



# Society for Analytical Chemists OF PITTSBURGH



## APRIL MEETING

FORMER CHAIRMEN NIGHT

*Monday, April 7, 2008*

8:00 p.m.

Duquesne University  
Laura Falk Hall

DINNER: Duquesne Room (3rd Floor)



PATRICIA M. DEMARCO, PH.D.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
RACHEL CARSON HOMESTEAD ASSOCIATION

*"Rachel Carson, The Science, the Myth, and the Message."*



5:30 PM	Social Hour .....	Student Union - Duquesne Room (3rd Floor)
6:30 PM	Dinner .....	Student Union - Duquesne Room (3rd Floor)
7:30 PM	Student Affiliate Meeting .....	Mellon Hall - Room 410
7:40 PM	Business Meeting .....	Mellon Science Building - Laura Falk Hall
8:00 PM	Technical Meeting .....	Mellon Science Building - Laura Falk Hall

## ABSTRACT:

Rachel Carson has been recognized as one of the 100 most influential people of the twentieth century for galvanizing international attention to the problems of pesticides. Her credibility came not only from the vivid imagery of her writing but from the intensely detailed work she did on the ecology of the intertidal space between land and sea along the entire east coast of the United States. Her published books moved public opinion. Her testimony to the Congressional Committee on Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals in 1963 moved Congress. The Environmental Protection Agency, the Clean Air Act, the safe Drinking Water Act followed within the decade. Despite Rachel Carson's careful documentation and thorough research of each statement she made, *Silent Spring* caused great agitation among the industries which manufactured the pesticides she initially targeted. The massive campaign to discredit her work launched before the book was even published continues to this day. She did not live to see the impact of her work, but her message remains relevant to us today. This talk will include a reflection on Carson's scientific work, as shown through her 1953 paper presented to the National Academy of Sciences, as well as a discussion her overall legacy.

## BIOGRAPHY:

Patricia DeMarco has a thirty year career in energy and environmental policy development and implementation. She received a Bachelor of Science and a Doctorate in Biology from the University of Pittsburgh. She pursued a career in research at Yale University and at Boston University with a focus on mutation mechanisms. She turned her attention to energy and environmental policy through her work as Executive Director of the Power Facilities Evaluation Council and as staff to the Governor of Connecticut on such issues as nuclear power plant safety, energy conservation, and clean fuels technology. She worked as the manager of resource development for the Connecticut Municipal Electric Energy Co-operative and, as a loaned executive, started up a technology development firm to commercialize declassified defense technology.

She operated and sold her own business, the Energy Roundtable, which merged with another firm to become E Cubed Corporation, an energy trading company. She moved to Alaska in 1998 to take the position of President of the Anchorage Economic Development Corporation. While in Alaska, she served as a Commissioner of the Regulatory Commission of Alaska, with jurisdiction over all electric, gas, water, refuse utilities and oil and gas pipelines. For the last two years, she has served as Associate Dean for the College of Business and Public Policy at the University of Alaska Anchorage.

She returned to her hometown of Pittsburgh in September 2005, and is now the Executive Director of the Rachel Carson Homestead Association in Springdale, PA.

## DINNER RESERVATIONS:

***If you are on the permanent dinner list, this does not apply for this meeting.***

Please email Valarie Daugherty, SACP Administrative Assistant by Friday, March 21, 2008 to make dinner reservations. Should you not have email, please call Valarie at 412-825-3220 ext 204. The entrées for April is a choice of Filet of Beef or Lobster Romano. Please let Valarie know your choice entrée when you make your reservation. Dinner will cost \$8 (\$4 for students) and checks can be made out to the SACP. If you have any dietary restrictions, let Valarie know when you leave message.

## PARKING:

Duquesne University Parking Garage entrance is on Forbes Avenue. Upon entering the garage receive parking ticket and drive to upper floors. Pick up a parking sticker at the dinner or meeting. Contact Dr. Mitch Johnson at Duquesne University if any difficulties arise.