

PRES

Benefits of Chemistry in Our Lives

247th ACS National Meeting, Dallas, TX

Monday, March 17 2014

- 8:00 a.m. *Why is it important to maintain the public image of chemistry?* (**Thomas Barton, Department of Chemistry, Iowa State University**)
No abstract submitted
- 8:10 a.m. *Contributions of chemistry to energy and transportation* (**William F. Carroll, Occidental Chemical Corporation**)
No abstract submitted
- 8:35 a.m. *Conversations on chemistry and the environment: Engaging chemists and the public* (**Bassam Shkhashiri, Department of Chemistry, UW-Madison**)
No abstract submitted
- 9:00 a.m. *Communication and entertainment without chemistry* (**Attila Pavlath, Agricultural Research Service, USDA**)
No abstract submitted
- 9:25 a.m. *Bio-responsive molecules: Formidable weapons in medicine's arsenal* (**Ned Heindel, Department of Chemistry, Lehigh University**)
No abstract submitted
- 9:50 a.m. *How chemistry has improved our food supply* (**Elizabeth Ann Nalley, Cameron University**)
Opportunities are greater than ever before for cutting-edge science to improve food and agriculture. Chemistry, in particular, can help provide a safe, healthful, and sustainable food supply to meet a growing worldwide population. Chemists and chemical engineers have made plenty of contributions to food and agriculture, which allow us to raise, harvest, and consume abundant and nutritious food. At the turn of the nineteenth and twentieth century, an average kitchen table would be loaded with produce from the root cellar, garden, or local farm; butter from a churn; eggs from hens penned in the backyard, vegetables from the garden, and meat stored in an icebox and cooked over a coal or wood stove. The last century has brought massive changes in how we get food on our tables by making our farms more productive and our food and water supplies readily available. Modern farmers have utilized new chemical advances to improve agricultural production with fertilizers and pesticides and to develop plentiful food supplies. Consumers have benefited from new technologies, which have enhanced the flavor, appearance, availability, and nutritional value of their food. This paper will review advances in chemistry during the last one hundred years which help to feed potentially all individuals of the world's rapidly expanding population.
- 10:15 a.m. **Concluding Remarks**