, and mentoring*
- CCEW ([Chemists Celebrate Earth Week](#)) Coordinator  
*Help promote the positive role that chemistry plays in the protecting our planet (recyclable plastics, cleaner-burning fuels, phosphate-free detergents, environmental monitoring, and green chemistry initiatives).*

If you are interested, contact the section Chair (Allison Saunders, [saundersa@lycoming.edu](mailto:saundersa@lycoming.edu)), Secretary (Ronald Supkowski, [ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu](mailto:ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu)) or any member of the Susquehanna Valley Section leadership team ([executive committee](#), [committee chairs](#), [liaisons](#)).

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## NATIONAL ACS NEWS:

### COVID-19

ACS is committed to helping combat the global COVID-19 pandemic with initiatives and free resources. Learn More at their website [acs.org/content/acs/en/covid-19](https://acs.org/content/acs/en/covid-19)

#### ACS LEGISLATIVE ACTION NETWORK:

Legislation that may impact the chemical enterprise comes before Congress on a regular basis, and the ACS is committed to keeping its members informed and encouraging them to weigh in on high-priority issues. To see the position of the ACS on many legislative issues visit the ACS LAN website:

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/policy.html>

To find out how to become more active in ACS advocacy activities, see the website:

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/policy/memberadvocacy/advocacy-tools.html>

To join ACS' grassroots legislative advocacy network, ACT4CHEMISTRY, which will allow you to stay up to date on policy issues and contact legislators on behalf of chemistry and chemists, go to their website, follow the [Act4Chemistry Twitter](#) account, or email [advocacy@acs.org](mailto:advocacy@acs.org).

#### JOIN THE ACS:

If you know of anyone who would benefit from being a member of the American Chemical Society, please direct them to the membership website:

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/membership-and-networks/acs/join.html>

#### NATIONAL MEETINGS:

##### ***Spring 2021 ACS National Meeting***

A virtual 2021 spring national meeting with the theme "Macromolecular Chemistry: The Second Century" will be held April 5 – 30. More details are available at the [website](#).

##### ***25<sup>th</sup> Annual Green Chemistry & Engineering Conference***

The virtual conference is scheduled for June 14 -18, 2021. See the [website](#) for details.

##### ***37<sup>th</sup> ACS National Medicinal Chemistry Symposium***

Scheduled for June 27-20 2021 at the New York Marriott Downtown. See the [website](#) for more details.

##### ***ACS Summer School on Green Chemistry & Sustainable Energy***

Scheduled for July 13-20 2021. See the [website](#) for more details

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Susquehanna Valley Section Web Page: <http://departments.kings.edu/SusquehannaValleyACS>

Please send any comments about the monthly newsletter to Ron Supkowski, Section Secretary  
King's College 131 N River St Wilkes-Barre PA 18711 [ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu](mailto:ronaldsupkowski@kings.edu)

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