The Newsletter of the Western New York Section of the American Chemical Society

Volume 88 May 2016

MAY MEETING! TOUR OF 12 GATES BREWING COMPANY

Please join us for a tour of 12 Gates Brewing Company, a brand new Buffalo brewery! In fact, it's so new that they haven't even had their grand opening party yet!!!! Let's spend the evening together learning about and sampling their fine craftwork!



${\bf www.} 12 gates brewing.{\tt com}$

When: Tuesday May 24th from 6-9 p.m.

Who: The first 50 registered participants.

SPACE IS LIMITED!

You must purchase a ticket in advance to participate

in this event. Tickets must be purchased online via a link to Eventbrite.com emailed to you

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\$7 Includes tour, beer, light dinner, and a

souvenir glass

Cost:

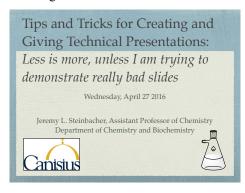
Where: 12 Gates Brewing Company

80 Earhart Drive, Williamsville, NY (off Wehrle Dr, near ECC North)

Questions: Jason Benedict, jbb6@buffalo.edu

LESS IS MORE: CREATING AND GIVING FIRST-CLASS TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS

The Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) sponsored a presentation at Canisius College on April 27 to discuss the ins and outs of crafting excellent technical presentations. The seventeen participants, from Niagara University, University at Buffalo, and Canisius College, networked and had a light dinner before the main event, delivered by Jeremy Steinbacher, Assistant Professor at Canisius College.





continued

In brief, the main points of Steinbacher's YCC presentation were:

- Know your audience before brainstorming content.
 - Group meetings are vastly different from, for example, a 12-minute talk at an ACS meeting.
- 2. Think about structure and story.
 - The human brain is wired for following stories, so having a strong narrative is critical for helping your audience follow along.
- 3. Keep slides as simple and uncluttered as possible.
 - Remove everything that is visually distracting (including most words!) or that detracts from telling your story.
 - Remember slides exist solely to support the presenter.
 - Always be cutting!
- 4. Use animations to minimize the amount of information on-screen.
 - Bring graphics and/or data on-screen in small chunks so the audience can digest each piece.
 - Beware of gimmicky or silly PowerPoint/Keynote animations. Keep animations simple.
- 5. Practice is crucial.
 - Looking at your slides passively on a computer is no substitute for standing up and speaking out loud.
 - A little bit of practice goes a long way!

The YCC is soliciting ideas for future events! Please send ideas, comments, or suggestions to Jeremy Steinbacher at steinbaj@canisius.edu.



70 YEARS AGO IN THE DOUBLE BOND

This poem was reprinted in the June, 1946 issue of The Double Bond

U-235

Scientists are stone-cutters
Chipping away with sharp wisdom the dross of obscurity
So that the new fact may shine
Like a diamond
Many-faceted with implications
Of the truths to come.

Now see what they have done with their chisels -

They have split the world!

Not much of the world at this telling

Only a few special atoms; we still live

Not having resided in Hiroshima

Or Nagasaki.

With Greek logic and Egyptian cunning They have achieved fission By forcing Nature to react upon itself.

By stripping inert isotopes from Uranium-235

They have created a brief sun: We used it to destroy Ruthlessly, but in the name of freedom.

Let us not keep saying helplessly

"What now, scientists ?"
Let us question each other.

Let us say
To Heads of State
To Foreign Ministers
To Politicians;
Find yourselves chisels, statesmen,
To chip away from each other
The dross of suspicion.

Call in the scientists – use them!
The great scientific minds from all nations
To meet with you
To advise you;
They are the true internationalists
They like each other;
Talking the common language of facts.

Together you must guide the world Statesmen and scientists; You must unite; To flush the shimmering phoenix From the glass of New Mexico And the ashes of Hiroshima The eagle of brotherhood From the souls of men.

Robert Spencer Barnett

WNYACS Officers & Staff

WNYACS Section Chair 2016

Andrew Murkin University at Buffalo, SUNY (716) 645-4249

amurkin@buffalo.edu

Chair Elect 2016 Jason Benedict

University at Buffalo, SUNY

(716) 645-4276 jbb6@buffalo.edu

Vice-Chair 2016

Luis Sanchez Niagara University (716) 286-8252

lsanchez@mail.niagara.edu

Secretary 2015-2016

Christopher Patridge D'Youville College (716) 829-8096

patridgc@dyc.edu

Treasurer 2016-2017

Andrew Poss Honeywell (716) 827-6268

andrew.poss@honeywell.com

Councilor 2014-2016

Peter Schaber Canisius College (716) 888-2351

schaber@canisius.edu

Councilor 2016-2018

David Nalewajek Honeywell

(716) 827-6303

david.nalewajek@honeywell.com

Member-at-Large 2016-2017

Dominic Ventura D'Youville College (716) 829-7545

venturad@dyc.edu

Newsletter Editor Timothy Gregg

Canisius College (716) 888-2259

greggt@canisius.edu

Schoellkopf Award Chair 2016

Jeffrey Rose DuPont

(716) 879-4597 (w) Jeffrey.M.Rose@dupont.com

Education Committee Co-Chairs

Sarah Evans Canisius College (716) 888-2342

evans51@canisius.edu

Valerie Frerichs University at Buffalo, SUNY (716) 645-4135 zuccari@buffalo.edu

Chemistry Olympiad

Mariusz Kozik Canisius College (716) 888-2337

kozik@canisius.edu

National Chemistry Week

David Nalewajek Honeywell (716) 827-6303

david.nalewajek@honeywell.com

Senior Chemists

Joseph Bieron Canisius College (716) 888-2357

bieron@canisius.edu

Member-at-Large 2015-2016

Sarah Evans Canisius College (716) 888-2342

evans51@canisius.edu

Member-at-Large 2016-2017

Lindsay Rose Niagara County Community College (716) 614-6866

lrose@niagaracc.suny.edu

Younger Chemists Committee

Jeremy Steinbacher Canisius College (716) 888-2343

steinbaj@canisius.edu

ISSUE COPY DEADLINE: FIRST OF MONTH PRIOR TO PUBLICATION

The Western New York Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) and its editors assume no responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by the contributors. Views expressed in the editorials are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Western New York Section of the American Chemical Society. All materials to appear in the next issue of Double Bond must be received by the editor, in care of the Dept. of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Canisius College, 2001 Main Street, Buffalo, New York 14208, by the FIRST day of the month. Notice for change of address should be made through ACS Member and Subscriber Services at (800) 333-9511, mailto:service@acs.org or the website: portal.acs.org/portal/PublicWebSite/contact/WPCP_007970.

Newsletter Assistant Editor

Alice Steltermann

Canisius College

(716) 888-2340

stelter@canisius.edu

The NF=B Double Bond (aka Double Bond) is published from September through June by the WNY Section of the ACS. Contact information: email: dblbond@canisius.edu; website: wny.sites.acs.org. Member subscriptions are included in the annual National ACS

dues. Permission to reprint is granted for this publication.