

The Blue Ridge Chemist

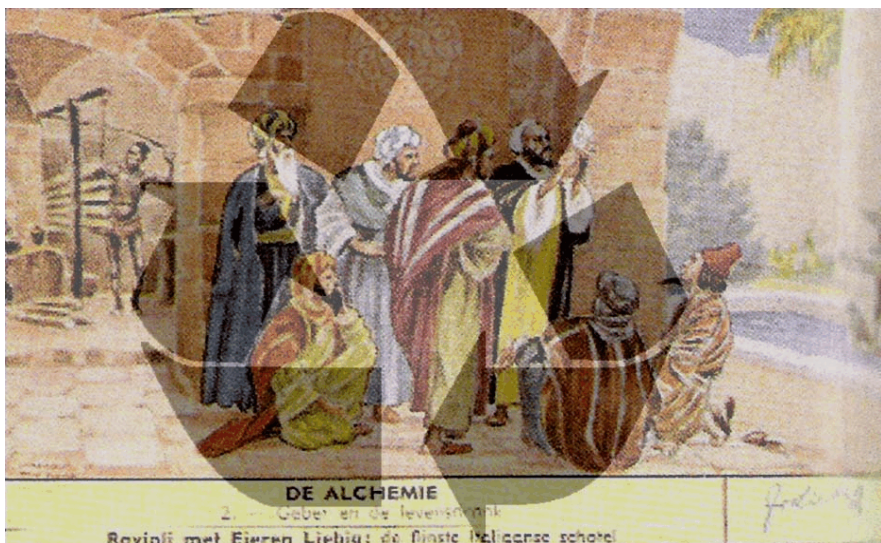
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A 1930's trading card from the Liebig's Extract of Meat Company portraying 8th century Arabic alchemy and Jābir ibn Hayyān (Gerber). Gerber is considered by some to be the father of chemistry. ("From Alchemy to Chemistry in Pictures and Story", by Arthur Greenberg)

Roanoke Valley Governor's School hosts February Meeting

<http://www.acs-vbrs.org>

VIRGINIA BLUE RIDGE SECTION AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

637th SECTION MEETING

Hosted by Roanoke Valley Governor's School
Thursday, February 24, 2011

PROGRAM:

- 5:30-6:00 Social time, Lecture Hall, RVGS
- 6:00-7:00 Dinner, Lecture Hall, RVGS
- 7:00-8:00 Talk, Lecture Hall, RVGS

The social time, dinner, and presentation will all take place in the lecture hall at Roanoke Valley Governor's School. The speaker will be Ben Huddle, talking on "Chemistry in the Golden Age of Arabic Science".

The meal will be buffet style with chicken piccata, tilapia in a beurre blanc sauce, mashed potatoes, blue lake green beans, tossed salad (dressings of French, ranch, and vinegar & oil), yeast rolls, chocolate trifle, cheesecake, decaffeinated iced tea and Starbucks coffee (decaf & regular). The dinner is \$14, with students and retired members being half price.

Reservations for the dinner must be made by THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 17, (7 DAYS BEFORE THE MEETING) by contacting Steve Smith at (540) 853-2116, or by e-mail to ssmith@rvgs.k12.va.us, or by writing to Steve Smith, Roanoke Valley Governor's School, 2104 Grandin Road SW, Roanoke, VA 24015.

Dr. Huddle, the scheduled speaker for the January meeting that was cancelled because of inclement weather, has graciously agreed to give his Arabic Science talk this month.

**Dr. Ben Huddle
Roanoke College**

I was born in Ootacamund, India in 1941, and was brought up in Kyoto and Tokyo, Japan where I graduated from high school in 1959. I have a B.S. in Chemistry (1963) from Lenoir-Rhyne College in Hickory, NC, and a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry (1968) from the University of North Carolina. I have taught in the Chemistry Department at Roanoke College since 1968, and served as Chair for 20 years. I have taught a variety of courses here but mostly Physical Chemistry, General Chemistry, and Forensic Chemistry. I have had visiting appointments at Hollins University and at Sang Ji University in Wonju, Korea. I am a past-chair of the Blue Ridge Section, and currently serve as the section Councilor.



Chemistry in the Golden Age of Arabic Science

The Golden Age of Arabic science lasted some 500 years, from 750 to 1258 AD. During this period scientists made a number of contributions to the field of chemistry, now largely overlooked or relegated to alchemy. These include the vocabulary of chemistry, the development of laboratory instruments and techniques still used today, and the discovery of many new chemicals. This talk will explore some of these developments.

**Considering a Career in
High School Chemistry Teaching?**

The American Chemical Society (ACS) can help you pursue your dream of becoming a high school chemistry teacher with the ACS-Hach Second Career Teach Scholarship. The ACS-Hach Second Career Teach Scholarship is awarded to professionals with work experience in chemistry-related fields. Scholarship recipients receive up to \$6,000 for full-time study and up to \$3,000 for part-time annually. Applications are due on April 1, 2011. Learn more about this exciting scholarship program at www.acs.org/hach.



**Transform Your Classroom with an
ACS-Hach High School Chemistry Grant**

The ACS-Hach High School Chemistry Grant is awarded to teachers interested in enhancing the teaching and learning of high school chemistry. Applicants can receive up to \$1,500 to support ideas that improve classroom learning, foster student development, and reveal the wonders of chemistry. Applications are due on April 1, 2011. Apply for the ACS-Hach High School Chemistry Grant today at www.acs.org/hach.

Celebrate the International Year of Chemistry 2011

It's time for ACS Chemistry Ambassadors to celebrate the International Year of Chemistry 2011 (IYC 2011). Visit a classroom or scout troop meeting and do hands-on experiments with children. Have an IYC 2011 birthday party or conduct a demonstration at a local library. There are many ways to introduce the wonders of chemistry to children in your community. We encourage you to join the effort or learn more by visiting www.acs.org/iyc2011 and www.acs.org/chemistryambassadors. In addition to the many sample experiments on the Chemistry Ambassadors web page, we have a limited number of free Kids & Chemistry kits you can request if you wish to conduct hands-on activities with groups of up to 32 students. For more information about the kits and to place your order, click www.acs.org/chemistryambassadorsgiveaway.

Once you experience the rewards of helping students and teachers better appreciate science, consider doing it again. The Chemistry Ambassadors program makes it easy to stay involved during IYC 2011, whether you have a lot of time, or just a little.

Grant Extension and Increase

The Bridging the Gap Nano-Grant for Celebrating IYC 2011's deadline has been extended to June 1st, 2011. In addition, the award has been increased to \$500 (previously \$250). For more information go to www.acs.org and follow the links Funding & Awards, Grants, ACS Community Recognition, or go to http://portal.acs.org/portal/acs/corg/content?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=PP_ARTICLEMAIN&node_id=1292&content_id=CNBP_025456&use_sec=true&sec_url_var=region1&__uuid=776181ea-3ca5-4016-896a-f2a5fd678775 (all one line).

19th Annual Undergraduate/High School Poster Session

The Virginia Blue Ridge Section of the American Chemical Society is sponsoring the nineteenth Annual Undergraduate/High School Poster Session as a part of the April 6, 2011 meeting at Radford University. Poster boards will be provided.

If you have a student or students who will be participating, submit the information below by email to Chris Hermann (chermann@radford.edu) by March 28, 2011. **This is a firm deadline. No poster submissions will be accepted after this time.** All students and faculty will get email confirmation. If you do not get an email reply, then your submission was not received and you cannot present.

Name of Project: _____

Name(s) of Student(s): _____

Affiliation (name of high school, college, or university): _____

Class of Student(s) (freshman, sophomore, junior, senior): _____

Student(s) email address: _____

Advisor's Name, Address, Telephone Number, and email address:

Poster board (48" by 48") with tripod on table or just table will be provided. Please specify what you need.

_____ poster board with tripod on table _____ only table

Directions to the Roanoke Valley Governor's School

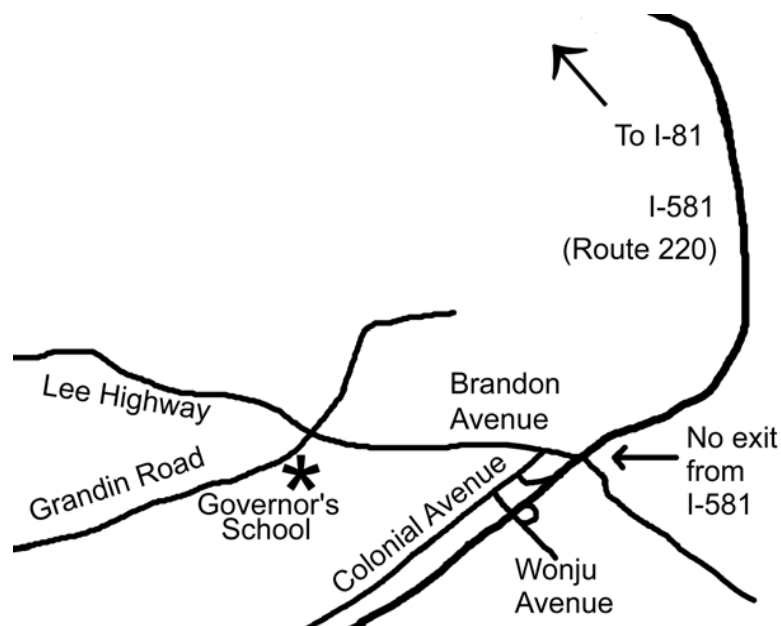
The Governor's School is located a little south of the corner of Grandin Road and Brandon Avenue. (Brandon Avenue is the continuation of Apperson Drive and Lee Highway.)

Driving south on I-581 (220), take the exit for Colonial Avenue. At the end of the exit ramp, turn right onto Colonial Avenue and continue below.

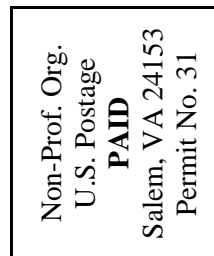
Driving north on I-581, take the Second Wonju Street exit. Turn right at the end of the exit ramp onto Wonju Street. At the light, turn right onto Colonial Avenue and continue below.

Stay in the left lane on Colonial, and turn left at the light onto Brandon Road. At the intersection of Brandon with Grandin Road, turn left, and shortly turn left again into the campuses of Patrick Henry High School and the Roanoke Valley Governor's School. After entering these campuses, the building ahead and a little to the right is the Governor's School.

Map to the Roanoke Valley Governor's School



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Vernon Miller, Editor
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Return Service Requested

The March meeting will be Monday, March 21 at Lynchburg College. The speaker will be Dr. John Gupton, University of Richmond, speaking on synthesis in organic chemistry. The contact person is Dwight Williams.