

SAVE THE DATE FOR THE FALL 2012 DEMO SHOW:

We've picked the time and location for our 2012 Fall Demo Show, which will take place on a Saturday, rather than our usual Friday night time, in order to be accessible to a different/broader range of members. The demo show will take place on October 27, 2012, at Harriton High School in Rosemont, PA, where Bob Schwartz will be our host.

SEPS AAPT ONLINE:

For news, upcoming events, and photos of past events, check out the SEPS AAPT web presence online and on Facebook! Website:

<http://www.physics.upenn.edu/~aapt/> Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/?ref=logo#!/group.php?gid=166735829132>

AAPT NATIONAL MEETING:

Our national parent organization, the American Association of Physics Teachers, is having its annual conference right here in Philadelphia this summer! (Last year it was in Omaha. The year before that it was in Portland. It hasn't been in Philadelphia since 2002, so this is a rare opportunity, to have it so close!)

The dates will be July 28-August 1, and the theme will be "Physics: The Experimental Core". Lots of information (and registration) is available on the AAPT website:

<http://www.aapt.org/Conferences/sm2012/>. The early registration deadline is June 4th, and prices go up somewhat after that.

Registration rates are dramatically lower for undergraduates, and registration is complimentary for any high school student who attends. (They do have to register, though!) Additionally, if you are a high school teacher who's never attended a national meeting before, there is a special one-day reduced rate.

Things you can definitely expect to happen at the national meeting:

- Plenary talk by Professor Amy Bug (Swarthmore College) on gender in physics
- Meet and mingle with peers from around the country
- Buy awesome things you could otherwise only get on the internet
- Talks, papers, and updates on the state of physics and physics education research
- Vote on the AAPT High School Photo Contest submissions
- Apparatus competition
- Demo show!

HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER DAY

If you are a high school teacher who has never attended an AAPT National Meeting, you can attend the July 30th events of the National Meeting this summer for the severely discounted cost of \$75. (Or you can just register for the whole weekend, but this is a lot more affordable!) July 30th is the "High School Teachers' Day", and gatherings and presentations on that day have been promised to particularly focus on the interests of high school teachers.

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The National Meeting is also seeking abstract submissions from local undergraduates and graduate students to present posters about their research or outreach experiences. AAPT has graciously extended the deadline for poster abstracts to June 15th. Abstract submission is free; conference registration once a student's poster has been submitted is very affordable (see below.)

Local **undergraduate** students are encouraged to contribute posters, particularly those relaying details about a research project, a physics outreach event, or a teaching experience. They are then invited to stay and partake in the exciting sessions and discussions at the AAPT Summer Meeting.

Local **graduate** students are encouraged to contribute posters that convey their research and its significance to a general physics audience (including undergraduates and high-school teachers), or that relay details about a physics outreach project or a teaching experience. They are also invited to take advantage of the exciting sessions, discussions, and networking opportunities at the AAPT Summer Meeting. If you're interested in teaching or physics education, this is a meeting you want to attend.

Submission instructions:

Submit your abstract [here](#) by June 15.

Under "Paper Type," select "Poster".

Under "Persons responding to a call for contributed posters, select a session here," choose "SPS Undergraduate Poster Reception" if you are an undergraduate, or "Graduate Research" if you are a graduate student.

Fill in your information, title, and abstract.

Under "Footnotes," write "SEPA Section Poster" if you are an undergraduate, or "SEPA Section Graduate Poster" if you are a graduate student.

Note: It is free to submit an abstract. Once your poster is accepted, you will need to register for the meeting in order to present. Student [registration](#) is only \$40 before June 4th if you are a member of AAPT (normal registration is \$350+). Undergraduates can become members of AAPT for \$24 by joining the [Society of Physics Students](#) and selecting the AAPT as the complementary professional membership. Any full-time student can also [join AAPT directly](#) at the student rate of \$45 (normal membership is \$140+)

PHOTO COMPETITION

The AAPT's national High School Photo Competition is accepting entries until May 15th! These are the photos you may have seen on those cool calendars/posters that national AAPT members get.

The contest is open to high school students in grades 9-12 (or equivalent international grade level). Entries are welcome every year between March 1 and May 15 for that year's competition.

Entries are limited to 15 per school each year.

Photos may be entered in one of three categories described below, and will be judged on the quality of the photo and the accuracy of the physics in the explanation that accompanies the photograph.

- **Natural photos** are those that involve everyday situations that may demonstrate a variety of physics concepts.
- **Contrived photos** are those that are set up to show a particular physics concept or related set of concepts.
- **Photos with Multiple Images** or other computer manipulation will be placed in a separate category. They may be displayed at the national meeting and judged for Special Recognition ribbons, but not for prizes.

For more information, or to browse through hundreds of awesome past winners and submissions, check out: <http://www.aapt.org/Programs/contests/photocontest.cfm>

GLOBAL PHYSICS DEPARTMENT

The Global Physics Department is a group of high school and college physics educators who meet online weekly on Wednesday nights at 9:30 Eastern to discuss physics, physics learning, and physics teaching. They use Elluminate Live to transmit audio, video, white board data, and chat communication. Check them out at <http://globalphysicsdept.posterous.com/#/>

MODELING WORKSHOPS

There are a number of opportunities for physics teachers to attend summer workshops on Modeling Instruction listed at http://modeling.asu.edu/MW_nation.html. Each workshop is also described at <http://www.ptec.org/pd/?set=Modeling>. If the cost of attending a workshop seemed prohibitive to you in the past, check the list again: two nearby workshops have received the necessary funding to be free for attendants:

NEW YORK/PENNSYLVANIA (2012)

Mansfield University and Corning Incorporated

Location: Mansfield University (PA)

The summer workshop is free (funded by Corning Enterprises) with a free lunch every day. As of April 16, 2012, each workshop had openings, but the first chemistry workshop was almost full. Applications will be accepted through May 15, if space is available.

July 9-27, 2012

(8:00-4:00 Mon-Thu, 8:00-12:00 Fri)

Content: (four workshops) mechanics, chemistry, advanced (curriculum development in your choice of physics or chemistry)

Peer leaders:

Mr. Jess Dykes of Ridley High School near Philadelphia (physics)
Tammy Gwara of Desert Ridge High School in Arizona (chemistry)
Kathy Harper of The Ohio State University (advanced physics curriculum development)
Brenda Royce of University High School in Fresno, CA (advanced chemistry curriculum development)

Support sessions (October 15-16 and March 18-19) are optional for participants more than 2 hours drive from Mansfield and mandatory for participants who live closer. Support session fees are paid by participants' school districts (\$350 total).

Four optional graduate credits are available for the summer workshop. (In 2011, tuition was \$1880 for Pennsylvania residents; \$2808 for out-of-state)

Housing in a brand-new dorm is available at a cost of \$154 per week. Child care is also available at Mansfield University (\$27/day ages 1-2; \$25/day ages 3-5 in 2010). For older children, there are Mansfield University summer camps

The nearest airport at Elmira, NY is 45 miles away. To arrange group transportation, contact Greg Carson.

The informational flier is at <http://mansfield.edu/chemistry-physics/media/files/modeling-flier.pdf>. The application is at <http://mansfield.edu/chemistry-physics/media/files/modeling-application.pdf>. Contact Dr. Greg Carson ([GCarson -at- mansfield.edu](mailto:GCarson-at-mansfield.edu)) or at [570-662-4548](tel:570-662-4548) for more information.

NEW JERSEY (funded in 2012 by The Boeing Company)

Three FREE workshops for high school science teachers nationwide. As of April 16, 2012, each workshop had openings, but the biology workshop was almost full.

South Jersey Modeling Physics Institute

Dates: June 25-July 13, 2012 (physics, chemistry).

June 20-July 6, 2012 (biology)

Location: Clearview Regional High School, Mullica Hill, NJ (20 miles south of Philadelphia)

Content: mechanics (Doug Vallette)

chemistry (Jim Navins and Maureen Blong Huhman)

biology (Angela Gard) Contact: Ron Antinori (AntinoriRo -at- ClearviewRegional.edu), science supervisor, [856-223-2747](tel:856-223-2747)

Information & application:

<http://www.clearviewregional.edu/highschool/Departments/Science/tabid/131/Default.aspx>

Download the application and brochure. Housing is available at nearby Rowan University for about \$600