



Newsletter of the
Northeast
Georgia
Section of the
American
Chemical Society



ACS
Chemistry for Life®

Volume 38, Number 9

December 2016

[Monthly Meeting: Thursday, December 1, 2016](#)

(Location: Buffalo's Café)

THE Eclipse Is Coming
Monday, August 21, 2017

**A Historical Look at Solar & Lunar Eclipses and Preview of Next
Year's Solar Eclipse Here in Georgia**

Dr. Maurice E. Snook, USDA-ARS (Retired)

[SECTION ELECTION OF CHAIR-ELECT FOR 2017 \(see below\)](#)

Dinner & Social start at 6:00 PM

Each NEGS ACS member and chemistry or
chemistry related college student will
receive a \$5.00 credit for his/her meal.

Buffalo's Café

Beechwood Shopping Center
196 Alps Road
Athens, GA 30606

SPEAKERS BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Dr. Maurice Snook grew up in Hagerstown, MD and received his B.S. in Chemistry from Drexel University in Philadelphia (1967) and his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Penn State in 1971. While at Drexel he worked in the co-op plan for the USDA-Agricultural Research Service at the Eastern Regional Research Center, Wyndmoor, PA. After obtaining his Ph.D. he was employed for one year as a post-doc in the Department of Entomology at Penn State investigating pheromones of the mushroom fly. Following this he came to the USDA Russell Research Center in Athens, GA where he developed methodology for the isolation and identification of cigarette smoke carcinogens. Beginning in 1987, Dr. Snook's research focused on the identification and quantification of chemicals in crops, especially tobacco, corn and sweet potatoes, that are responsible for resistance to pest. He has 40 senior author and 102 co-authored publications. Dr. Snook retired from Federal service in 1996 but was employed by the University of Georgia to complete several projects for USDA. In March 2004 he was re-employed by the USDA in the Toxicology and Mycotoxin Research Unit at the Russell Research Center. Although Dr. Snook is enjoying a second retirement (2010) from Federal service he continues to collaborate with the Russell Research Center. Known throughout Northeast Georgia as "Mr. Science" he has been volunteering his time and expertise in the schools of the Northeast Georgia Section for almost 40 years presenting chemistry demonstrations and talks on astronomy and electricity & magnetism. In 1991, Dr. Snook was recognized for his volunteer service by being awarded a U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, "Points of Light" Award and in 2008 received a Presidential Volunteer Service Award.

Dr. Snook has served as Secretary, Chair, Councilor for 24 years, and is currently Alternate Councilor of the Northeast Georgia Section. In 1979, at the request of then Chair- Wayne Garrison, Dr. Snook initiated the Section newsletter in its present form and has served as editor for all but 10 years. He was presented with the Chemist of the Year Award, Northeast Georgia Section in 1983, 1987 and 1996 and the Career Service Award in 2003. Dr. Snook has spoken before the Section on 6 previous occasions.

An avid amateur astronomer, Dr. Snook helped found the Athens Astronomical Association (no longer active), assists Sandy Creek Park in their astronomy programs and has viewed 5 annular/total solar eclipses. A solar eclipse photo he took in Africa in 1973 appeared in the World Book Encyclopedia from 1973-2008. During the 1986 apparition of Halley's Comet, Dr. Snook wrote a weekly column for the Athens newspaper updating readers on the comet's progress and area viewing functions. Dr. Snook is on a crusade to alert the school systems of Northeast Georgia about the forthcoming August. 21. 2017 solar eclipse and how to safely allow students to experience this once in a lifetime natural wonder.

Talk Synopsis

Solar eclipses have fascinated mankind for millennia. They have both frightened man, inspired him and finally to understand the phenomena and using them for scientific investigation. This talk will examine (through photographs, paintings and postage stamps) how eclipses have changed history from the Chaldeans and Babylonians to the Greeks, into the middle ages and by modern scientific study. Featured will be how solar eclipses stopped or affected wars, caused the death of kings and break up of empires, resulted in a run on the confessional, caused the discovery of a new element and proved Einstein's Theory of Relativity. Details of next year's Aug. 21 solar eclipse will be presented including where to go to see totality near here. Also discussed will be how to safely view and photograph the eclipse. Solar eclipse glasses will be available for purchase (\$2 each; profits contributed to Sandy Creek Nature Center).

Georgia Recreation & Parks Award to Maurice Snook



Georgia Recreation & Parks Awards to Maurice Snook, shown above with Randy Smith (l), Facility Supervisor, ACC Leisure Services Department, Sandy Creek Nature Center and Wayne Maddox (r), President, District 7.

Dr. Maurice Snook was recently awarded the Georgia Recreation & Parks Association (GPRA) “District 7 Service Volunteer of the Year Award”, for his work with Sandy Creek Nature Center and Sandy Creek Park. He also was awarded the “State Service Volunteer Award” at the GRPA’s State Convention held at the Classic Center, Athens, Nov 8. The Georgia Recreation & Parks Association has 202 county and city members of which the Athens-Clarke County Leisure Services is one. The award recognizes Dr. Snook’s interest in chemistry, astronomy and model trains to help support numerous programs through the years including: Science in the Community Day; Scary, Oozy, Slimy Day; summer day camp chemistry shows; helping host over 30 years of Star Watches along with the Athens Astronomical Association (no longer active) and other volunteers (including our Section’s Treasurer, Mike Terry); a chemical forensics lab for “A Day Without TV”; and a special setup of outdoor model trains last spring.

[SECTION ELECTION OF CHAIR-ELECT FOR 2017](#)

This is to notify members that the election for
Section Chair-Elect 2017/Chair 2018 is now open.

(Other officers still have 1 or 2 years remaining in their respective offices)

Candidate:

Chair-elect 2017 (Chair 2018): Dr. Joe Grubbs III (DaniMer Bioplastics)

Biographical Sketch

Dr. Joe B. Grubbs III, is a senior polymer scientist at Meredian Holdings Group (MHG) “DaniMer Bioplastics” and overseer of R&D at the MHG UGA labs located at 110 Riverbend Road. He joined MHG DaniMer in 2008 where he has contributed and continues to contribute to major research successes in the development of adhesives, aqueous coatings, biodegradable polyesters and waxes, as well as energy stimulation polymers. He earned an A.S. in Biological Sciences at Bainbridge College, a B.S. in Biology at Georgia Southwestern State University and a Ph.D. in Polymer Chemistry at the University of Georgia under the direction of Dr. Jason Locklin. At UGA, his thesis involved two major focus areas: biopolymer coatings using several surface polymerization methodologies and proprietary research on biodegradable adhesives, waxes, and tackifiers. He is also listed on several pending patents due to his significant contributions to the company’s biodegradable adhesive and wax products. Currently, Grubbs is serving as the liaison between UGA and MHG on collaborative efforts between the two. He serves on the Biochemical Engineering Advisory board and is a newly appointed Adjunct Assistant Professor in the College of Engineering at UGA.

The election will be held by e-mail balloting as follows:

1. Click on the link below to access the Section’s Website.
2. The ballot is in the center of the page. Scroll down to view the candidates.
3. Enter your e-mail address to which this newsletter has been sent. This will ensure you are the proper member voting. The web-master will ensure one vote per valid e-mail recipient.
4. Enter your choices for officers.
5. When done, click the Submit button at the bottom of the page.

Northeast Georgia Section’s Website: <http://negeorgia.sites.acs.org/elections.htm>

Notice: Those who have no valid e-mail address from National will be mailed ballots.

January Annual Banquet

Date and speaker to be announced.

NORTHEAST GEORGIA LOCAL SECTION OFFICERS

SECTION WEBSITE: negeorgia.sites.acs.org

Executive Committee

Chair: Gary Douberly, UGA, douberly@uga.edu, 706-542-3857

Chair-elect: Richard Morrison, UGA, rwm@uga.edu, 706-542-5892

Immediate Past Chair: Gregory Robinson, UGA, robinson@uga.edu, 706-542-1853

Secretary: Bruce Johnson, Noramco, Inc., bjohnso8@its.jnj.com, 706-354-7551

Treasurer: Mike Terry USDA-FSIS (retired), miketerry46@hotmail.com, 706-353-0193

Councilor: Susan Richardson, U. South Carolina, richardson.susan@sc.edu, 803-777-6932

Alternate Councilor: Maurice Snook, USDA-ARS (retired), maurice_snook@yahoo.com, 706-546-3405

Committee Chairs

Awards: David Himmelsbach, Light Solutions, 706-540-9131, dshimmels@charter.net

Education: Maurice Snook, USDA-ARS (retired), maurice_snook@yahoo.com, 706-546-3405

Long Range Planning: Maurice Snook, USDA-ARS (retired), maurice_snook@yahoo.com, 706-546-3405

Nominating: Maurice Snook (retired), maurice_snook@yahoo.com, 706-543-3753

Program: Richard Morrison, UGA, rwm@uga.edu, 706-542-5892

Newsletter Editor: Maurice Snook (retired), maurice_snook@yahoo.com, 706-543-3753

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY NATIONAL OFFICES

www.acs.org

Headquarters
1155 Sixteenth Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036

Chemical Abstracts Service
P.O. Box 3012
Columbus, Ohio 43210

General Inquiries (ACS): 800-227-5558

Member Services (ACS): 800-333-9511

Board of Directors (ACS):

Chemical Abstracts (CAS): 800-848-6538

help@acs.org

service@acs.org

president@acs.org

executivedirector@acs.org

secretary@acs.org

help@cas.org