



NEWSLETTER

ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE
PALO ALTO CHAPTER

http://www.pa-awis.org/
http://www.awis.org/
Sep/Oct 2004

From the President

by Mirella Bucci

After the all-too-short summer break, the PA-AWIS meeting season has begun. We have an exciting agenda lined up for the next two months and are working on even more.

In addition to the incoming members, we have a great cast of outgoing members as well. You wouldn't know it though, as most of them continue to play active roles in PA-AWIS and helped to make the transition seamless.

I hope that you had a great summer and I hope to see you taking advantage of everything PA-AWIS has to offer. Speaking of which, Michelle Boytim (one of our tireless volunteers and former President) is working on a new online directory of members - a priceless tool for job seekers, networking gurus and all Bay Area women in science!

Editor's Note

by Angelie Agarwal

The newsletter is back after a summer hiatus! This issue highlights some of the local PA-AWIS activities and milestones, and the involvement of the organization in the community. Here's to a great year ahead!

Directory Update

The new directory is coming! In preparation, we ask that you update your contact information at www.pa-awis.org. On the main page, click on the "Update your Contact Information" button and complete the form. We will be publishing the directory later in the year.

Summer Sunset Walks

by Susan Bernhard

A group of 3-10 friends has been walking together every two weeks since Memorial Day. We hike most often around the Dish, but also in nearby Edgewood Park, Wunderlich Park and along the Baylands. We start at 6:30p and are done by 8p. It's a great way to unwind and release the tensions of the day, meet new friends, network or get informal advice from colleagues.

Upcoming Programs and Events

September

- Sep 16 - Palo Alto AWIS Chapter Meeting, PARC
Sep 22 - East Bay AWIS Chapter Meeting, Chiron
Sep 23 - Palo Alto AWIS Mentor Social

October

- Oct 13 - Palo Alto AWIS Chapter Meeting, PARC
Oct 17 - Sacramento Valley AWIS Chapter Meeting

For more information on these upcoming events, please see flyers on pages 5 and 6, and Calendar of Events on page 7.

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Meeting Highlight

AWIS Honors Palo Alto Chapter Member at Awards Banquet

On April 26, 2004 long-time Palo Alto chapter member Susan Bernhard was presented with the Distinguished Scientist Award. Her acceptance speech is reprinted below:

Thank you. I'd like to thank my friends who nominated me, the friends who have volunteered with me, my family and friends who have traveled to be here with me. It's an **honor** to be standing here tonight – (smile!)

When I think back to graduate school (one of my formative life experiences) what was important to me then was “D-C-C” – dedication, concentration and commitment. DCC got me through graduate school in great shape. But in **LIFE** - to make a change or do something different, we frequently need input from others – We need the benefit of their experience – their ideas, their brilliance! We need one another because **life is all about change and making transitions!**

Life transitions can seem abrupt and difficult to plan for. Starting a new job is like that. One day everything's familiar, and boom! the next day everything's different. There's no in-between. Volunteer work on the other hand is very much the opposite. It gro-o-o-o-ows on you! **Slo-o-o-wly!** The motivation for me to get involved with AWIS, networking and mentoring didn't happen suddenly...

It all started with an AWIS meeting I attended back in 1994... I heard Ann Reisenauer the program chair stand up and ask “if anyone has suggestions for future programs, please come and see me later” - very low-key, a nice smile. It was, as they say - the SIREN's call! Of course we **all** have program ideas – so I marched up to Ann and offered my idea. The next thing I knew I was on the Program Committee, carrying a box with the coffee pot supplies to the next chapter meeting, and inviting a speaker. **My life was never quite the same again!**

You might think that getting roped into doing work would be a hard thing. Like the allegory about the jar and the pebbles, You might think that “LIFE IS FULL” after you put the “big rocks” of work and family into the jar, but there's still **LOTS** of room in there to add small acts of kindness. Once I added AWIS to my life –one of the happy consequences for me was that I discovered I had a reason to be there, I helped make sure the meetings went well, and I really **enjoyed it!**

My motivation for Mentoring now partly comes from remembering how I felt when I finished graduate

school and started looking for a job. **I needed INPUT!** (Q. What jobs were out there? What positions was I

best qualified for? Who knew?!) I stepped into lots of potholes back then, and **mentoring lets me help others** avoid those common mistakes. Everyone has some experience that can help others jumpstart their careers. What a **gift that can be!**

One of the really great things about volunteer work is it can take **ANY SHAPE** you want it to – I like to hike and talk.. so for example in summertime I organize frequent informal mentoring walks. In summary, I'd like to say -

(1) Get involved, and (2) encourage others to get involved – or as Yogi Bera said: “**When you come to the fork in the road – take it!**” **(3) Thank you very much.**

PA-AWIS attends WIPP Meeting

by Lisa Wang

On June 15, 2004, Barbara Kasoff, Chief Operating Officer of WIPP (Women Impacting Public Policy) spoke to an audience of ~40 women representing women's organizations in the Bay Area. Lisa Wang and Mirella Bucci attended the event on behalf of PA-AWIS. WIPP is a three years old national bi-partisan organization. It has over 500,000 members nationwide and its mission is to educate and to advocate on behalf of women in business on the business issues impacting women and their businesses. WIPP is reaching out to different women's organizations in an effort to build a strong lobbying block in Washington D.C. A survey conducted by WIPP in late 2003 suggests that women in business will be a key voting block in deciding the outcome of 2004 November presidential election. If you are interested in learning more about WIPP, please visit their website at www.wipp.org, or contact Andrea Cianfrani, Director, Member Relations at acianfrani@wipp.org The next Bay Area WIPP event has been scheduled for August 5, 2004.

PA-AWIS Chapter Celebrates 2004 With Picnic

Did you hear about the summer picnic in Huddart Park? It was a first-time, one-of-a-kind event on a Saturday (July 17) with families and friends invited to attend. It was a potluck, with drinks and utensils provided by the Chapter. If you were there thanks for coming, and if you missed it – hope to see you next time!

News and Happenings

PA-AWIS Chapter Celebrates 20th Anniversary!

The local AWIS organizations will celebrate three anniversaries at a special gathering on August 28th at CHORI in Oakland between 10-2pm. The hoopla is occasioned by Palo Alto Chapter's 20th Anniversary, San Francisco-AWIS chapter's 1st Anniversary, and to recognize NCC-AWIS (the corporate fundraising organization that serves all Bay Area chapters). Representatives from the Palo Alto and San Francisco Chapters will make short remarks about the history and experience of being an AWIS chapter.

The 2-hour program will cover Recognition awards, Workshops, Scholarships, Fundraising, and Exceptional service awards. Several National Officers and Exceptional Service Award recipients will be present, as well as current and past chapter officers. Photos and summary information will be posted on the NCC website (www.ncc-awis.org).

Students get COLD at Science Boot Camp

Thanks to a generous grant from Agilent Technology to NCC AWIS, free dry ice from Airgas Dry Ice in SSF, and parent volunteers at Fiesta Gardens International School, over 420 students from Kindergarten through 5th grade had a fun time exploring liquid nitrogen and dry ice during Science Boot Camp in June.

A lecture and demonstration on the various states of matter included squeezing several balloons into a small cooler and shattering flowers all with the help of liquid nitrogen. Students then divided into small groups led by trained parent volunteers to explore the properties of dry ice and culminated in making and eating liquid nitrogen ice cream! Science in action is fun!

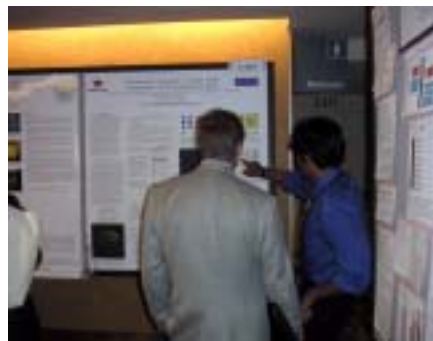


AWIS Sponsors BioGENEius Award

The Palo Alto Chapter and the San Diego Chapter sponsored the first BioGENEius Awards for outstanding high school science fair project in biotechnology at the regional fairs. Our chapter supported the \$100 award with the Society for In Vitro Biology (SIVB). The award was selected by AWIS to Michael Lin (Saratoga High School) for "Context-Dependent Binding by the NYC Oncoprotein: The Cellular Basis for Sustainable Tumor Regression". The Santa Clara's Synopsis Championship Award Presentation was at Great America in April. The San Diego AWIS chapter also sponsored a \$100 award to Ashwin Mudaliar (Torrey Pines High School) for "Gene Expression in OAT3 Knockout Mice using DNA Microarray, MgU74Av2".

Winners were able to present their posters at the May SIVB conference. In June, they joined students from around the country in competition for the National BioGENEius award at the BIO 2004 conference.

Thank you to all the members and friends who judged for the science fairs!



PA-AWIS Chapter Celebrates 20th Anniversary!

The September ebAWIS meeting will be a Networking Mixer. Purposes: (1) Enjoy a social mixer (2) Exchange ideas about careers, jobs, and life (3) Give out your business cards (4) Share advice (5) Become a chapter mentor. Women and men, scientists and non-scientists are all welcome!

Date: Wednesday, September 22, 2004, Time: 6:30-8:30 pm. Location: Chiron Corporation, Building 4.104, 4560 Horton Street, Emeryville, CA. Suggested donation, covers cost of food, \$10 non-members or \$5 for members. Meetings are open to non-AWIS members. For more info see www.ebawis.org. For questions regarding the Chiron meeting site contact AB Jefferson at AB_Jefferson@chiron.com

Farewell

Lisa Wang, former president of AWIS Palo Alto, has left the bay area for a new position at a pharmaceutical company in the Northeast. Several Palo Alto members joined her for a farewell lunch. We wish her the best of luck in her new job!



Life – There’s So Much of It!

by Staff Correspondent

Palo Alto Board and chapter members are experiencing life to the MAX, and there are plenty of changes we’re happy to announce. Our Newsletter Editor, Angelie Agarwal, is getting married in September and so is our Chapter Treasurer, Rachel Harte. Longtime AWIS member Jeanne Loring married David Barker in Australia last July. Our former NCC-Rep, Nancy Jennerjohn, was accepted into a PhD Nursing program at UCLA and has moved down south to begin her graduate work. Our current NCC-Rep, Fong-Yih Bih recently started new job at Microgenics in Fremont. Our former Program Chair, Silke Thode moved to SoCal last spring to take a new job as a project manager at Integrium in Tustin. Past president Annette Lewis had a baby girl, Natalie, in June. Our former Newsletter editor, Avital Bareket-Samish was expecting her second child when we saw her in June. Congratulations and good luck to all! Please let us know if you have happy news you’d like to share.

Volunteer Opportunities

PA-AWIS: Fundraising

A great opening is available for someone who is interested in fundraising and interacting with companies throughout the San Francisco Bay Area. This is a position with NCC-AWIS, which includes all of the SF Bay Area chapters. The position as Fundraising Committee chair is currently held by Miriam Valesco. Her position has several exciting responsibilities. The fundraising committee prepares fundraising reports for NCC-AWIS Board meetings (and is therefore on the Board), coordinates fundraising efforts throughout NCC-AWIS and interacts with new companies as well as those that have donated for many years in succession (e.g. Genentech). While she would like to hand over the responsibilities as chairwoman, she is willing to help with the transition of the new chairwoman. She can be reached by email at mvalesco@holonet.net.

PA-AWIS: Webmistress

We are looking for someone to help maintain our website. Previous experience with Microsoft Frontpage is helpful, but not necessary. Please contact our webteam at pa_webteam@yahoo.com if you are interested.

PA-AWIS: Membership

If you like interacting with your colleagues at the chapter meetings, you’ll probably enjoy volunteering with the membership committee. Our new season has seen a lot of changes including two openings on this important committee. The membership committee is responsible for maintaining the membership database (quite a perk, in and of itself) as well as greeting the meeting attendees. If you have a cheery disposition and want to help, please contact Mirella Bucci at mirellabucci@yahoo.com, or you can find her at the next chapter meeting.

Mentoring

Mentoring Needs You!

by Susan Bernhard and Adina Paytan, Mentoring co-Chair 2003-04

Would you like to be a mentor and encourage young women in science? We need you. To maintain and expand our program, we recruit mentors each fall. We usually have more student protégées than mentors, so your participation is very valuable. As a mentor you can have a lasting positive impact on a graduate student at Stanford University. Our first dinner meeting will be on campus during the week of Oct 4-8. Please RSVP to mentoring_awis@yahoo.com for more details.

The AWIS Palo Alto Mentoring Program provides support for women pursuing a career in science/math/engineering and has been highly successful since its inception in 1991. Each student protégée has the opportunity to be paired with a mentor. Post-docs are invited to act as mentors for grad students and may ask for a mentor for themselves. As a perk, we hold Mentor Socials we can share our advice and experience. (see accompanying article) Please RSVP to mentoring_awis@yahoo.com for more details.

Mentoring pairs are created based on similar interests and values, and deal with questions about scientific identity, work/family goals, industry vs academia, effective communication, life after grad school, network and interview skills, transition into the workplace.

To become a mentor, please fill out and submit the Mentor Profile form on our webpage (www.pa-awis.org) and click on Mentoring). For questions, contact one of us on the Mentoring Committee below or send an e-mail to Mentoring_awis@yahoo.com. We look forward to seeing you!

Mentoring Social – September 23

by Adina Paytan and Susan Bernhard, Mentoring co-Chairs 2004-05

There will be a wine-and-cheese reception and social on Thursday Sept 23rd at Susan's to thank all our past mentors and to welcome, inform and encourage our new mentors. Please RSVP to mentoring_awis@yahoo.com for more information on time and for directions.

Looking for Former EYH Participants

Expanding Your Horizons in Science and Mathematics conferences have been held all over the United States since 19765 and are licensed and coordinated by the Math/Science Network (www.expandingyourhorizons.org). We are searching for women who participated in these conferences during their middle, junior high or high school years. A survey has been developed by a partnership between the Math/Science Network and the ECHO project at George Mason University. It is part of a larger project by ECHO documenting the experiences of women in science and engineering. Your answers to the survey will help the Math/Science Network track the career paths of Expanding Your Horizons alumnae, and show that the conferences are effective in encouraging girls to pursue science and math based careers. This will help them raise funds and keep putting on EYH for current generations of girls who need to hear the EYH message. If you went to an EYH conference, please complete the survey at <http://echo.gmu.edu/surveys/contribute.php?survey=horizons>. Please pass this on to anyone you know who might have participated in EYH. Thank you for your help.

Association for Women In Science

Palo Alto Chapter

Getting it Right: Balancing Career and Family For Working Women

**By Laraine Zappert, Ph.D., Adjunct Clinical Professor,
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences**

Career or motherhood? Do you have to sacrifice one to be truly successful in the other? And if you're trying to do both, will you have to compromise your career path or your child's needs? With professional demands increasingly impinging on personal time, is "having it all" even realistic, or is it just plain fantasy? A leading Stanford University psychologist Dr. Laraine Zappert, who specializes in the issues of women and work, draws upon her twenty years of clinical and research experience and a landmark study to answer these questions and create a road map of innovative solutions. Dr. Zappert surveyed more than three hundred women who have graduated from Stanford's Graduate School of Business. Dr. Zappert's study shows us that although we so often think that everyone else is doing it better and having an easier time of it, that is hardly ever the case. Sometimes "good enough" has to do. And whereas the stresses may be the same for all working women, the solutions rarely are. We hope that Dr. Zappert's talk will help you make smarter, more informed decisions for creating a satisfying and fulfilling lifestyle on every level.

DATE:	Thursday, September 16, 2004
LOCATION:	PARC Auditorium
	3333 Coyote Hill Road, Palo Alto
RSVP:	RSVP online http://www.acteva.com/go/pa-awis

Schedule

7:00-7:30 pm	Networking and light supper
7:30-7:45 pm	Announcements
7:45-8:45 pm	Program
8:45-9:00 pm	Discussion

***Welcome!! This Meeting is free. You don't need to be a Member to attend.
All scientists, students, and their friends are welcome. Men too! We ask for a \$5
donation to cover the cost of food.***

Directions from the North:

Take Hwy 280 SOUTH, exit at Page Mill Rd and at the bottom of the ramp turn LEFT and head towards Palo Alto. Turn RIGHT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC (formerly Xerox PARC) is on the left, just past the crest of the hill. Enter main door and look for signs to the Auditorium.

Directions from the South:

Take Hwy 280 NORTH, exit at Page Mill Road, turn RIGHT at the bottom of the off ramp and head up hill towards Palo Alto. Turn RIGHT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC is on the left, (follow directions above).

ALTERNATE: Take Hwy 101, exit at Oregon Expressway heading west towards Stanford. As you cross El Camino, Oregon is renamed Page Mill Road. Follow Page Mill Road WEST, cross Foothill Expressway, and take a LEFT on Coyote Hill Road. PARC is on the left, (follow directions above to Auditorium).

LOCAL (from Stanford): Take Foothill SOUTH towards Los Altos, and turn RIGHT at Page Mill Road heading WEST. Turn LEFT onto Coyote Hill Road. PARC is on the left, (follow directions above to Auditorium).

See also <http://www.parc.com/company/directions.html> for map/directions

Defining Success

**By Cori Gorman, Ph.D., MBA
DNA Bridges**

Cori Gorman, Ph.D., MBA, DNA Bridges, is a Strategist, and Research Scientist with experience in business and drug development aspects of biotechnology industry. She has an outstanding record of achievement in research and drug development in diverse areas including gene therapy, gene expression and transfer, hormone processing, protein transport, and antibody therapeutics and production of recombination of proteins. Cori is also a successful entrepreneur having been a founder of a biotechnology company that completed a successful IPO.

At Genentech, Cori played a key role in the development of a number of marketed products including Kogenate, Activase, Herceptin, Xolair, and Raptiva. She also played a role the early stages of Avastin. Based on her work at Genentech, Cori is also recognized as a pioneer in the development of monoclonal antibody therapeutics and biopharmaceuticals and has co-authored several INDs. An experienced entrepreneur, Cori has worked in all aspects of a start-up company, including raising capital, strategic planning, recruiting scientists, and developing infrastructure.

DATE:	Wednesday, October 13, 2004
LOCATION:	PARC Auditorium 3333 Coyote Hill Road, Palo Alto
RSVP:	RSVP online http://www.acteva.com/go/pa-awis
TIME:	7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
LOCATION:	PARC Auditorium 3333 Coyote Hill Rd, Palo Alto

Schedule

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**ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN
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Chapter dues \$25.00 per year. Student/unemployed \$10.00. Membership in National AWIS required. Pick up an application at a chapter meeting or visit the web site!



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PALO ALTO CHAPTER

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