

April Meeting Highlights

Science is a process, not a product - it is a tool of discovery that allows us to constantly expand and revise our knowledge of the universe. The Junior Polymer Ambassadors (JPA) Club was created in order to serve the interests of all teens at GlenOak High School outside of the restrictions of state mandated standards. This vibrant group currently consists of 11 adolescents who are eagerly guided by Ean Hudspeth and Emma Harmon (peers) through research projects, outreach and active/hands on learning. This year the group conducted a "Polymer Day" at the local middle school for over 200 middle school students. At this event they helped John Fellenstein harness an interest in polymers through hands on labs and activities. Middle school students made polymer rubber bands, bouncy balls, learned how to coat a balloon so you could stick a dowel rod through it and then even experimented with coloring changing crystals. This enthusiastic group also presented at the April SPE Meeting in Fairlawn Ohio. The students had been talking about how essential plastics are to life and yet they have been given a bad reputation. They took it upon themselves to develop a plan to convert used plastics into something new, so they could be "used again". They spent 2 months working after school and over spring break to collect plastic containers and melt them down to create business card holders for the attendees of the SPE meeting. It was great to see them tackle a problem and develop a solution through trial and error, just like true scientists!

Keep your eyes open for more stories about this group of energetic teens.

Doris Hess

Plain Local Schools



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Social Hour

Dinner



Speaker Dr. Missi Zender-Sakach

GlenOak Junior
Polymer Ambassadors

