Tentative 2009/10 Schedule

Updated information will be posted to www.slapt.org throughout the year. Share your contact information under the "Mailing List" link to receive periodic email updates.

September 12, 2009: Fun High Speed Video Clips and Curriculum Sharing
Hosts: Jim Cibulka & Joe Bartin
Time: 8:30 am to 1 pm
Place: Kirkwood High School
Details on other side . . .

October 3, 2009: Six Flags for Teachers
Place: Six Flags St. Louis
Time: 10 am
Presenters: Bill Brinkhorst, Rex Rice, and Mark Schober
Details on other side . . .
Curriculum materials at www.slapt.org

October 24, 2009: MAPT/SLAPT Joint Fall Meeting
Place: Washington University
Host/contact/MAPT president: Pat Gibbons pcg@wuphys.wustl.edu

November 21, 2009: Make-n-take Circular motion
Rex Rice design, Mike Johns adaptation
Place: Clayton H.S. **or** Chaminade

December 5, 2009: PTRA Workshop Video Analysis Workshop
Video analysis techniques with a Flip camera
Presenters: Val Michael vlfmich@gmail.com
and Jennifer Goldsberry-Meyer
Place: Parkway Central

January, 2010: Nuclear Physics Update
Presenter: Linda Kralina
linda5975@yahoo.com

February, 2010: Joint ACS-SLAPT meeting – DVD Spectrometer Make-n-Take Workshop
Contact: Hal Harris hharris@umsl.edu

February 13-16 2010: National AAPT Winter Meeting with APS
Place: Washington, DC
http://www.aapt.org

PHYSICS Tempo

The Newsletter of the Saint Louis Area Physics Teachers
the St. Louis Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers

Vol. 20 Fall 2009

Join the St. Louis Area Physics Teachers!

Martha Keeley and President-Elect Jennifer Meyer participate in the Fall 2008 Electrostatics workshop led by Rex and Debbie Rice.

You are invited to join the St. Louis Area Physics Teachers, a dynamic group of some of the finest teachers in the nation. We sponsor a variety of content and pedagogy workshops, make-n'-take workshops, sharing sessions, and social activities that are hosted and led by teachers in the St. Louis area. SLAPT members support each other and benefit from one another's expertise in the challenging craft of physics teaching. Eureka teacher Gail Haynes shares how SLAPT has shaped her teaching in her President's message below.

Join SLAPT for free by visiting www.slapt.org. Then, share your contact information under the "Mailing List" link. A few times each month, webmaster Mark Schober sends email updates about upcoming events, messages from SLAPT members, and announcements about community activities of interest to physics teachers. You will also find a number of teaching resources posted at the website, including curriculum materials, labs, equipment construction directions, and complete resources for Six Flags' Physics day.

Please feel free to e-mail any officer or workshop leader with questions. We look forward to meeting you during the coming year as we work to serve our students exemplary instruction.

SLAPT President's Welcome

Welcome to the St. Louis Area Physics Teachers Association. SLAPT started about 20 years ago with meetings on Saturday mornings. I was the physics teacher at Hazelwood West, and although certified to teach physics, I was overwhelmed with a room full of equipment, a book that was terrible, and no one to be a mentor. Then I joined SLAPT. Thanks to dedicated teachers like Val Michael, Bill Brinkhorst, David Bross… my confidence grew.

In the following years, five of which I moved out of town and chose to be a stay at home mom, the association grew. The core of our organization is still Saturday workshops but we offer so much more. The Gene Fuchs Award was established to recognize outstanding physics teaching. We became supporters of annual events like Six Flags Physics Day and the SIUE Physics Contest. This year marks the 25th anniversary of that contest. The SLAPT web site provides information shared by St. Louis area teachers and links to national resources. We have enjoyed a "field trip" to Chicago and now have annual joint meetings with the local American Chemical Society Teachers.

For the 2009-10 school year, we look forward to many new events. As a new section of the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) we will meet with the Missouri Section (MAPT) this fall. Workshops on Video Analysis, Six Flags Day, Circular Motion Make and Take, Spectroscope Make and Take, and more are planned. Next summer a three week long Modeling Workshop in Mechanics is seeking funding.

New or experienced; physical science, physics first, or traditional physics; big or small school; public or private—no matter what your background—your time spent with us will give you practical help and increase your confidence in physics teaching.

Gail Haynes, haynesgail@rockwood.k12.mo.us, President – Saint Louis Area Physics Teachers

March 26-27, 2010: Spring Meeting of the Illinois Section of AAPT
Place: Blackburn Coll., Carlinville IL
http://helios.augustana.edu/isaapt/

April 24, 2010: SLAPT-SIUE 25th Anniversary Physics Contest!
Contact: Tom Foster
tfoster@siue.edu

April 30, 2010: Six Flags Physics Day
http://www.slapt.org/resources/sixflags/index.html

May 2010: SLAPT planning meeting for 2010-11
Contact: SLAPT president-elect Jennifer Meyer

June 28 – July 16, 2010: Modeling Workshop in Mechanics
We don't yet have a funding source, but in the mindset of "build it and they will come" we figure we should put it on the calendar and do the work necessary to make it happen.

July 17-21, 2010: National AAPT Summer Meeting
Place: Portland, Oregon (home of Vernier Software and Technology, by the way)
http://www.aapt.org

2009-2010 SLAPT Officers

President……..Gail Haynes
Past-President……..Jim Cibulka
Pres-Elect…Jen Goldsberry-Meyer
AAPT Section Rep……Gary Taylor
Treasurer……Gene Bender
Website……..Mark Schober

Opening Workshop Fall 2009

High Speed Video Clips and Curriculum Sharing

When: September 12, 2009, 8:30 am to 1 pm
Hosts: Jim Cibulka jacibulka@gmail.com & Joe Bartin bartinj@gw.kirkwood.k12.mo.us
Place: Kirkwood High School

Part 1: **Building a Video Clip Library** using high-speed cameras and an infrared camera. We will share some ideas and provide a CD of video clips for you to take home. This is a "working meeting" and anyone interested can email suggestions and/or bring equipment and demos to be filmed. Generally, we'll have lots of fun with some really neat toys! For those interested, one-on-one tutorials on basic video analysis will be available. Also note that our December workshop is dedicated to video analysis techniques.

Part 2: **Lunch, Curriculum Sharing, and Book Giveaway.** Over a picnic style lunch, participants can discuss curriculum ideas further with individual teachers. Everyone is invited to bring a beginning of the year activity or handout (bring copies) or share some physics books to help build a colleague's resource library. **Teachers new to teaching physics are highly encouraged to attend!** We will also present our annual Gene Fuchs Award.

Physics Day at Six Flags 2009 . . . and Beyond!

Although Six Flags' parent company is going through bankruptcy and debt restructuring, that won't stop daily park operations, our fall workshop at Six Flags, or Physics Day 2010, scheduled for April 30. In fact, the staff at Six Flags St. Louis received recognition from their corporate office for their exemplary promotion and management of Physics Day. Six Flags has supported SLAPT's development of a comprehensive educational component for Physics Day and has now made Physics Day separate from Math and Science Day, giving students more time on the rides and reducing lines. To learn more about how to include amusement park physics into your classroom, join us (and bring a guest) for a free workshop at Six Flags on October 3rd. We'll begin with a behind-the-scenes tour of the engineering that makes the rides work. Next, we'll provide an overview of the resources available to use with students in preparation for Physics Day and to use at Physics Day. (You'll also get a CD of the materials.) Finally, we'll strap on our wireless data collection devices and ride, ride, ride!

RSVP to Leanne Creek, LCreek@sftp.com with "Physics Workshop" in the subject line and you and your guest's name in the body of the note.

St. Louis Area Physics Teachers

The St. Louis Section of the American Association of Physics Teachers

Your best resource for physics teaching is the St. Louis Area Physics Teachers' community of collective knowledge, experience, and expertise. Become a part of SLAPT to inspire, be inspired, and improve the quality of physics education throughout the St. Louis Area. Go to www.slapt.org and click the mailing list link to receive e-mail updates about upcoming events.

Questions? Contact Gail Haynes (president) haynesgail@rockwood.k12.mo.us, Gene Bender (treasurer) gbender@desmet.org, or Mark Schober (web and e-mail communication) mschober@jburroughs.org.