



SSP Monthly Meeting
October 21, 2009, 7:45 PM.
Duquesne University, Laura Falk Hall
52 Members and 5 Guests in Attendance

Introduction

Hub Macdonald, 2009-2010 SSP Chairman opened by welcoming all members and guests in attendance. He noted that this is the annual joint meeting with the Amateur Astronomer's Association of Pittsburgh and the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh. Hub thanked Jim Mussolino and his committee for the wonderful dinner served this evening.

Amateur Astronomer's Association of Pittsburgh

- Hub introduced the officers of AAAP: Edward Moss (President), Craig Lang (Secretary), Michael Meteney (Treasurer), John Moser (Corresponding Secretary), Dennis Derda (Recording Secretary), Don Hoecker (Membership Secretary), and Bill and Maureen Moutz (Guide Stars).
- Hub presented Edward Moss, AAAP President with a donation from SSP. Mr. Moss thanked Hub and the SSP for the donation and continued support. He then gave a summary of the previous year's activities of the AAAP and a description of the various activities and programs that AAAP offers. Mr. Moss closed by inviting SSP members to attend AAAP activities.

Liaison Reports

- **Pittcon 2010:** President Annette Wilson was not in attendance.
- **Pittcon 2011:** President-elect Penny Gardner was in attendance.
- **Pittcon 2012:** President-elect Jon Peace was not in attendance.



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- **SACP:** Gregg Gould, 2009-2010 SACP Chairman spoke on behalf of the Society for Analytical Chemists of Pittsburgh. Dr. Gould noted that the next SACP meeting will be held on Monday, November 2, 2009 here at Duquesne University. The speaker will be Dr. Chad Mirkin of Northwestern University. The title of his talk will be “Nanostructures in Biology and Medicine”. Dr. Mirkin is the 2009 Pittsburgh Analytical Chemistry Award Winner. Dr. Gould invited all SSP members to attend.
- **ACS (Pittsburgh Section):** James Manner noted that celebrations for National Chemistry Week will be held October 23 and 24 at the Carnegie Science Center. He noted that SSP is a major contributor to this event, and that admission is free for SSP members and invited all to attend.
- **ACS (Pittsburgh Section):** Fu-Tyan Lin reminded everyone that the annual award dinner for the ACS Pittsburgh Section will be held on November 12, 2009, 6PM at the University Club. The recipient of the ACS Pittsburgh Section Award is Dr. Theodore Cohen of Pitt Chem, and the recipient of the Distinguished Service Award is Dr. Mildred Perry who passed away on September 29. Fu-Tyan noted that a memorial service for Dr. Perry will be held at 1PM, October 24, at the Jefferson Memorial Funeral Home. Dr. Perry was former President of SSP, the Pittsburgh Conference, and the ACS Pittsburgh Section.
- **SAS:** John Jackovitz was not in attendance. No report.
- **Carnegie Library/Museum of Natural History:** Richard Obrycki had no report.
- **Carnegie Science Center:** Richard Danchik was not in attendance, no report.

Executive Council Reports:

- **Secretary:** 2009-2010 Secretary David Vanischak asked that all committee members giving a report this evening to please give him



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an electronic or paper copy of their remarks. David reported that we received the following acknowledgements:

- 1) A thank you from Maggie Hall on behalf of the OWRC Planning Committee for the Energy Conservation Award given by SSP. The ORWC is the group that plans the annual Ohio River Watershed Cruise.
 - 2) A thank you from Clyde Clendaniel on behalf of Bethlehem-Center Foundation for the year-end funds given by SSP. These funds were awarded for the Spectroscopy Society of Pittsburgh Scholarship at Bethlehem-Center High School.
 - 3) From Patricia Hollanger, Outreach Coordinator, Penn State University, New Kensington on behalf of the STEM Initiative thanking SSP for its donation to this program. These funds will be used to enhance the laboratory portion of the program.
- **Treasurer:** 2009-2010 Treasurer, Greg Meisner: Greg noted that anyone needing warrants, warrant information, or procedures that need to be followed can find all the information in the Members Area of the SSP website. If anyone doesn't have web access, please contact Emily Concannon at the Pittsburgh Conference and she will mail the information. Greg thanked everyone who has already submitted warrants this year for following proper procedures.
 - **Chair-Elect:** Melissa Visnikar had no report.

Committee Reports

- **Meeting Arrangements:** Jim Mussolino was not in attendance, no report.
- **November Meeting:** Melissa Visnikar noted that the next SSP meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 here at Duquesne University. The Technical Program speaker will be



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Geraldine Richmond of the University of Oregon. The title of her talk will be “Going Nonlinear to Study Environmentally Important Processes at Surfaces”. All are welcome to attend.

- **Technology Forum:** Technology committee forum Chair Eli Absey was not in attendance. Hub Macdonald reported the speaker tonight was Ronald Baillie of the Carnegie Science Center. The title of his talk was “Robots in the Public” and 43 members and guests were in attendance.
- **Spectroscopy Demo/SSP Workshop/SACP Workshop: John Varine: OHIO RIVER WATERSHED CRUISE**

Hub MacDonald and John Varine represented the SSP and SACP at the Ohio River Watershed Cruise on the Gateway Clipper Empress boat on October 1st. There were several hundred home school students and their parents on the cruise. We passed out Rainbow and 3D Glasses to the students, information about light as a form of energy, and information about the Faraday Evening Lecture.

SSP WORKSHOP

The SSP will again present its “Light, Color and Spectroscopy for Kids” workshop for Elementary/Middle School Teachers at the National Energy Technology Laboratory in South Park, PA. The date is Friday, January 15, 2010. Application forms are available on the SSP and SACP websites.

SACP WORKSHOP

The SACP will again present its “Computer Software Workshop for Chemistry and Physics Teachers” at the National Energy Technology Laboratory in South Park, PA. The date is Friday, February 5, 2010. Application forms are available on the SSP and SACP websites.



Old Business

- **Approval of Minutes for September:** Hub asked for a motion to approve the September, 2009 meeting Minutes. The motion was made by David Vanischak. The motion was seconded by Carolyn Benga. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

New Business

- **Faraday Lecture:** The Faraday Lecture will be held November 16-17, 2009. 2 flyers are available on the SSP Website and here at the meeting.. The featured speaker will be Dr. Lee Marek of the University of Chicago. The title of his talk will be “Weird Science on Fuels and Energy”. Dr. Marek is a nationally known speaker and has even appeared on the Late Show with David Letterman several times.
- **National Chemistry Week:** The dates for National Chemistry Week are Fri. Oct 23 (9:00 to 3:00) and Sat. Oct. 24 (10:00 to 5:00). The event will be held at the Carnegie Science Center. Hub invited everyone to attend.

Adjournment

- Hub asked for a motion to adjourn the business meeting. Karla Zaar made the motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Mark Hubert. Motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 PM.
- Hub then turned the meeting over to Technical Chair Melissa Visnikar to introduce our speaker for the evening.

Respectively submitted,
David G. Vanischak,
2009-2010 SSP Secretary