



N. E. A. C. T. Newsletter

New England Association of Chemistry Teachers

Volume 62 No. 2

December 2007

508th Meeting

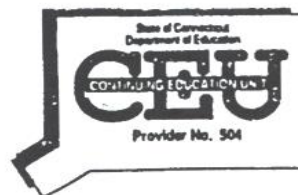
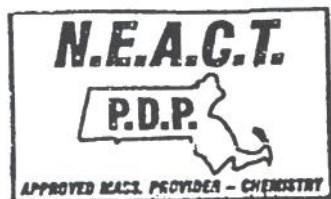
Saturday, January 12, 2008

Western Division, Marie Reluga & Laura Smutnick, Chairs

**Springfield Art Museum
Springfield, MA**

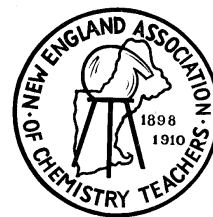
Massachusetts: 3 PDP

Connecticut: .3 CEU



Rhode Island: .2 PDC

New England Association of Chemistry Teachers



The Newsletter is published five times a year. Website: <http://www.neact.org/>
NEACT promotes exemplary teaching of chemistry and usually holds four division meetings during the school year and an annual summer conference.

OFFICERS and EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES--NEACT, 2007-2008 V--voted A--appointed

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A TIMM Award Comm (06-09) James Golen UMass Dartmouth, Dartmouth MA 02747 508-999-9245
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Additional contact information for the above individuals may be found on the NEACT website and on the back page of the NEACT Journal.

Literary or editorial contributions or event listings for this Newsletter are always welcome and must reach Judith Douville, the editor (jdouville@juno.com), on or before the following dates:

February 1, 2008

April 1, 2008

Note: You may want to keep this page for future reference.

508th NEACT Meeting

January 12, 2008

Tuscany Room

**Springfield Fine Arts Museum
Springfield, MA**

- 11:15 - 11:45 Registration and Brunch**
- 11:45 - 12 :45 A VISIONARY JOURNEY IN GLASSMAKING I : JOSH SIMPSON EXHIBIT**
- 1:00 - 2:00 A VISIONARY JOURNEY IN GLASSMAKING II**
- 2:00 - 3:00 NEACT BUSINESS MEETING**

Josh Simpson is a renowned glassblower whose studio is in Shelburne Falls, MA. He has devoted himself to all aspects of glassmaking by designing and building his own furnace and learning glass chemistry. He says that glass is an alchemic blend of sand and metallic oxides in addition to blinding heat; the material flows like honey.

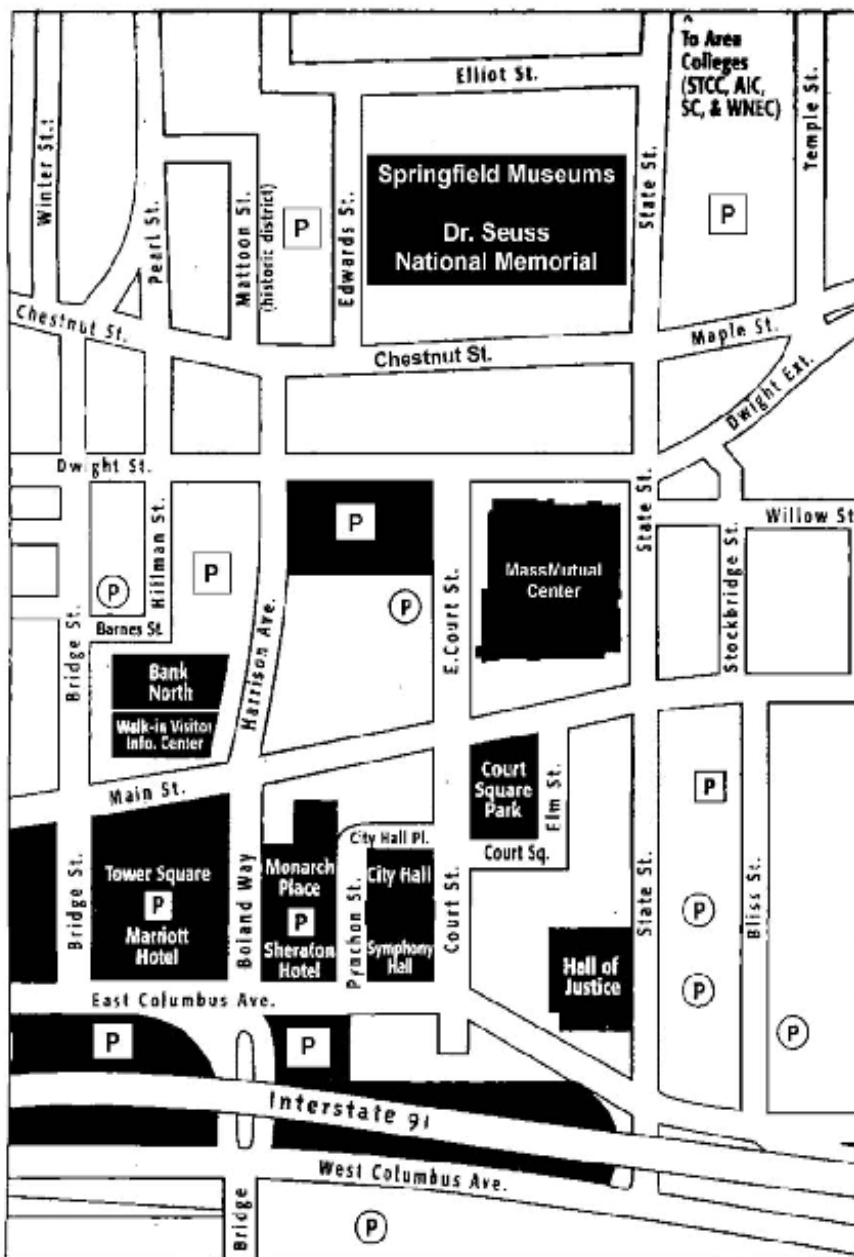
Arrangements have been made for NEACT with the Springfield Museum to enjoy a docent tour of this exhibit.

Please park in the Welcome Center parking lot and proceed to the Fine Arts Building where you will be given an admission sticker.

Anyone attending this meeting who is not a member of NEACT will kindly pay \$10 at the NEACT sign in desk in the Tuscany Room.

The meeting will be cancelled in the event of snow.

Please contact M. Reluga at 860 653 7438 if there are any questions



Springfield Museums

ART • HISTORY • SCIENCE • DR. SEUSS SCULPTURE GARDEN

Directions to the Springfield Museums At the Quadrangle

From the North - Take Interstate 91 South to Exit 7. Turn left onto State Street, proceed for three blocks and you will see the large, white marble Springfield City Library building on your left. Take the first left past the library onto Elliot Street and then the next left onto Edwards Street.

From the South - Take Interstate 91 North to Exit 6. Stay on Columbus Avenue to State Street. Turn right, proceed for three blocks and you will see the large, white marble Springfield City Library building on your left. Take the first left past the library onto Elliot Street and then the next left onto Edwards Street.

From the East - Take the Massachusetts Turnpike to Exit 6 (I-291). Exit at Dwight Street (Exit 2B), turn left. Follow Dwight to State Street. Turn left at the light, go through another light and you will see the large, white marble Springfield City Library building on your left. Take the first left past the library onto Elliot Street and then the next left onto Edwards Street.

From the West - Take the Massachusetts Turnpike to Interstate 91 South and follow I-91 South to Exit 7. Turn left on State Street, proceed for three blocks and you will see the large, white marble Springfield City Library building on your left. Take the first left past the library onto Elliot Street and then the next left onto Edwards Street.

Parking: Free parking is available in the lots on Edwards Street.

Coming Soon . . . The 2008 Flinn Scientific Chemical & Biological Catalog/ Reference Manual With More Than 150 New Products for Biology, Chemistry, Physical Science and Earth Science

Coming in January 2008 – Flinn Scientific will publish the new *2008 Flinn Chemical & Biological Catalog/ Reference Manual*. This indispensable catalog/reference manual contains more new and exciting chemistry, biology, physical science and earth science products, in addition to the wealth of safety materials you expect from Flinn. Helpful information regarding safe storage of chemicals, laboratory solution preparation, Right-To-Know requirements, chemical disposal procedures, and much more are also included.

This outstanding resource is a must for all secondary science teachers. Free copies are available to science teachers at school addresses only. To obtain a free copy, teachers only should contact Flinn Scientific:

Flinn Scientific, Inc. , P.O. Box 219, Batavia, IL 60510

Phone: 1-800-452-1261 E-mail: flinn@flinnsci.com Web site: <http://www.flinnsci.com/>

From the President—

The winter weather has arrived. I hope everyone's holidays are going well. Plans for the Western Division meeting are on track thanks to our past president Marie Reluga. The Fine Arts Museum of Springfield Massachusetts is the venue for our January 12 meeting.

NEACT meeting and conference topics continue to enrich the curriculum that I teach, whether it is Biology, Chemistry, or Freshman Integrated Science. Green Chemistry has become a major component of the CAPT and I have used the solar cell activity we learned at the last January meeting, and will use the recycling kit that I won at the May meeting, and the solar cell lab that we practiced at our summer conference, The Wonders of Glass. Not only do we gain knowledge from our guest presenters, we have a wonderful Professional Learning Community that provides moral support and excellent ideas. My favorite example is the sodium polyacrylate lab that is an embedded task for Connecticut ninth graders. The procedure that came with the task was very cumbersome but, during one of our discussion periods, Dave Crockett suggested an alternative that made the lab much more manageable. I shared this with my colleagues at Tolland High School and now we all use Dave's procedure.

So, it is with great anticipation that I look forward to our offerings in the New Year, both the meetings with this year's theme of the Wonders of Glass and our 2008 Summer Conference: Nano Fibers, Hi Tech Textiles, and Structural Coloring. Kathy Siok and I traveled to UMass Dartmouth the first week of December and finalized plans. The campus is beautiful. Professor Qinguo Fan and Dr. Kenneth D. Langley, chair of the Materials and Textiles Department and Dr. Emmanuel Ojadi, Chemistry Department chair, were very supportive and excited about our conference. February 22nd-23rd at the University of Connecticut Institute of Material Sciences is another meeting opportunity for NEACT members. For details, see the announcement on page 8 of this *Newsletter* issue.

Looking forward to seeing you in Springfield.

Sincerely, Laura Smutnick lsmutnick@tolland.k12.ct.us

Note to all NEACT Members

At the May, 2006 meeting of the Association, it was voted to subscribe all NEACT members to the NEACT e-mail listserv. [Membership on that is now per initiative of the member.] E-mail addresses have now been obtained, and it is [past] time to implement that directive. Besides allowing members to discuss chemistry teaching/learning issues or seek help via e-mail, the "full" list will provide a means for the president to communicate quickly with at least all the members who have e-mail.

FYI, the NEACT e-mail listserv is [or at least has been] a very quiet list. It also has spam protection. It is a "closed list," meaning that postings are only allowed by members, though anyone interested in chemical education can join. Anyone abusing the list can and will have his/her subscription cancelled. List rules are included in the welcome message that will arrive after one has been subscribed.

Any member who does NOT wish to be on the e-mail list should so notify list administrator Steve Stepenuck [sstepenuck@ne.rr.com] by May 1, 2006. One may also unsubscribe at any time by following directions that will come with the subscription announcement, and which are always available on the NEACT or FreeLists websites: <http://www.neact.org/> and <http://www.freelists.org/list/neact/>, respectively.

New Fund to Benefit NEACT Activities

The NEACT Executive Board is pleased to announce to NEACT members and friends a substantial gift from an anonymous member. This member will donate up to \$5000 to match funds donated to NEACT before the next summer conference, in a campaign to support NEACT's expenses and thus keep dues at a reasonable level. The Executive Board has agreed that the funds collected in this manner will go into a CD (as was done for the Timm Award and the NEACT Endowment Fund). The interest from this new fund will be used to support NEACT's operating expenses, helping NEACT to continue its many services to chemistry teachers, while helping to keep dues at a reasonable level. Please support this campaign with a donation mailed to NEACT's treasurer, Richard Boucher, 5 Grove Street, Douglas, MA 01516; email: richard-boucher@charter.net.

2008 Timm Award

The John Timm Award was established in May 1969 by the NEACT Executive Committee. It is given annually or biennially to a chemistry teacher who has made a contribution to chemistry in one of a number of ways. They include: "effectively motivating students to continue their student of chemistry, developing new and effective instructional techniques, assisting in the work of chemistry teachers in general or promoting public recognition of the importance of chemistry." The winner is asked to deliver the Annual Timm Award lecture at one of the 2008-9 NEACT meetings.

If you would like to nominate a teacher for the 2008 award, please submit a letter of nomination and contact information about the nominee to Laura Smutnick at lsmutnick@tolland.k12.ct.us or 70 Brooklyn Rd., Pomfret Center, CT 06259.

The deadline is March 2008.

Coming in January 2008 . . . A Flinn Catalog Just for Middle School Science Teachers

Flinn Scientific offers a catalog designed exclusively for middle school science teachers. The **2008 Flinn Science Catalog/Reference Manual for Middle Schools**, available in January 2008, features products, ideas and information specifically for middle schools and junior high schools. Middle school teachers will appreciate finding everything they need for life science, earth science, and physical science, including laboratory chemicals, in one convenient source. You will find low prices, valuable lab ideas, helpful safety tips, and chemical storage and disposal techniques. Every middle school and junior high school science teacher should have a copy of this new unique catalog.

Free copies of the **2008 Flinn Science Catalog/Reference Manual for Middle Schools** are available to science teachers at school addresses only. Teachers only should contact Flinn Scientific:

Flinn Scientific, Inc. , P.O. Box 219, Batavia, IL 60510

Phone: 1-800-452-1261 E-mail: flinn@flinnsci.com Web site: <http://www.flinnsci.com/>

Happy holidays, everyone. Anyone who has not paid dues for the 2007-2008 year should have received a renewal letter recently. Please try to get your checks to me by mid-January. You will note that in the letter I mentioned that you can send a separate check toward the matching donation fund with your renewal. Please consider supporting NEACT this year. If you are unsure about your dues status, please contact me.

Please remember that you may sponsor someone (a colleague, student teacher, mentor, etc.) whom you think might be interested in NEACT. There is no cost to you to sponsor someone. Each year a member may sponsor one person for free as a way to recruit new members. Just fill out the membership application form on the last page of the newsletter. Please, also encourage them to attend meetings with you. Most of us were introduced to this great organization in just this way.

If you have retired and have been a member of NEACT for at least 20 years, you can qualify for emeritus status which gives you 50% off the yearly dues. Please contact me at jj@k2sw.com or you can find my home information on the membership application form on the last page.

Welcome to the new members from the EBEC Physics First / Chemistry Project and also welcome to Lance Arnold, Solomon Berman, Susan Costa, Ana Healey, Sister Claire Markham, Cheryl Porter, and Kathleen Yocis.

Jerusha Vogel

Flinn Scientific Announces FREE Laboratory Design Advice

Flinn Scientific, the leader in school science safety, offers two free ways to help teachers design a new lab or improve an existing lab. Flinn offers a Laboratory Design Packet and the opportunity to discuss your lab design project with Flinn's Lab Design Specialist.

The Flinn Laboratory Design Packet contains problem-solving ideas and helpful suggestions including:

- Science Lab Design Priority Lists.
- Sample Lab Designs.
- Safety and Equipment Checklists.
- Plus more great tips and advice gained from helping hundreds of teachers improve their laboratories.

Flinn's Laboratory Design Specialist can offer advice specific to your school, your budget, and your needs. You can rely on Flinn's safety expertise, practical knowledge, and years of experience to help you design an efficient laboratory that will provide a safe and successful learning environment.

Teachers are invited to request a free Laboratory Design Packet and to contact Flinn's Lab Design Specialist for free advice guaranteed to improve your laboratory.

Flinn Scientific, Inc., P.O. Box 219, Batavia, IL 60510
Phone: 1-800-452-1261 E-mail: flinn@flinnsci.com Web site: <http://www.flinnsci.com/>

Save the Date!!!

70th Annual NEACT Summer Conference

August 4 - 7, 2008, at UMASS Dartmouth

Nano Fibers--Hi Tech Textiles--Structural Color

This conference will combine the resources of the textile and chemistry departments of the University of Massachusetts at Dartmouth and give participants an opportunity to learn more about the latest developments in this area. Hands-on workshops and field trips will also be planned.

UMASS Dartmouth is a modern, beautiful campus close to beaches, cities and great shopping. Accommodations are fully air-conditioned and organized in apartment-style settings with full kitchens and private bathrooms in each suite.

Total charges for the conference should be in the \$300 range and scholarship support for teachers will be available. This is one conference not to be missed.

Would you like to present an activity or workshop on any topic?? Let us know.

For additional registration information, contact Kathy Siok at kathys5@cox.net or 401-885-1608.

The UConn Material Advantage Chapter is proud to announce the 1st Annual Northeast Regional Conference



Please join us on February 22nd and 23rd as we host 14 Material Advantage Chapters from across the Northeast and Connecticut's own high school program Project Lead the Way!

This event showcases a love of material science and engineering through local industry tours, several technical presentations, a Material Advantage chapter workshop, and a keynote address from the Vice President of ASM International, Roger Fabian.

Registration Deadline: January 15, 2008

Call for Posters!

Abstract Deadline: December 14, 2007

The Northeast Regional Conference will also provide students the opportunity to present, discuss and critique their research findings and knowledge in materials science and engineering. Our relaxed setting will give these students the chance to practice their presentation skills and gain valuable knowledge from their peers and industry professionals. We encourage all student attendees looking for the opportunity to see, feel, and experience the *thrills* of presenting to submit their abstracts!

For any questions or concerns regarding the event please visit our website <http://www.engr.uconn.edu/ucma/> or email us directly ucma.conference@gmail.com

NEACT Membership Application/Renewal 2007-2008

(Membership year = 7/1-6/30. You are paid through 6/30 of year on address label.)

Check one: New Member ____ Renewal ____

Sponsored member (free for one year if sponsored by a NEACT member)_____

(Name of sponsor _____)

Name:_____ Date:_____

Home--Address: _____ City/Town: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____(9 digit zip); Use of 9 digit zip code saves \$\$.

Telephone: (____)_____ e-mail address: _____

() Check if new address/tel. no.

(Circle one) You may / may not publish home information in membership directory.

Work--Workplace name: _____

Address:_____, City:_____

State: _____ Zip: _____(9 digit zip), Use of 9 digit zip code can save \$\$.

Telephone: (____)_____ ()Check if new work information

(Circle one) You may / may not publish work information in membership directory.

Notices should be sent to: () Home () Work I would like the Newsletter sent via _____e-mail or _____U.S. Postal Service.

Any special notes?_____

Dues \$25. Check, payable to NEACT, please send to:

Jerusha Vogel, NEACT Membership Secretary, 45 Dirksen Drive, Wilton, CT 06897

Membership questions? Jerusha Vogel at: jj@k2sw.com

New England Association of Chemistry Teachers
Ms Jerusha Vogel
Membership Secretary
45 Dirksen Drive
Wilton, CT 06897

Address correction requested

FIRST CLASS MAIL



Upcoming Events

March 1, 2008	Southern Division Meeting (Rhode Island)
May 10, 2008	Central Division Meeting (Massachusetts)
Aug. 4-7, 2008	70th Summer Conference, UMass-Dartmouth

Judith A. Douville, Newsletter Editor (for news items only)
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The Newsletter is published five times during the academic year and is distributed free to NEACT members.