Sierra Nevada Section of the American Chemical Society

September 27, 2004

October 25th Meeting
We will be holding our first meeting the academic year on October 25th. The meeting will be held at Yen Ching, 565 W. Moana Lane (~1.5 blocks off of S. Virginia St). Dr. Yorke E. Rhodes, New York University, will be the guest speaker. Yorke Rhodes received a B.S. in soil chemistry from the University of Delaware in 1957, an M.S. in organic chemistry in 1959 with William A. Mosher and Darrel Lynch. After completing his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois in 1964 with Prof. James C. Martin, he was a National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Fellow with Kenneth B. Wiberg at Yale University. He joined the faculty of New York University at the University Heights campus in 1965 and developed research areas in SO2 solvent chemistry, electrocyclic reactions, small ring chemistry, and carbocations. He moved to the Washington Square campus in 1973 after a sabbatical leave with Horst Prinzbach at the Universitat Freiburg in West Germany. In 1987, he was professor associé at the Centre d'Astrophysique, Université de Grenoble, France, with Alain Omont (astro-polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon chemistry). Rhodes was awarded the Golden Dozen Award for Teaching Excellence in the College of Arts and Science in 1991, and again in 1996. Professor Rhodes is director of the Dual Degree Program in Science and Engineering at New York University and Stevens Institute of Technology, resides as Professor in Residence in a University residence hall, and is very active in the New York Academy of Sciences and American Chemical Society local section activities, sponsoring a variety of symposia, poster sessions and other activities for students. He has served on Department of Education review panels and is an educational consultant/evaluator for several undergraduate and high school research mentoring programs.

Reservations for October 25th Meeting
The meeting and dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. at Yen Ching. The cost of the dinner will be $18.00 for members and guests, and $7.50 for local K-12 teachers, students, and postdocs. Make your reservation by Tuesday, October 19, 2004 by filling out and returning the attached form to Brian Frost, Dept. of Chemistry, MS 216, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557, or by sending an email to frost@chem.unr.edu or ndball@chem.unr.edu. Checks should be made payable to the “ACS Sierra Nevada Section.”

Upcoming Events and Announcements
Oct. 17-23 is national chemistry week, if anyone has any plans or ideas please contact Brian Frost at Frost@chem.unr.edu. This year’s theme is “Health and Wellness”.
K-12 teachers who wish to attend a national/regional ACS meeting are reminded that the local section will help sponsor such trips.
The next local ACS meeting will be the annual wine tasting event, featuring Italian wines, held Dec. 3rd organized by Prof. Chuck Rose, more details to follow.
The local section will be holding elections in December for new officers, secretary/treasurer, councilor, and alternate councilor. Nominations and/or volunteers for these positions are accepted and encouraged; contact Brian Frost (frost@chem.unr.edu).
The Sierra Nevada Section of the American Chemical Society presents

“Astrochemistry: The Evolution of Organic Molecules in Interstellar Clouds”

Monday, October 25, 2004
6:00 pm

Yen Ching
565 W. Moana
Reno, Nevada

Dinner Cost: $18.00 per person
($7.50 for K-12 teachers, students, & postdocs)

For reservations, send check payable to ACS Sierra Nevada Section to Prof. Brian Frost, Department of Chemistry, MS 216, University of Nevada, Reno, NV 89557, E-mail: frost@chem.unr.edu or ndball@chem.unr.edu. Reservations deadline: Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2004.

***Reservation for ACS Dinner Meeting, Monday, October 25th, 2004***

Name ________________________________________________________________

Phone ____________________ E-mail: _________________________________

Number attending __________ Amount enclosed: ________________
Astrochemistry: The Evolution of Organic Molecules in Interstellar Clouds
Dr. Yorke E. Rhodes
New York University

Abstract
At the dawn of the space age in the 1960s, a handful of molecules were known to exist off Earth. Since those days of early robotic exploration of the Moon and Mars, fly-bys with spectroscopy of the outer planets, and radio astronomy of distant areas of our own galaxy and parts of the universe have brought forth a burst of molecular information. About 120 molecules, some new and some known, have been identified to date. What types and kinds of molecules exist? What varieties of molecular species have been found? How did they form, where do they occur, and what mechanisms exist for molecular formation? Can we model and predict what other molecules may occur? How has interstellar organic chemistry evolved? The content of the talk varies and the level of the talk is adaptable to the audience present.