

# KALCHEMIST NEWS

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## February-March, 2006



### Message from the Chair Michael Kiella

I'd like to thank the Section for allowing me to chair the Executive Committee for this year; and for the mentoring provided by those who came before me, it is an opportunity that brings me great pride. I look back more than 16 years to the moment when John Stodola (EC Chair '99) invited me to complete an American Chemical Society membership application. I remember him telling me about the benefits of belonging to the ACS, while handing me an application with my name already inked in, his signature of sponsorship already at the bottom. Take a moment now to look around and identify the potential new members; invite them to join. When we continue, we continue...and you can quote me on that.

#### Program Maintenance and Budget Control Will Be Our Focus

We are in the process of finalizing the 2005 annual report to the ACS National Office. One part of the report asks us to outline our goals for 2006. We find ourselves adjusting to membership reduction as a direct result of significant changes in our industrial base. Changes in membership, translates into changes in budget and program participation. It will be our 2006 mission to understand the changes in membership and identify volunteers to step in and help with Section Programs. **We need your help to fill the volunteer roles vacated by departing members.** More later.

Our Section income is directly tied to membership; and while we enter 2006 in sound financial condition, we are experiencing a delay in understanding our current headcount. Departing members are beginning to notify the ACS National office of their new Section affiliations. While a time lag is expected, it will probably take this fiscal year for the process to complete. We anticipate that our membership rolls will experience a significant downward adjustment in the next year. In response to this uncertainty, we will approach the 2006 budget and programmatic spending carefully, deliberately.

We are committed to staying the course...and bring our programs forward. We look forward to another year of member services and bringing Chemistry into our communities. Another successful year awaits us....

Michael

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#### KACS WEBSITE:

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

# News from the Women Chemists Committee of the KACS

by Sheryl Loux

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## **GIRL SCOUT CHEMISTRY MERIT BADGE DATE SET** ***Volunteers Needed—No experience necessary!***

*(Contact a steering committee member to volunteer)*

**9 AM to 3 PM, Saturday, March 25, 2006 for 100 Girls Scouts at WMU.**

Volunteers can be scheduled to work for half or whole day.

All the experiments plus answers and explanation can be obtained in advance by email and are available for your use during the experimental labs. The average age of the Scouts is 11 years. The laboratory will be lead by an experienced demonstrator. No chemistry background is required for the volunteers. The Girl Scouts provide pizza and drink for Volunteers and Scouts.

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## **General Membership Meeting in the Planning Stages**

The Executive Committee has endorsed a request to change the Spring Tour Speaker activity and sponsor an early summer reading of papers and social. This RSVP event is proposed to feature a large outdoor venue where members can mingle; enjoy finger food and beverages; under sunny skies and warm temperatures. Planning for the event is now underway. Please contact any member of the EC with your suggestions for the day.

Details of the event will follow in the April-May edition of the Kalchemist News.

# Nominations Sought for Women Chemists Committee STEERING COMMITTEE

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The Steering Committee is composed of up to 5 WCC members. Steering Committee members have staggered 3-year terms (expiration year of term in parenthesis). Currently 2 of 5 positions on the steering committee expired at 2005 year end. Please consider nominating yourself. Nominations will close by March 31, 2006 and elections will be held by the middle of April 2006.

## The KACS WCC Steering Committee

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## Join the WCC—new members are welcome!

Any Kalamazoo Section member may join. Just email Sheryl J. Loux at [Sheryl.Loux@mpiresearch.com](mailto:Sheryl.Loux@mpiresearch.com). Currently our goals include conducting the Girl Scout Chemistry Badge every other year, writing experiments for the Glowing Embers Handbook of Badges, and sponsoring speakers.



# 2006 KACS Calendar

Contact the person in parentheses to answer questions or to volunteer

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- March 2            KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Open to all Members, 5:00pm (Mike Kiella, 833-9863)
- March 25           Girl Scout Chemistry Patch Day, WMU (Sheryl Loux, 343-4737)
- April 6            KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Open to all Members, 5:00pm (Mike Kiella, 833-9863)
- May 4             KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Open to all Members, 5:00pm (Mike Kiella, 833-9863)
- May 22            Annual Awards Banquet, WMU (Don Schreiber, 387-2856)
- June 1             KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Open to all Members, 5:00pm (Mike Kiella, 833-9863)
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