

# KALCHEMIST NEWS

## Chair:

Mr. Patrick A. Irish  
Pfizer 0200-259-277  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001-0199  
Tele: 269-833-6818  
[patrick.a.irish@pfizer.com](mailto:patrick.a.irish@pfizer.com)

## Chair-Elect:

Dr. Kent S. Alleman  
Pfizer 0200-259-277  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001-0199  
Tele: 269-833-5396  
[kent.s.alleman@pfizer.com](mailto:kent.s.alleman@pfizer.com)

## Secretary:

Dr. Joan Esson  
Kalamazoo College  
Kalamazoo, MI  
[j.esson@kzoo.edu](mailto:j.esson@kzoo.edu)

## Treasurer:

Mr. Michael L. Kiella  
Pfizer 0200-604-1  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001-0199  
Tele: 269-833-9863  
[michael.l.kiella@pfizer.com](mailto:michael.l.kiella@pfizer.com)

## Councilors:

Dr. Dean W. Cooke (2003)  
3711 Edinburgh Drive  
Kalamazoo, MI 49006  
Tele: 269-375-2357  
[dean.cooke@wmich.edu](mailto:dean.cooke@wmich.edu)

Dr. Lydia E. M. Hines (2004)  
5596 Parkview Avenue  
Kalamazoo, MI 49009-9487  
Tele: 269-375-7349  
[lemh@medscape.com](mailto:lemh@medscape.com)

## Past-Chair:

Mr. Benjamin A Maxey  
Pfizer 0200-87-01  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001-0199  
Tele: 269-833-3623  
[benjamin.s.maxey@pfizer.com](mailto:benjamin.s.maxey@pfizer.com)

## Kalchemist News Editor:

Dr. S. Karina Kwok  
Pfizer 0200-89-1  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001-0199  
Tele: 269-833-4729  
[karina.kwok@pfizer.com](mailto:karina.kwok@pfizer.com)

## KACS WEBSITE:

<http://www.wmich.edu/acs/>

## September-October 2004



### Message from the Chair Patrick A. Irish

We are entering what is traditionally a busy time for the local section. We are asking for help and participation from local section members. Ask any member that has participated in the below listed activities, and they will tell you they found their experiences fun and rewarding.

Our Fall Tour Speaker will be Dr. Alexander Shedrinsky from Long Island University and he will give a talk entitled, "Amber, Real and Fake." It will be on September 24 at 5:00 pm at 1301 Wood Hall on the Western Michigan University Campus. It is free and open to the public.

The ballots for voting for next years' officers are in this newsletter. We have candidates for the positions of Chair Elect, Councilor, and Treasurer. Please vote; it is helpful to the entire section to make your voice heard.

We are soliciting volunteers for Chemistry Day at the museum. The theme this year is Health and Wellness. The demonstrations and hands on participation events are very well received, and the event will run from noon until 4 pm Saturday November 6. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact an EC member or Julie Lorenz ([julie.k.lorenz@pfizer.com](mailto:julie.k.lorenz@pfizer.com), 269-833-2209)

Volunteers are still being solicited for the 5<sup>th</sup> grade elementary outreach effort, "Science is Fun." This project will put chemistry demonstrations in the local public schools during the week of 18-22 October. If interested in helping out, please contact Monica Whitmire ([monica.l.whitmire@pfizer.com](mailto:monica.l.whitmire@pfizer.com), 269-833-3619), Rebecca Johnson, ([rebecca.l.johnson@pfizer.com](mailto:rebecca.l.johnson@pfizer.com), 269-833-8653), or Niki Waldron ([niki.a.waldron@pfizer.com](mailto:niki.a.waldron@pfizer.com), 269-833-1975).

### In this issue:

Election of the KACS 2005 Officers .....	2
KACS Election Candidates' Biographies.....	3
Project SEED.....	4-5
Volunteers for Chemistry Day and "Science is Fun".....	6
Fall Tour Speaker: Dr. Alexander M. Shedrinsky "Amber, Real and Fake".....	7

# Election of the KACS 2005 Officers

---

Below you will find a ballot for the election of officers of the Kalamazoo Section of the American Chemical Society for 2005. The offices to be filled are Chair-elect, Councilor, and Treasurer. The Chair-elect is elected for one year (the following year becoming the Chair). The Treasurer is elected for a two year term, and the Councilor is elected for a term of three years. All officers shall take office on January 1 of the year following the election and the Chair-elect for 2004, Kent Alleman will become Chair for 2005.

**Complete your ballot.**

**Enclose the ballot in a blank envelope and seal it.**

**Place the blank envelope containing the completed ballot in a second envelope.**

**Write your signature on the outside of the second envelope.**

**Address the second envelope to:**

*Mr. Patrick Irish  
Pfizer  
0200-259-277  
7000 Portage Road  
Kalamazoo MI 49001-0199*

The KACS bylaws allow for counting only those ballots which are received sealed in an unmarked envelope which in turn is enclosed in another envelope with your *signature* on it. All ballots must be received by 5 pm on **October 31, 2004** in order to be tallied. Thank you for your prompt response .

---

## 2005 Election Ballot

### Chair-Elect

- Michael L. Kiella  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Councilor

- Dean W. Cooke  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### Treasurer

- Shawn P. Hawk  
 \_\_\_\_\_

## 2005 ACS Kalamazoo Local Section Election

### Biography of Candidates

#### **Candidate for Chair-Elect: Michael L. Kiella**

Michael Kiella is currently employed as a Team Leader in the Pfizer Global Manufacturing - Quality Operations-Compliance Management Group. Prior to work in Quality Operations, he was an Associate in Physical and Analytical Chemistry Research at Pharmacia & Upjohn working in the lab of Dr. Jack DeZwaan. Michael is in his 19th year at Pfizer, dating back to the legacy Upjohn Company. He began his career in the pharmaceutical industry in the lab of Gary Boerner at the Perrigo Company in Allegan Michigan.

He is a 16-year member of the Kalamazoo Section of American Chemical Society and is concluding his third term as Treasurer of the Executive Committee. Michael is Industry Advisor to the Western Michigan University Student Affiliates and ChemClub. He co-chairs the Local Section Government Affairs Committee with Dr. John Stodola. Michael holds an Associate of Science Degree from Kalamazoo Valley Community College and a Bachelor of Science Degree from Western Michigan University. His degree from Western Michigan University includes studies in Business Management at the Haworth College and publication in reviewed international literature. Michael's *away-time* is spent reading (essays and short fiction), and traveling with his family. He tutors mathematics and chemistry from his home.

Mr. Kiella lives in Allegan with his wife, Barbara, and daughter, Kelsey. Their son, Matthew, attends Western Michigan University, making his family a four-generation tradition at Western.

#### **Candidate for Treasurer: Shawn P. Hawk**

Shawn Hawk is a native of Schaumburg, IL. He has served honorably in the United States Navy and continues to serve in the Illinois Air National Guard. Shawn started at the University of Illinois-Champaign/Urbana in 1999 and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in December 2003. He spent three semesters working with Dr. Mary S. Gin researching the synthesis of ion channels. Shawn has been an active member of ACS for two years, first with the student affiliates at the University of Illinois, and now with the Kalamazoo local section. He is serving on the Boy Scout Merit Badge Committee. Throughout the years, Shawn has volunteered for many organizations and currently volunteers as a Big Brother and presenter for Junior Achievement. Shawn Hawk is currently employed as a Quality Control Chemist -Kalamazoo Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients.

#### **Candidate for Councilor: Dean W. Cooke**

Dean Cooke became a member of the ACS in 1956, his first year as a graduate student at the Ohio State University. He received his PhD in Inorganic Chemistry in 1959 and accepted a teaching position in the Chemistry Department of the University of Michigan that fall. After teaching there for seven years he accepted a position in the Chemistry Department at Western Michigan University where he taught for twenty nine and one half years, retiring as Emeritus Professor in Chemistry in January, 1996. In the latter years of his teaching career he became interested in bringing chemistry to elementary school teachers and taught several courses and gave many workshops on that topic.

He joined the KACS in 1966 and soon became chair of the Education Committee of the section, a position that he held off and on until 2001. In 1975, he served the section as Chair and in 1978 he became one of the two Councilors who serve the section on the national level. At the end of 2004, he will have served for 27 years in that position. On the national level he has served on several committees including two elected committees.

## **Project SEED Concludes Another Successful Year**

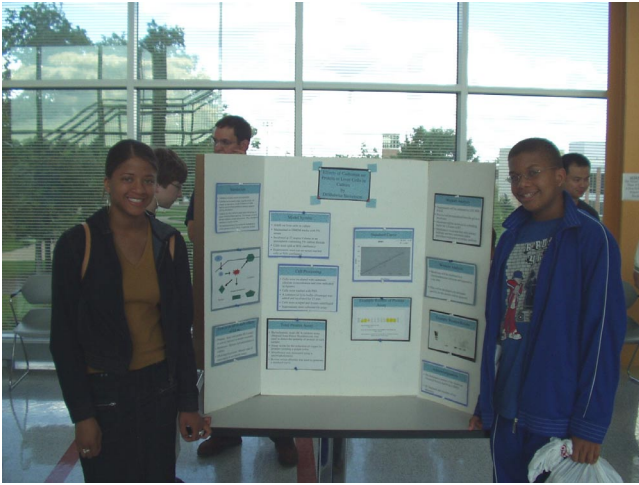
This past summer four area high school students spent their summer in the Chemistry Department at Western Michigan University participating in the ACS's Project SEED (Summer Educational Experience for the Disadvantaged) Program. Project SEED is part of the American Chemical Society's (ACS) commitment to the development of a scientific work force that is more broadly representative of the American population. The program was established in 1968 by the ACS to help expand the career outlook of high school students from families defined as economically disadvantaged by federal poverty guidelines. Students are paid a stipend for working in a chemistry related laboratory. The local program has been sponsored by the Kalamazoo Section of the ACS on a grant from the National Society for the last thirteen years. During this time over fifty high school students have been placed in academic and industrial laboratories in Kalamazoo and the surrounding area.

To qualify the students must have completed their sophomore year in good academic standing, have taken at least one course in chemistry and be recommended by their chemistry teacher or other school official. Students are selected based on their qualifications and letters of recommendation. This past summer the program kicked off in early June, and went through first week in August. This year three students participated in the program for the first time. They were Andrey Malyutin, Kaushik Sarkar, and Ebony Willhite, all students at Kalamazoo Central High School. Andrey worked on the "Synthesis of Gold Silica Nano Particles" with Dr. Subra Muralidharan, Kaushik worked on the "Synthesis of Chiral Phosphorus Ester Ligands" with Dr. James Kiddle, while Ebony joined Dr. David Huffman's group studying the "Cloning of Wilson's Disease Multi-Domains 4-5 & 4-6." The fourth student, DeShawna Stevenson, from Kalamazoo Central High School was returning to the program for her second year, working with Dr. Susan Stapleton. DeShawna's project was entitled the "Effects of Cadmium on Proteins in Liver Cells in Culture."

Matching funds for the grant have come from a number of local donors over the years, including most recently, A.M. Todd Company, Kalsec Inc. and Pfizer Inc. Companies or individuals interested in donating to or who want more information about the local Project SEED Program should contact:

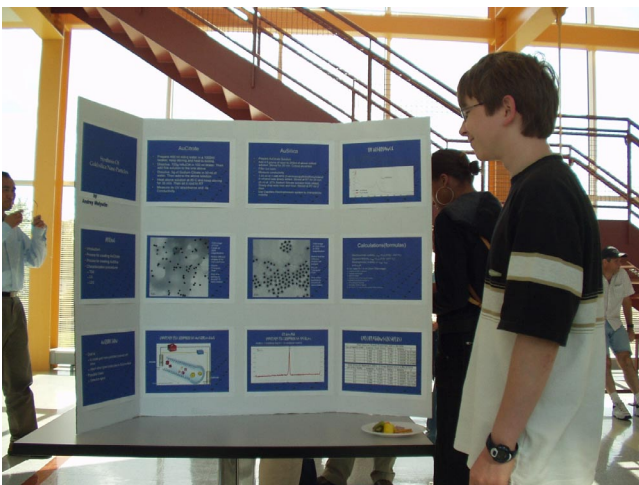
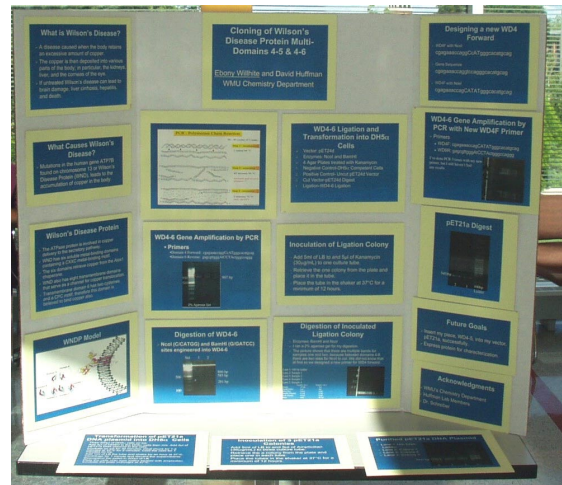
Dr. Donald Schreiber  
Chemistry Department  
Western Michigan University  
1201 Oliver St.  
Kalamazoo, MI 49008  
Tel: (269) 387-2856  
FAX: (269) 387-2909  
Email [schreiber@wmich.edu](mailto:schreiber@wmich.edu)

# Pictures from the Project SEED Reception



← DeShawna Stevenson presents her project with her brother Tony.

A project on Wilson's Disease →



← Andrey Malyutin presenting his "The Synthesis of Gold Silica Nanoparticles".



## Chemistry Day at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum

Saturday, November 6, 2004

The National Chemistry Week theme for 2004 is "Health and Wellness". Please be thinking of experiments that you would like to share during our annual Chemistry Day at the Museum event on November 6 from Noon to 4:00pm.

We need the list of experiments and demonstration leaders by October 1.

If you're interested in participating please contact Julie Lorenz (269-833-2209 or [julie.k.lorenz@pfizer.com](mailto:julie.k.lorenz@pfizer.com)).

[http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DOC=new\new\\_index.html](http://www.chemistry.org/portal/a/c/s/1/acdisplay.html?DOC=new\new_index.html)

---

### Volunteers Needed for "Science is Fun" Activity at Local Area Schools

Pfizer and the Kalamazoo section of the ACS are sponsoring a "Science is Fun" program for 5<sup>th</sup> graders in the Kalamazoo and Portage area elementary schools that have low 2003 Science MEAP scores. Half-day programs will be presented during National Chemistry Day week (October 18-22) and is designed to get kids interested in science through various hands-on activities.

If you have any ideas on programming or would like to volunteer, please contact Rebecca Johnson ([Rebecca.L.Johnson@pfizer.com](mailto:Rebecca.L.Johnson@pfizer.com), 269-833-8653), Monica Whitmire ([Monica.L.Whitmire@pfizer.com](mailto:Monica.L.Whitmire@pfizer.com), 269-833-3619), or Niki Waldron ([Niki.A.Waldron@pfizer.com](mailto:Niki.A.Waldron@pfizer.com), 269-833-1975) for more information.

## **Fall Tour Speaker: Dr. Alexander M. Shedrinsky** **“Amber, Real and Fake”**

**Friday, September 24, 5 pm**

**1301 Wood Hall Western Michigan University**

For directions to WMU refer to link <http://maps.pp.wmich.edu/KaMai/index.html>

### **Abstract**

Amber has long fascinated collectors and researchers. There is the aura of mystery associated with belief in its healing power; the variety of beautiful colors that make it so desirable for jewelry; and finally, the exquisite preservation of a great variety of inclusions, from insects to small frogs and lizards. Unfortunately, from earliest times these properties have also drawn the attention of forgers. By forgeries we mean the substitution for real Baltic amber (succinite) or other fossilized resins, of materials ranging from recent copals to synthetic polymers. Attempts to forge amber inclusions are known from antiquity. One can prepare convincing imitations of large transparent amber pieces with a wide variety of "inclusions" (ants, bees, lizards, mosquitoes, etc.). The question of the authenticity of amber inclusions has become particularly significant in view of the recent publication by a team of scientists from the American Museum of Natural History of DNA gene fragments from an insect preserved in amber for almost 30 million years. This represents the oldest DNA ever recovered from fossils. The book and the movie Jurassic Park created enormous interest in the subject of amber. In our lecture we will try to sort out the real and imaginary aspects related to this subject. The lecture will be profusely illustrated by slides of samples from the collection of the American Museum of Natural History as well as from private collections.

### **Speaker Biography**

Alexander M. Shedrinsky graduated from the Chemistry Department of Leningrad State University in 1965. He continued his studies there and completed his postgraduate study in polymer chemistry in 1970. He was a lecturer in organic and general chemistry at Leningrad North-West Polytechnical Institute, First Leningrad Medical Institute, and Leningrad Pharmaceutical College. Dr. Shedrinsky continued his graduate studies at New York University, completing his M.S. in 1983 and his Ph.D. in 1986 in synthetic organic chemistry. He was Charles and Francis Atkins Fellow at the Paintings Conservation Department of the Metropolitan Museum of Art from 1984 to 1986, and a Postdoctoral Fellow at the Conservation Center of the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University from 1986 to 1988. He was Andrew Mellon Fellow at the Objects Conservation Department of the Metropolitan Museum of Art (1988-1990) while continuing as an assistant professor of chemistry at the Brooklyn Campus of Long Island University and a Kervorkian Fellow at the Conservation Center of the Institute of Fine Arts of New York University (1990-1992). Presently, Dr. Shedrinsky is a professor of chemistry at Long Island University and an adjunct professor of conservation at the Conservation Center of Institute of Fine Arts (NYU). Dr. Shedrinsky was a Fulbright Professor during the spring semester of 1995 at the Academy of Arts, St. Petersburg, Russia, teaching a course on Organic Chemistry of Museum Objects and a Forchheimer Visiting Professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem during spring semester of 1997. Professor Shedrinsky specializes in pyrolysis gas chromatography of organic materials of art and archaeology. His skills and knowledge have been sought in the analysis of a variety of subjects, such as materials from the Sistine Chapel, Egyptian oil of archaeological interest, and Italic amber carvings from the J. Paul Getty Museum, to name but a few. During the last ten years, his research interests have been heavily concentrated on the analysis of different ambers and amber look-alike materials.



# 2004 KACS Calendar

Contact the person in parentheses to answer questions or to volunteer

- 
- September 24    **Fall Tour Speaker: Dr. Alexander M. Shedrinsky**  
**Topic: Amber, Real and Fake**  
Western Michigan University, 1301 Wood Hall, 5:00 pm  
(Patrick Irish, [patrick.a.irish@pfizer.com](mailto:patrick.a.irish@pfizer.com), 269-833-6818)
- October 7        **KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm**
- November 4      **KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm**
- November 6      **Chemistry Day at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum, noon-4:00 pm**  
**Theme: Health and Wellness**  
(Julie Lorenz, [julie.k.lorenz@pfizer.com](mailto:julie.k.lorenz@pfizer.com), 269-833-2209)
- December 2      **KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm**
- 

**KACS Website Address:**        <http://www.wmich.edu/acs/>

*KACS  
c/o S. Karina Kwok  
Pfizer  
Mail Stop 0200-89-1  
7000 Portage Road  
Kalamazoo, MI 49001-0199*

Please contact Karina Kwok at [karina.kwok@pfizer.com](mailto:karina.kwok@pfizer.com) if you prefer to receive your newsletter by email.