

NEWSLETTER

Association for Women in Science

- San Diego Chapter -

AWIS CALENDAR

November 7 (Sat.) -- Chem Expo 92, sponsored by the San Diego Section of the American Chemistry Society, Balboa Park, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (Free)

CHEM EXPO

Celebrate National Chemistry Week by attending the Chem Expo in Balboa Park at the Casa Del Prado Patios A & B on Saturday, November 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sponsored by the San Diego Section of the American Chemistry Society (ACS), this is an excellent opportunity to stimulate young female minds about the fascinating science of chemistry and help educate the public on the importance of chemistry in today's society. Last year's event was so successful it was nominated for a national ACS award!

Throughout the day there will be on-going chemistry demonstrations, U.S. Customs Mobile Laboratory, hands-on activities for children, local company posters, and science project posters. Also, job seekers will find a career table and listing of local job openings. For more information contact Michele Ramirez at 260-8202 (evenings). This event is free of charge.

AWIS MENTORING PROGRAM IN THE NEWS

The AWIS Mentoring program was the subject of an article in the September issue of *San Diego Physician*, the official publication of the San Diego County Medical Society. Written by UCSD pre-med student Natacha Raney, she describes how attending an AWIS Mentoring workshop last year resulted in a mentoring relationship with AWIS member Rosemarie Johnson. Natacha and Rosemarie found their mentoring experience so positive that they have introduced the concept to the San Diego Medical Society. In less than a year more than 150 student-physician pairs have been arranged through the Medical Society's Women in Medicine Committee.

WOMEN IN MEDICINE

The September issue of *San Diego Physician* is recommended reading, not only for Natacha Raney's article on mentoring, but because the entire issue is devoted to "women in medicine." Starting with a cover story on San Diego's first woman physician (who arrived in 1888), there are reflections by one of San Diego's first women surgeons (still practicing at age 76), thoughts on physician sensitivity and the female patient, and other illuminating articles.

Extra copies of this special issue have been published and are available upon request. Interested AWIS members are encouraged to request a copy by writing or calling San Diego Physician, P.O. Box 23581, San Diego, 92193; phone 565-8888.

MORE ON MENTORING

Rosemarie Johnson writes about mentoring in the September issue of *California Physician*, the monthly publication of the California Medical Association. Her remarks appear as part of an article entitled, "Women and Organized Medicine: An Era Begins." To request a copy contact *California Physician*, P.O. Box 7690, San Francisco 94120; phone 415-541-0900.

WOMEN IN BIOTECHNOLOGY

AWIS Palo Alto and the Bay Area Bioscience Center are organizing a one-day conference on the opportunities, career paths, and career transitions for women in biotechnology. The event will take place at Stanford University on a Saturday in late January or early February 1993. For additional information, contact Beverly Blatt, at 510-874-1464.

MEMBER NEWS

Elisabeth Albrecht joins SIBIA as a Senior Research Scientist.

Sandy Slivka was recently quoted in the *San Diego Union-Tribune* and *Los Angeles Times* articles on student intern programs offered by San Diego biotech companies.

Joan Kanter recently presented a poster at the 8th International Conference on Second Messengers and Phosphoproteins in Glasgow, Scotland. Her presentation was well received, leading to an invitation to speak at a subsequent workshop during the meeting.

GIRL, 17, FINDS LEAF-BLIGHT CURE

Seventeen-year-old **Amanda Poole's** discovery of a cure for the leaf blight that was threatening much of the country's iris crop has earned her scholarship money, science awards, and recognition from the American Iris Society.

Amanda spent a year in her mother's kitchen finding just the right combination of antibiotics to rescue the colorful, spring-blooming flowers.

University of Illinois plant experts identified the leaf blight three years ago after Amanda provided them with a sample from her father's garden. It was her father, a science teacher, who challenged the youngster to find a remedy for the blight.

For her efforts, Amanda won state and national science prizes, as well as a scholarship that will pay for one year at Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, where she plans to major in microbiology.

"MATH SMART"

Public-television station KCET-TV Channel 28 (Los Angeles) has received a \$1-million grant from NSF to produce a one-hour mathematics special.

The grant will allow the station to begin production on "Math Smart," a \$1.6 million program designed to encourage parents to help with their children's mathematics education. KCET must still raise the rest of the money.

"Parents will never claim to not know how to read, but (a majority) will say, 'I don't know math.' and we all laugh about it," said **David Crippens**, KCET's senior vice president for educational enterprises. "That gives the message to the child, 'Why do I need math?'"

Crippens said that "Math Smart," which is designed to be shown in prime time, will be produced as a variety show. Segments will include humorous vignettes, animation and documentary sections showing real parents as they try to encourage their children to appreciate math.

There will be segments showing the importance of math to everyday life, such as balancing a checkbook or designing a building project, as well as some review of basic math concepts, Crippens said. The program will also discuss the importance of mathematics in an increasingly technical work world.

"Math Smart" will be produced by KCET in cooperation with AAAS, the University of California, Berkeley's Family Math program and the School of Education at Cal State Dominguez Hills.

The program is tentatively planned to air nationally on public television in the fall of 1993.

CAREER CORNER

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Available using the NIST Supertrapp database (space required: 256 Kb). Properties for mixtures containing twenty components can be calculated from a database of 116 compounds, mostly hydrocarbons. A new compound can be added to the database if you know its critical temperature, pressure, volume, molecular weight, and boiling point. Call NIST: 301-975-2208.

UL Standards Now Available on Disks

If you need to incorporate an Underwriters Laboratories standard into a report, it's now available on a disk in either an RFT or a TXT format for IBM PC-compatible computers. Write to: Underwriters Laboratories, Inc., Publications Stock, 333 Pfingsten Road, Northbrook, IL 60062-2096.

The AWIS-San Diego newsletter is published bi-monthly and provides AWIS members and supporters with information on chapter activities, career-enhancement opportunities, and issues related to women in science. The newsletter is free to AWIS members; subscription rate for non-members is \$20 a year. Send news items and suggestions to Lynne Friedmann, Editor, 168 Solana Point Circle, Solana Beach, CA 92075; phone 793-3537, fax 793-1144. Deadline for the next newsletter is December 10.



WOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARD WINNERS

Rosemarie Johnson, M.D. and Natasha Raney

When Dr. Rosemarie Johnson, an anesthesiologist, and Natasha Raney, a UCSD pre-med student, met by chance last fall through a mentor matching service offered by the Association for Women in Science they had no idea that their relationship would spawn a physician-student mentoring program of their own. But motivated by their experience, the two women established a program that in less than a year has paired more than 150 physicians with an equal number of students on the campuses of UCSD, USD, and SDSU. The majority of the doctors participating in "Pass It On" are women.

Johnson, the newly-elected president of the San Diego County Medical Society, says that mentoring played a significant role in her medical education, "When I graduated from medical school, I should have cut my diploma into 50 pieces to thank all those who helped," she explains. The program's name comes from an expression she heard from her grandmother, who taught her that the best way to repay a good deed is to "pass it on."

Raney, born with a visual impairment that she was told would make higher education too challenging, is now a senior at UCSD. Inspired and encouraged by doctors and teachers, her dedication reflects the determination to go the distance that the medical profession requires.

Together these women represent the future of a more humane, outwardly-focused practice of medicine.



Rosemarie Johnson, M.D. & Natasha Raney,
creators of "Pass It On" mentoring program

AWIS Job Board

PROTEIN CHEMIST to direct development of biosensor systems for defense and environmental applications. PhD and 7-10 years experience (or equivalent) required in protein purification, characterization, and immobilization, and novel assay development; project management; and proposal preparation. Experience with receptors, protein manufacturing methods development, or protein spectroscopic analysis preferred. Excellent oral and written communication skills mandatory.

MICROBIOLOGIST to direct development of novel bioremediation systems. PhD and 5-7 years experience (or equivalent) required in microorganism isolation, characterization, and immobilization; project management; and proposal preparation. Experience with fermentation scale-up or analytical chemistry methods development preferred. Excellent oral and written communication skills a must.

SPARTA, an employee-owned engineering company, offers exceptional salary, benefits, incentives and excellent career growth opportunities. The current opening is located in San Diego, CA. SPARTA, INC. is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Minorities and women are strongly encouraged to apply. US citizenship required for some positions. Please submit detailed resume, salary requirements, and a sample of technical writing to (NO PHONE CALLS, PLEASE):

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