

The Blue Ridge Chemist

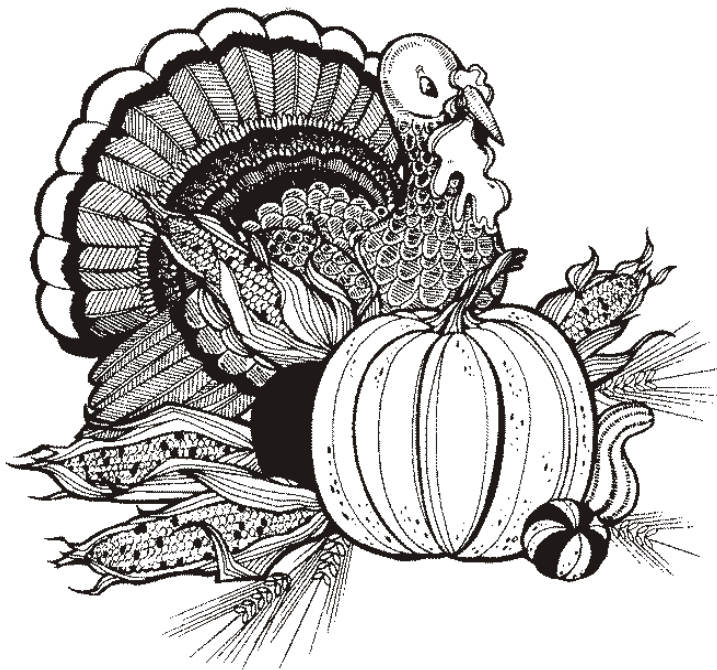
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Lynchburg College Hosts November Meeting

<http://membership.acs.org/v/vbr>

VIRGINIA BLUE RIDGE SECTION AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

628th SECTION MEETING
Hosted by Lynchburg College
Thursday, November 19, 2009

PROGRAM:

- 6:00-6:30 Social Time, Burton East Room
- 6:30-7:30 Dinner, Burton East Room
- 7:30-8:30 Talk, Burton East Room

The social time, dinner, and talk will take place in the Burton East Room at Lynchburg College. The evening's speaker is William Mattson who will give a talk entitled "Creative Problem Solving in Research".

The buffet dinner will consist of salad, fresh asparagus, roasted Yukon potatoes, dry aged strip loin of beef, rosemary roasted chicken breast, and assorted deserts. Cost for the dinner is \$14.00, with students and retired ACS members being half price.

Reservations for the dinner must be made by THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, SEVEN DAYS before the meeting, by phoning William Lokar at (434) 544-8631, or by email to lokar_w@lynchburg.edu, or by mail to William Lokar, School of Sciences, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, VA 24501.

Dr. William A. Mattson
Randolph College

Bill Mattson is a professor of analytical chemistry at Randolph College in Lynchburg, Virginia. He earned a B.S. and a Ph.D. from the University of Virginia and an M.S. from American University. A sampling of some of his activities includes teaching some non-chemistry courses (first year seminars: Exploration, Discovery, and Problem Solving; Creative and Critical Problem Solving, the Use of Spreadsheets, Freshman Colloquium);



developing a campus computer allocation model; and spending 18 of the last 20 summers teaching or doing research at the University of Virginia, James Madison University, the University of North Carolina, and the University of Tennessee. He has been a senior reviewer charged with helping to audit all AP® chemistry courses in the nation, a consultant for the South Carolina Course Alignment Project, a question writer for the American Dental Exam, an Educational Testing Service Chemistry AP Reader, a National Science Foundation panel member for grant evaluation, director of the Central Virginia Regional Science Fair, and a master of ceremonies for a high school Academic Competition for Excellence program. Bill has dozens of papers and publications. He has taken students to regional and national ACS meetings to present their research. He has done experimental research in such areas as molecular absorption spectrophotometry, mass spectrometry, the standard addition method, chemical equilibrium, and acid/base indicators. However, he sees himself more as an educator and a generalist, having publications and papers in education in areas such as chemical equilibrium, exploring in the laboratory, experiencing the

skills of scientific practice, computer interfacing, solving simultaneous equations in multi-equilibria problems, and creative problem solving in research.

Creative Problem Solving in Research

Enjoy an interactive presentation while strengthening an important skill--problem solving. In the day-to-day work environments of chemists and others, it is desirable to be able to solve problems creatively. Such problems might involve obtaining new research ideas, improving processes and production in industry, dealing with problems that arise during research, and even solving personal problems. Oftentimes people apply a random process rather than something more directed. Results are often poor. This presentation will focus on providing insights that will allow you to improve your creative problem solving abilities. The speaker has been teaching creative problem solving for many years. Past responses from numerous audiences suggest that regardless of whether or not you are a chemist this interactive presentation will be worthy of your time for both its value and its thought provoking and entertaining elements.

Want to Support Your Local Chemistry Teachers?
Need Materials for a High School Event?

ChemMatters is a bimonthly magazine for high school students with a mission to help students find connections between the chemistry

they learn and the world around them. Each issue brings intriguing stories informing readers about creative applications of chemistry or real-life mysteries solved by chemistry. A free, web-based Teacher's Guide contains background information, follow-up hands-on activities, classroom demonstrations, and other resources allowing teachers to incorporate *ChemMatters* into their instruction, or assign it as supplemental reading. A 25-year archive of the *ChemMatters* magazine is now also available on CD.

We can support high school teachers and students in our area and present them with a gift of a *ChemMatters* subscription (only \$14) or *ChemMatters* CD (\$30). For more information about these great resources visit www.acs.org/ChemMatters. To receive a limited number of free copies of *ChemMatters* contact Marta Gmurczyk at m_gmurczyk@acs.org or 202-452-2105. If you think our local section should get involved, contact any of the local officers.

Looking for Ways to Go Green and Partner with ACS Student Chapters?

Our local section can partner with an undergraduate ACS Student Chapter to help them earn a Green Chemistry Student Chapter Award. To earn the award, undergraduate student chapters must complete at least three different green chemistry activities over the course of the academic year and include them in their chapter report. With the start of the school year, now is a great time to reach out to a local student chapter as they're planning the year's activities.

To read more about the award and for ideas of green chemistry activities, visit www.acs.org/greenchemistry and click on "Green Chemistry Education" then "Green Chemistry Student Chapter Awards".

Ballot, Blue Ridge Section, ACS, for 2010

The Nominating Committee has prepared the following slate of nominees for the election at the November meeting. All have agreed to serve if elected. Other nominees will be accepted from the floor at that meeting. If you would like to nominate someone, please check with that person about his or her willingness to serve.

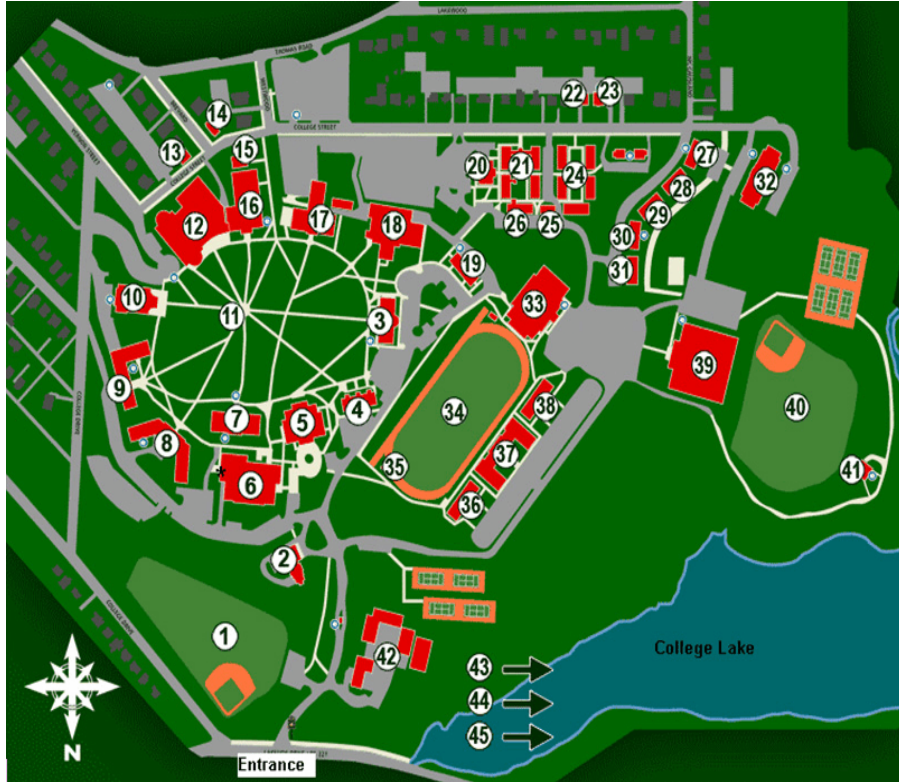
Chair	_____	Gary Hollis, Roanoke College
	_____	_____
Chair-elect	_____	Dwight Williams, Lynchburg
	_____	_____
Secretary	_____	Kim Lane, Radford University
	_____	_____
Treasurer	_____	Vernon Miller, Roanoke College
	_____	_____
Recorder	_____	Gary Hollis, Roanoke College
	_____	_____
Newsletter Editor	_____	Vernon Miller, Roanoke College
	_____	_____
Councilor	_____	Ben Huddle, Roanoke College
	_____	_____
Alternate-councilor	_____	Gwen Sibert, Roanoke Valley Governor's School
	_____	_____

Bring your ballot to the November meeting, or mail it to William Lokar, School of Sciences, Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, VA, 24501.

Directions for Lynchburg College

From Roanoke, follow Route 460 East and exit off Route 460 at Candler's Mountain Road. Follow signs to Route 501 North (River Ridge Mall will be on your left, and Wachovia Bank will be on your right). Take the right exit ramp to 501 North. Follow 501 North about 4 miles. At the first intersection (marked by a traffic light and Honda Dealer on the left) turn right onto 221 North (Lakeside Drive) and proceed 2 miles. The campus entrance will be on your right immediately past College Lake. The Meeting will be in Building #6 (Burton Student Center). Enter on the left side.

Map to Lynchburg College



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Salem, VA 24153
Permit No. 31

Vernon Miller, Editor
VA Blue Ridge Section, American Chemical Soc.
Chemistry Dept., Roanoke College
Salem, VA 24153-3789

Return Service Requested

The January meeting is scheduled for the Roanoke Valley Governor's School. Look for the details in the next BRC. The contact person is Gwen Sibert.