National Chemistry Week

What do Chemistry and Zoos have in common? They come together every year during our National Chemistry Week (NCW) program. A smorgasbord of hands-on chemistry experiments for kids is offered at the Santa Ana Zoo in Santa Ana, CA. Around twelve college groups help make this a success by setting up stations that range from children making space SLIME to watching (and eating!) liquid nitrogen ice cream, because science is fun! The Santa Ana Zoo has been cooperating with the Orange County Section continuously since the late 1990s for NCW. It must be said that the college students helping the children with experiments had as much fun as the little kids – a great role modeling experience for both groups! We also offer a science show, Rudy’s Radical Science, which has an attendance of 250-300 people (definitely standing room only!). Check our website for more NCW fun photos! http://www.OCACS.org

ChemLuminary Awards 2017-2018

2018 Award
Outstanding Continuing Public Relations Program of a Local Section – The Orange County Local Section provided the community with tangible examples of careers in – and benefits of – chemistry. The section has hosted annual award programs for high school and college chemistry students and their families for more than 50 years.

2017 Awards
Best Overall Local Section Minority Affairs Committee – The National Chemistry Week celebration at the Santa Ana Zoo
Outstanding Regional Meeting – The 2015 Western Regional Meeting
Outstanding NCW Event for a Specific Audience – The National Chemistry Week events since the late 1990s

OCACS Student Awards Dinners

• In 2018 the Orange County Section hosted their 55th Annual High School Awards dinner to honor the best performers in the High School Exam, the Chemistry Olympiad and the Orange County Science & Engineering Fair, and all their teachers.
• College students were honored at the 49th Annual College Awards Dinner. Fifteen local colleges and universities recognized 17 students whose passion for chemistry led to their influential contributions.

20th Annual ChemLuminary Award
2018 ChemLuminary Award Winner
Outstanding Continuing Public Relations Program of Local Section

Other OCACS Events

• The Orange County Section organizes six to eight dinner meetings every year, with speakers drawn from academia, industry and government.
• The Environmental Committee holds five meetings a year on a range of technical topics to keep members connected and facilitate networking and collaborations.
• The Younger Chemists Committee hosts a variety of community outreach events at local libraries, schools, and hospitals to promote excitement for chemistry among younger kids.
• We participate in the OC Science & Engineering Fair and other community events to promote chemistry among young students and general public.

We thank our volunteers, including high school teachers, faculties, college students, professionals, businesses, and retired chemists for their continued support!