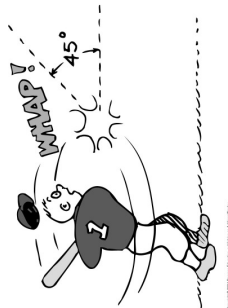


Dennis Buckley
P O Box 735
Brentwood, CA 94513



"The demo show was a *smash*
hit at the last meeting!"

ATTN: Physics Staff
Please Post



**American
Association of
Physics
Teachers**

Northern California
and Northern Nevada
Section

Spring Meeting

Saturday, April 21, 2012

Lake Tahoe Community College
South Lake Tahoe, CA

Local Host: Cathy Cox

email: cox@ltcc.edu

Phone: 530-541-4660

www.ncnaapt.org

~ Program ~
SATURDAY, April 21, 2012

All sessions will be held in Duke Theater—Room F111

8:30 Registration, Coffee, & Donuts

9:30 Welcome and Announcements

9:45 Show & Tell

Share your favorite demonstration or teaching tip. Since new teachers and section members will be at this meeting, you are encouraged to dust off some of your oldies but goodies. If you have handouts, please bring 75 copies. *Time limit is 5 minutes per person or you risk the dreaded GONG by referee David Kagan!*



10:45 Break

11:00 Invited Speaker:
Recruiting Physics Majors from Grades 2-8
David Bennum Professor of Physics,
University of Nevada Reno

Budgetary issues around the country coupled with an apparent lack of interest from students in the sciences and engineering fields are causing many physics department closures or threats of closure. Departments at state supported schools in many states are being put on “probationary status” or phased out if their number of graduates is below a threshold set arbitrarily by politicians and political activists with no real understanding of either physics or education in general. I will talk about UNR’s physics department’s changes and K-12 outreach programs that are attempting to increase our number of majors.

12:00 Group Photo

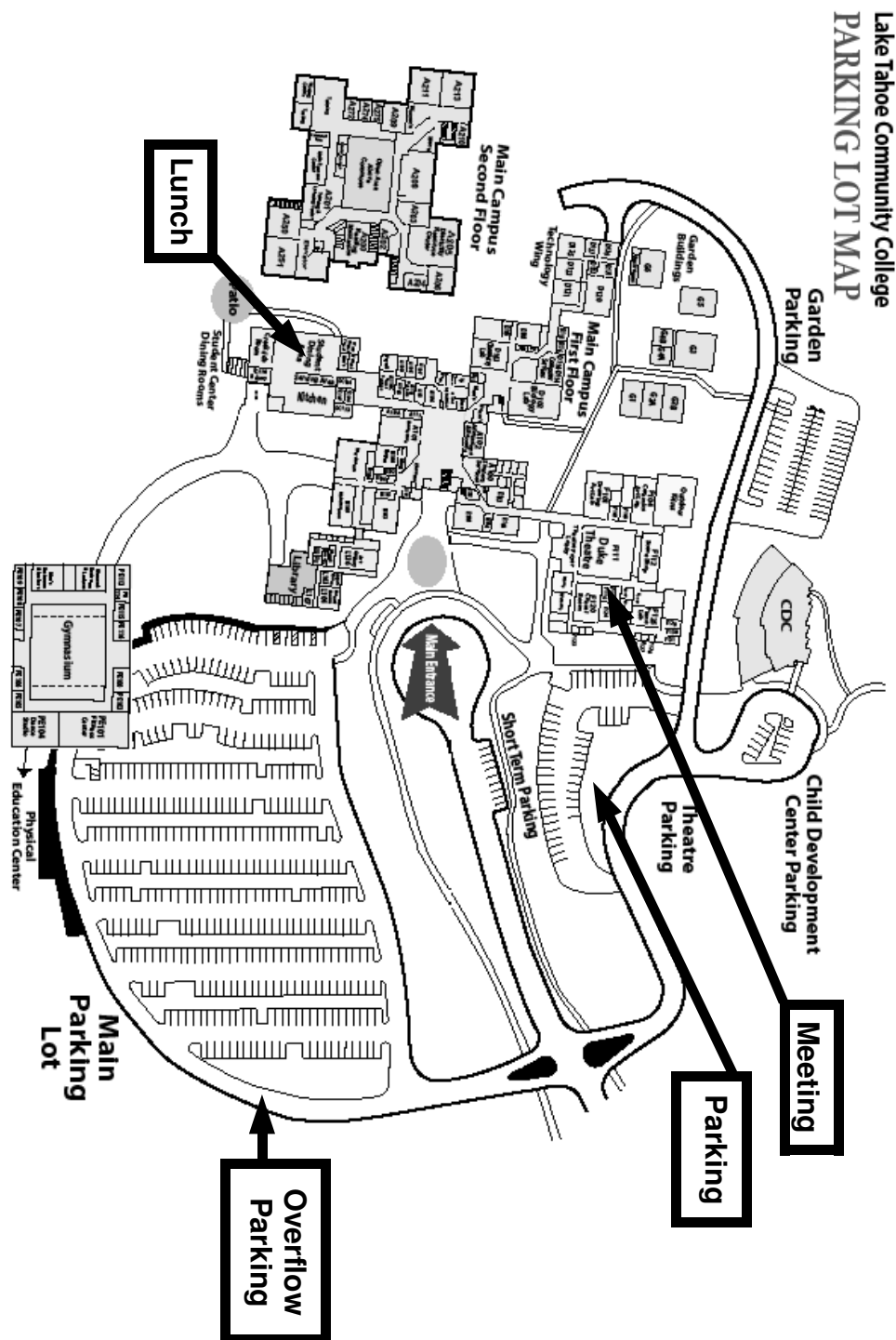
All Roads Lead to Lake Tahoe South Shore



From the SF Area take 80 to Sacramento, then take 50 to South Lake Tahoe.

**Exit Right – Lake Tahoe Blvd
Right – Al Tahoe Blvd
Right – College Ave**

**From Reno take 50 to South Lake Tahoe
Exit Left – Johnson Blvd.
Continue to College Ave**



12:15 Lunch — Student Dining Area

1:15 Business Meeting

Election of officers, treasurer's report, National AAPT report-back, approval of future site selections.

1:30 Fathom in the Physics Lab

Mark Hurwitz Lick-Wilmerding High School

Fathom software makes data analysis easy and intuitive for students. Mostly widely used in math and statistics classes, it also has the capability to capture data from most Vernier sensors through a standard LabPro interface. I will demonstrate a few labs that illustrate Fathom's capabilities.

2:00 Workshop *Review Strategies:*

Bree Barnett-Dreyfuss Amador Valley High School

There are many fun and interactive ways to review with your students. Review does not only have to be right before a test or exam. Come learn how to review different levels of materials including group work, review games, student created review, etc. You will leave with ready to use strategies that you can apply to your classroom and access to several pre-made electronic files.

2:30 The Beneficial Application of Stupidity in Inquiry

Evan White CSU Chico

This discussion focuses on the benefit of the inquiry model where teachers facilitate a scholarly and scientific debate while struggling with stupidity. Stupidity, in this sense, is not 'relative stupidity' where their peers understand the material or when students who are bright and simply out of their talent area, but 'absolute stupidity' as students forge into the 'new' and unknown. The idea of stupidity leading to, and in some cases being necessary for, productivity will be presented through a curious case study where students left with a greater grasp on the material and a better understanding of what pure science is entirely due to the application of inquiry coupled with stupidity.

2:45 NASA Research Opportunities for Community College Students

Cathy Cox Lake Tahoe Community College

NASA currently has several opportunities for community college students. I will present information about 'The Reduced Gravity Education Flight Program' which four students and I participated in last year. The program included a trip to Johnson Space Center and an opportunity to conduct research aboard NASA's zero gravity aircraft. I will focus on requirements of the program, how we made it through the process, our research project, and how amazing the experience was! I'll also provide information about NASA's Community College Scholars Program - a semester long on-line program that culminates in a trip to a NASA facility where students meet colleagues from around the country and compete in a robot building project.

3:15 Remediation that Does Not STINK!

Leanna Ferlardo Oroville High School

The word, "remediation" used to give me the shivers—but as a high school teacher, we all have had the experience of the kid who somehow gets to December and still can't apply $F=ma$! There is a simple technique that motivates kids to keep up with the class, and to re-learn what they have missed. It also doesn't require tons of TIME or grading hassle on the part of the teacher. I have implemented a 'Mastery Method' in my classroom, and found it to be a great way to get those kids up to speed without making you, the teacher, insane. Free example materials and a peek at my grade book will be included.

3:45 Forum: Solve a Mystery

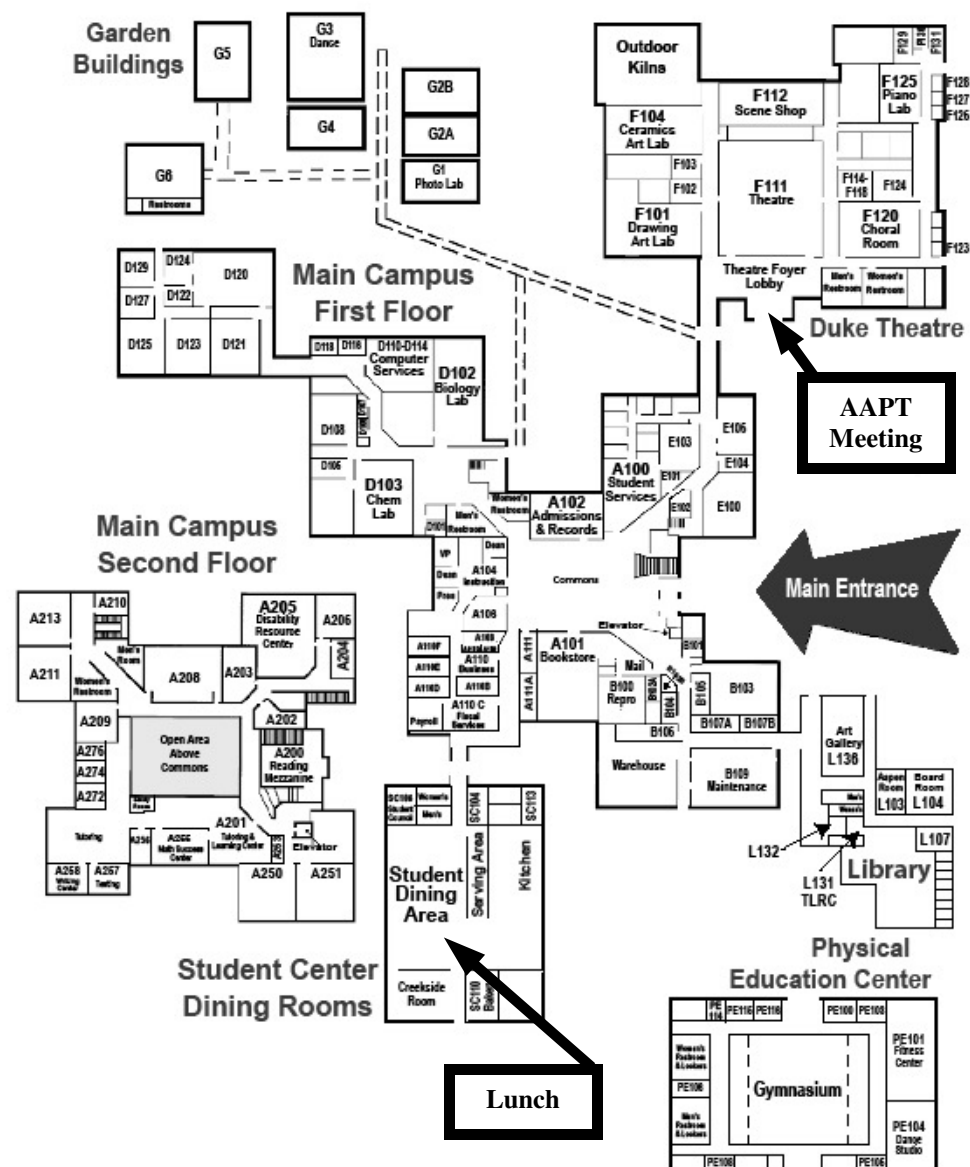
Bring a piece of mystery demo equipment, a veteran will explain it to you.

4:00 End of Meeting

~5:00 Meet at Restaurant for No-Host Dinner
(Site TBD)

Map of LTCC Campus

Lake Tahoe Community College is located at One College Drive, just off Al Tahoe Blvd., between Hwy. 50 and Pioneer Trail.



PROGRAM NOTES

REGISTRATION — *What a deal!*

Free for first-time attendees and students (Lunch tickets will be available for \$10.)
\$20 for NCNAAPT members (includes one lunch ticket)

Lunch will be beef, turkey or veggie sandwiches from “**Tahoe Keys Cafe**”.

A bargain at twice the price!

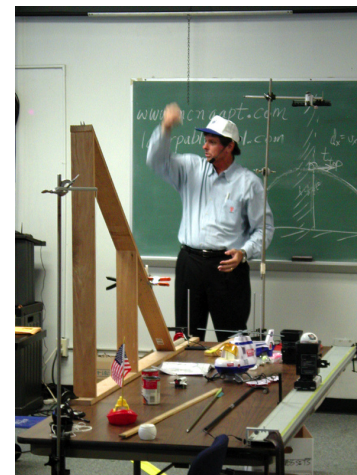
Proof of attendance certificates will be available for download on the website documenting attendance for any teacher who needs one for their district/professional development purposes.

Please pre-register online if you know you are coming:

www.NCNAAPT.org/register. We are working on establishing a PayPal link so section dues, meeting registration and lunch can be purchased on-line. We're organizing a cross-country ski social gathering on Sunday; if you are interested in joining us there is a place to mark that off on your registration.

Attention New Physics Teachers! PTSOS is here to help you!

PTSOS is an NCN-AAPT-sponsored project funded by a donation from the Karl Brown Foundation that assists physics teachers in their vulnerable first years of teaching. **PTSOS has expanded** and now offers two sets of three workshops; one at Los Gatos High School hosted by **Paul Robinson, Dan Burns, and Stephanie Finander**, and the other at Rio Americano High School hosted by **Dean Baird and Steve Keith**. The next round of workshops have not yet been set. Please check the web site www.ptsos.org for the latest information. New teachers should email Stephanie Finander at sfinander@sbcglobal.net for more information on how to get signed up.



~Dues and Don'ts~

Section dues are \$25 for the academic year, due each Fall. If you cannot attend the meeting, remain an active member and ensure you'll receive all our mailings by sending dues to our treasurer Dennis Buckley, P. O. Box 735, Brentwood, CA 94513.

Proposed Future Meeting Sites:
November 2012 – Foothill College, Los Altos Hills
April 2013 – Sierra College, Rocklin

Visit the NCNAAPT webpage!
www.ncnaapt.org

Many, many resources are available permanently on our website so please check frequently!

Meetings

- Get important announcements about upcoming meetings and conferences
- See workshop notes, resources and pictures afterwards

Local Resources & Conferences:

NCNAAPT isn't the only game in town; but we do hear about the best ones! Check in frequently for announcements about local workshops and conferences that might interest you

Field Trip Resources:

You name it, we've done it! See our top field trip suggestions along with tips to make it successful. Do you have a favorite we don't have listed? Send a description to us and we'll add it.

Please like our Facebook page! Get important announcements about upcoming meetings and relevant posts about Physics!



American Association of Physics Teachers

Northern California/Northern Nevada Section

2011-2012 Officers

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Call for Nominations!

Currently both the Program Chair and Section Rep positions are vacant and will be filled at the Lake Tahoe meeting.

If you are interested in running for any position, please contact David Marasco at the email address above, and come to the meeting with a brief prepared statement.