



□ Sally Ride Science Festivals bring together hundreds of girls for a festive day of science and socializing. Parents and teachers are welcome too!....p. 3

AWIS Mentoring Program

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AWIS Reception at Annual AAAS Meeting in San Francisco

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March - April

2007



Newsletter

Association for Women in Science Palo Alto Chapter Newsletter

It is that time of year again....

-Rachel Harte, Chapter President.

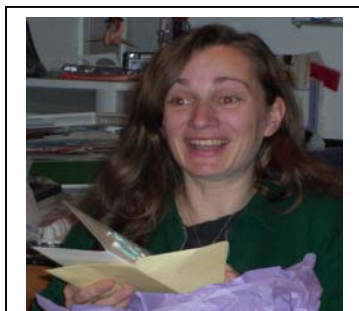
It's that time of year again. Elections are coming up this month. Elected Board positions are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and Member-at-Large. Please look out for election news on our website.

Please also keep in mind that, in April, instead of our usual chapter meeting, there will be the Annual Awards Banquet. Please join us for a fun and inspiring evening as you hear the stories of women who are

great role models and mentors. We will also be presenting chapter scholarships. The Palo Alto chapter is proud to be offering three \$1000 scholarships to help further the careers of students in science at local community colleges. The Awards Banquet is also an excellent opportunity to network with women from all the Northern California AWIS chapters. We hope that you will be able to join us. Please check <http://pa-awis.org> for further details shortly.



PARC Auditorium, regular venue for the Palo Alto AWIS Chapter Monthly meetings



Member News

Our Treasurer, Katherine Ruster gave birth to her first baby, a boy, Mark Adam Ruster on Feb 12th! Congratulations Rusters!

EVENTS Calendar

EVENT: Getting Results: The Next Generation of Women Scientists (film and discussion)
DATE: March 26, 2007
TIME: 4:00-7:00pm
LOCATION: Cubberly Auditorium, School of Education, 485 Lasuen Mall at Stanford
COST: Free

PWHA Event:

A panel discussion with:

Kim Popvits, President and COO of Genomic Health
 Lynn Dowling, WHCE Board Member and Genetic Test Consumer

Ryan Phelan, CEO of DNA Direct

Moderating:

Arlene Kirsch, Area/Segment Vice President in the Managed Markets Division of GlaxoSmithKline, Inc.

Location:

PricewaterhouseCoopers
 3 Embarcadero, 20th Floor
 San Francisco, CA

Date and Time:

Wednesday, March 21, 2007
 6:00pm – 8:00pm

Bio2Device Group Events:

<http://www.biodevicegroup.org>

These meetings are held on Tuesdays starting at 8:30 AM at 505 West Olive, Sunnyvale, Room 510.

- March 13 - Karen Talmadge, Kyphon
- April 10 - Ben Bless, NeuroPace
- May 8 - Rich Ferrari, DeNovo
- June 12 - Gregg Alton, Gilead

AWIS Annual Reception Honoring the 2007 AWIS Fellows on February 18 at AAAS meeting at San Francisco Hilton: Ben Barres, Jeannette Brown, Susan Forsburg, Jong-on Hahm, Patricia Hyer, Elizabeth Ivey, Patricia Knezek, Magaret Murnane, Kathie Olson, and Susan Metz were the fellows honored in the reception. Several volunteers from Palo Alto Chapter, Mirella Bucci, Lakshmi Jakkula, and Viji Mahathevan helped Patricia Chinogwenya of National AWIS.



Congratulations and thanks go out to all the NCC-AWIS volunteers who worked behind the scenes to make the AAAS/AWIS Panel Discussion and Breakfast come off so smoothly on President's Day, February 19th. It was a respectable but still manageable crowd of about 50 people, and provided a chance for personal interaction with the movers and shakers of our organization, like Donna Dean (current President), Janet Koster (Executive Director), Jodi Wesemann (Treasurer of National AWIS) and Phoebe LeBoy. Special thanks to Phoebe S LeBoy (President-Elect of National AWIS) who was the liaison between National and the Northern California chapters, and to Mary Alice Yund who worked with volunteers Mirella Bucci, Rachel Harte, Kelly Sexton, Terry Calarco, Paula Shadle, Joleen White, Viji Mahathevan, Cherrill Spencer, Toby Freedman and Susan Bernhard to invite speakers, staff the registration table and greet and mingle with our visiting colleagues.



Sally Ride Science Festival

APRIL 1, 2007

Santa Clara University, Santa Clara, CA

The Sally Ride Science Festival is back in the Bay Area! This spring Santa Clara University hosts it on April 1st. The Festival encourages middle school girls in science. Over the years organizers have brought together thousands of girls, parents and educators for a day of fun, science, and socializing. For more information about the Sally Ride Science Festivals please feel free to visit

<http://www.sallyridefestivals.com>.

They are looking for exhibitors to provide girls with kid-friendly, hands-on activities and access to cool information to support them in their interest in math, sciences, and engineering. The indoor Festival provides good exposure and interaction with the hundreds of girls, parents, and educators who attend.

Exhibitors at an AWIS booth would do hands-on activities with the attendees and provide handouts or brochures describing AWIS. The Street Fair gives you an opportunity to talk to many different girls, as they will be visiting all the

various booths during this time. It's exciting, wild, and lots of fun! If you are interested in participating in an AWIS-PA booth at the Street Fair, please contact PA-AWIS Outreach Chair, Katy Korsmeyer at kuokaty@scientist.com.

The Street Fair runs from 11am - 1pm. Exhibitors need to arrive between 9:30-10:00am for set-up, and then you have the choice of breaking down your exhibit at either 2:30pm or at the conclusion of the Festival at 4:15pm. You are welcome to attend the keynote speech.

JOBS AT :

San Jose Bio Center

Marketing & Programs Manager: The primary responsibilities of the Marketing & Programs Manager will be planning, developing, implementing and managing marketing communications programs. See their web site at www.sjbiocenter.com. Contact Rebekah Cahoon : rebekah@sjbiocenter.com

Chemistry Analytics Laboratory Technician (San Jose South)
The San Jose Biocenter is seeking a highly motivated and qualified individual to work as an Analytical Chemistry Consultant and Method Development Specialist using Varian Equipment. Contact Rebekah Cahoon: rebekah@sjbiocenter.com



AWIS Mentoring

- Dependable Strengths in February and Assertiveness Training in April

- by Susan Bernhard and Adina Paytan, co-Chairs
2006-07

On February 8, 2007, the AWIS Mentoring group convened our third dinner meeting -- the first one in the new year. The topic for the meeting was 'Dependable Strengths' and we were lucky to have two trainers, Chloe Kamprath and Judy Cherry along with mentor Jane Gunther who introduced to this very powerful skills-assessment tool. After the introduction, we worked in groups of three people to practice what we had learned. It was fascinating to get feedback on skills which are uniquely our own - things we are naturally good at - these are our

Dependable Strengths. There was lots of animated conversation and questions from both mentors and protégées.

Dependable Strengths is a program developed by Dr Haldane (author of 'Career Satisfaction and Success'), and there is a center in Seattle WA where you can take leader training and do workshops. Judy, Chloe and Jane have all taken some formal training. The power of it comes from focusing on your natural strengths, instead of improving upon your weaknesses. It is very positive and uplifting, and really gets the creative juices flowing. After the meeting, both mentors and protégées said that they had new confidence in their abilities, their options and most were surprised and pleased to rediscover that they were good at so many things!

For people who missed the February 8 meeting, and for anyone who would like to dive into

this topic in more depth, Chloe and Judy will offer a special series of workshops for AWIS this spring. Three classes would be given on Saturday, April 21 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., on Thursday, April 26 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. and Thursday, May 2 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The cost is \$200. There is some "homework" and by the end of the workshop you will complete a draft report of your Dependable Strengths. This is a living document that you can use for job searches, networking and career development. You may follow up with Chloe at cakf66@yahoo.com

Next Mentoring meeting. April 3rd is the date for the next Mentoring dinner meeting, when Stephanie Eberle will present 'Assertiveness Training' for women at Stanford in Mitchell Earth Science Bldg. Stephanie is an experienced career counselor and she offers other trainings at Stanford, but this one is quite popular. There will be an introduction to concepts and belief systems around assertiveness, self-confidence, gender and culture, non-verbal behaviors, with time for discussion and role-playing in small groups.

RSVP. Please send an RSVP by Friday March 30th to mentoring_awis@yahoo.com if you will attend the mentoring meeting on April 3rd. We hope to see you there.

Meeting Highlights:

February 2007

Science: A Business Perspective

A panel discussion.

-Neesha Suvarna

This exciting evening provided an opportunity for scientists to learn about business development. Kathleen Gilligan and Monica Rosoff agreed to be our speakers. The success of our meeting resonated with a crowd of more than 70 people (wow, there were many men at this meeting). Kathleen and Monica have very diverse backgrounds and have taken different approaches to reach their career goals, but the take home message of the talk was "Find out your passion and know your strengths and weakness, so you can channel your energy to accomplish future goals".

Kathleen began her career by noticing her passion for computers. Although very early on she realized that she did not have the patience for

programming, she knew she wanted to work with computers. Knowing her weakness, she decided to pursue computer sales and followed a very traditional route for getting to her current role as VP of Ramco Systems, and starting her own consulting firm, Array Partners. Along her career path -- working at Symantec for almost 10 years and moving up the corporate ladder-- she became the "go-to person" to streamline departments. Her views on strategy and passion for operational excellence have often resulted in clients asking her to step in as interim executive or advisor to senior management and helped in her current roles.

Monica's approach to her career was a bit different. She pursued her love for science by getting her PhD at University of Washington followed by a postdoctoral fellowship in molecular and cellular physiology at Stanford University. During her postdoctoral stint, Monica co-founded the postdoctoral scholars' association, using her communication and people skills to negotiate postdoc salaries. The hardest thing for Monica to accept was the applicability or efficiency of research. She wanted the opportunity to communicate science to other people and to be in the forefront of developing science rather than working behind the bench. Her first step was to join the database company Ingenuity Systems as a content specialist, where she extracted data from public systems and plugged them into a database that was accessed by Pharma/Biotech companies. She had the opportunity to work with diverse people and develop basic business skills, including learning how software is built and how to execute plans. With this foundation, Monica moved to a larger company, Caliper Technologies, to explore new product development opportunities, following which she joined Solexa as a business development manager. Gaining experiences through these various positions, Monica is currently working at Genentech as a Sr. Manager, Commercialization and Product Transfer.

Following this brief introduction, the panel welcomed questions from the audience. One question queried the skills required for persons to excel in business development; both speakers agreed that key requirements are common sense, communication, ability to articulate and put forth an argument, networking, collaborative spirit, passion to work and willingness to take risks.



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