

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION
OF
PHYSICS TEACHERS

Fall 1996 Meeting
of the
Southern California Section

Saturday November 2, 1996
Los Angeles Valley College
5800 Fulton Avenue, Van Nuys

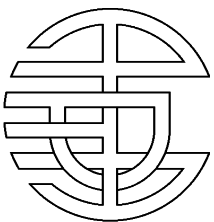
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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Freeway and Area Maps

Freeway Map to LA Valley College

(paste map here)

Campus Map

(paste map here)

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Things to do

Join the national AAPT!

Are you a member of the national AAPT? If not, you are missing out on a good thing! Members receive *Physics Today* monthly and the *AAPT Announcer* quarterly, plus *The Physics Teacher*, the *American Journal of Physics*, or both. There are special low membership rates for students. Membership applications will be available at the Fall Meeting or you can request one by sending a postcard to AAPT Membership Dept., One Physics Ellipse, College Park, MD 20740-3845.

Extra Copies of American Journal of Physics?

Southwest College needs your donation of past issues of the AJP. They have 1950, 1952, and 1959 to present and need all other volumes. Bring them to the Fall Meeting and give them to the Treasurer. Your donation acknowledged in writing. Thanks.

Fernando J. Lopez-Lopez, Treasurer

Extra textbooks?

Is your office bulging with books you don't want or need? Duplicate or older desk copies? Please bring unwanted books to the meeting. They will be made available to high school teachers.

Pay your dues

The date on your mailing label indicates when your membership expires. Dues are \$10/year or \$25 for three years. Mail checks to Fernando Lopez-Lopez, Southwestern College—Department of Physics, 900 Otay Lakes Road, Chula Vista, CA 91910. Please include your name, address, city, state, school, home and/or office phone #, email address, and status (faculty, staff, student, or other.) Thanks!

Attend the National AAPT Meeting

The 1997 Winter Meeting will be held in Phoenix, Arizona – Jan. 4-9. See *The Announcer* for details.

Attend the Spring Meeting

The 1997 Spring Meeting will be held April 25 & 26, 1997 at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. The April 25 evening session will be a tribute to Lester Hirsch. This is a joint meeting with the Northern California/Nevada Section. Local Host: Neil Fleishon (805) 756-2458 or nfleisho@oboe.aix.calpoly.edu

Directions

Turn east from Fulton Avenue into the Valley College parking lot. Parking is free. The meeting will be held in the Monarch Hall room in the Campus Center Building. Follow the signs from the parking lot.

Motels

Sportsmen's Lodge Hotel (1 on map) (818)769-4700
12825 Ventura Blvd., Studio City
Two double beds \$99 One king bed \$109
(Courtesy van from Burbank Airport – call from
baggage claim) (Price quote from Karen 9/10/96)

Carriage Inn (2 on map) (818) 787-2300
5525 N. Sepulveda Blvd., Sherman Oaks
Single or double \$59
(Price quote from Susanna 9/10/96)

Mikado Best Western Hotel and Japanese Restaurant
(3 on map)(818) 763-9141
12600 Riverside Dr., North Hollywood
Single \$71 Double \$79
(Price quote from Oscar 9/10/96)

Lunch

Box lunches will be available on site, but **you need to order by October 29**. Please contact Myron Mann by phone (818) 781-1200 x 281 or x 280, FAX (818) 785-4672, or e-mail mmann@interramp.com.

The choices are:

1. Croissant sandwich (choice of ham, turkey, or beef) with fruit, chips, cookies, and soda. \$6.00 plus tax

2. Avocado, tomato, and sprouts on 7-grain bread, with pasta salad, fruit, and soda. \$5.25 plus tax.

Meeting

contact Bill Layton, so we can schedule time for your announcement.

INVITED PANEL

“Local Projects In K-16 Physics Education”

David Hartney, Caltech Precollege Science Initiative (CAPSI)

John Jewett and Roger Nanes, Southern California Area Modern Physics Institute (SCAMPI)

Andy Johnson, Center for Research in Math and Science Education (CRMSE), San Diego State Univ.

Roberto Peccai, Dean of the Physical Science Division, UCLA,

Chuck Robertson, University of Washington and Tom O’Kuma, Lee College (TYC21)

George Westrom, Future Scientists and Engineers of America (FSEA)

LOCAL PHYSICS TEACHER ALLIANCES

We’d like to encourage the local alliances to use AAPT meetings to recruit new members and to report on activities. If you have news of your alliance or would simply like to announce your next meeting, please

High School Teachers

Opportunities for your physics students

1997 INTERNATIONAL PHYSICS OLYMPIAD

High school physics students from the USA compete with students from other countries in the Physics Olympiad. The deadline for applying for the 1997 US Physics Team is **Friday, January 17, 1997**. The initial screening exam will be held shortly thereafter. After competing in a second exam, twenty students will attend a training camp in late May or early June. Five students will be selected from this group to compete in the international contest held July 13 - 21 in Sudbury, Ontario.

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Southern California Section AAPT is hoping to again sponsor a local scholarship program for high school students utilizing the Physics Bowl test. If you are interested in helping with this project, please contact one of the local officers.

PHYSICS BOWL

The 1997 AAPT/Metrologic Physics Bowl Contest will be held **Wednesday, April 23**. Entry forms must be received at the national office by **March 26, 1997**. Specialized math and science schools and last year's winners compete in separate regions. First and second year physics students compete in separate divisions, regardless of AP status. A school's score in a division is the sum of the four highest student scores. The 30 first place schools receive a laser donated by Metrologic. First and second-place teams receive T-shirts. All students and teachers who enter receive a certificate of participation. The contest exam consists of 40 multiple choice questions from all areas of physics. It is challenging, with an average score about 50%.

Ads for both these exams will appear in *The Physics Teacher* and *The Announcer* or write the AAPT, One Physics Ellipse, College

Park, MD 20740-3845. A few early application forms will be available at the Fall Meeting.

Meeting Notes



Highlights

“SHOW AND TELL”

A constant attraction of our meetings is the “Show and Tell” session. There is still time to get a favorite demo together and share it with others at the meeting.

“WORKSHOPS”

Spaces are still available in the workshops (see next page for description). Call Fred Carrington (818) 886-4654 to sign up.

THANK YOU EXHIBITORS!

Many thanks to our exhibitors and door prize contributors including (as of press time) Addison-Wesley, PASCO, Prentice Hall, and Vernier Software .

DOOR PRIZES!!

As always, door prizes will be given away to those in attendance at a drawing to be held in the afternoon.

ORDER-OF-MAGNITUDE QUESTION

If you stare at the sun, how many visible light photons strike your retina each second? The person whose estimate is the median of all entries received gets first

pick of the prizes. The winner must be present at the awards ceremony.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICS TEACHERS

Meeting of the Southern California Section—2 November 1996

Los Angeles Valley College—Hosts: Myron Mann and Fred Carrington

Meeting Place: Monarch Hall

8:15 - 10:00 Registration, Exhibits, Coffee, and Donuts

8:30- 10:00 Workshops

“Have an out of the Lab Experience”

Mary Ellen Niedzielski, PASCO. The workshop will focus on the new Science Workshop 500 interface which can be used as either a traditional computer interface or as a data logging device – without being connected to a computer.

“Mechanics in Context – Interplanetary Travel”

A SCAMPI workshop presented by Steve Davis, Channel Islands HS, and Dave Knowlton, Beverly Hills HS. The workshop will include an overview of the approach. Participants will engage in sample activities related to the physics necessary to design a mission from Earth to Mars.

“Calculator-Based Laboratory (CBL) Workshop”

A Vernier workshop presented by Dick Vinetz, Reseda HS and Cal State. Several hands-on applications will be demonstrated. CBL's and TI 82's will be available for use.

“Active Learning Techniques in the Physics Classroom”

A TYC21 workshop presented by Tom O’Kuma, Lee College, Baytown, TX, Myron Mann, Los Angeles Valley College (and others). Open to all.

10:15 Introduction and Welcome

John Mallinckrodt, Cal Poly Pomona
Dr. Susan Carleo, Vice President Academic Affairs,
Los Angeles Valley College

10:30 “Local Projects in K–16 Physics Education”

Invited panel (see page 4 for a list of participants), questions, and breakouts.

12:30 Lunch – Reserve your box lunch by October 29. See notice on page 3.

1:30 “Show and Tell”

Greg Darakjian, Art Altshiller, and others

2:00 “TYC21--The First Year”

Myron Mann, LA Valley College

2:15 “Racetrack, a Game That Teaches the Separation of Components in Kinematic Motion”

Paul Stanley, California Lutheran College

2:30 “Interesting Web Sites for Day to Day AP Physics”

Art Altshiller, Van Nuys HS

2:45 “Models and Modeling in the High School Physics Classroom”

Joseph Vanderway, Granada Hills/CSUN Magnet HS

3:00 “Videotape Presentations of the Modeling Method”

Mary Lee Davis, Brea Olinda HS

3:15 “Introducing the W. M. Keck Math Science Institute”

Joe Wise, Crossroads School

**3:30 AAPT Southern California Business Meeting,
Announcements, Order of Magnitude
Contest Winner, and Door Prizes**

3:50 Meeting Adjourns