

American Chemical Society – Kalamazoo Local Section Bimonthly Newsletter

January 1, 2011

Vol. 1 - Issue 1

Comments from the Chair

Doug Williams



Seasons greetings, ACS members! I am eager to let you know what the Kalamazoo section has been doing and is planning in the next few months. Our new section Communications Chair and my colleague, David Bolliet, has volunteered to produce this revival issue of our section newsletter (formerly called the Kalchemist News) to keep you more informed. I hope that you enjoy and appreciate his efforts.

In lunch time visits to area employers this fall, I introduced myself to many of our members and listened for your ideas about local section activities. Some of you suggested additional social/science mixer events. I heard concerns about job security and career opportunities for chemists. The chemistry enterprise in the U.S. is going through fundamental changes in response to economic competition and technology developments. ACS has consistently promoted scientific education and innovation as the key to opportunity (see the ACS [Policy](#) and [GC/CS](#) Web pages). On a local level, we aim to represent that mission.

Recent local section events included a Science Café presentation by Dr. Mike Barcelona (WMU) on transport of ground water pollutants (Sep 28), a presentation on the chemistry of coffee by tour speaker Dr. Tracy Hamilton (Oct 13) and our annual Chemistry Day activity at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum in coordination with National Chemistry Week (Oct 16). Thank you to the 60+ volunteers who showed up to put on the Chemistry Day event and celebrate "Chemistry Behind the Scenes" in addition to many of our favorite, traditional science activities.

What's ahead? See our list of upcoming events for 2011 in this issue and our local section Web page (<http://www.wmich.edu/acs/>) for announcements, summaries, committee meeting minutes, etc. In January, we begin our celebration of the International Year of Chemistry (IYC) - 2011. ACS intends to participate in a [big way](#) with quarterly themes of (1) Environment/Water, (2) Energy, (3) Materials and (4) Health. We look forward to emphasizing these themes in our local programming and hope that you will celebrate with us.

Continued on page 2

2011 KACS Executive Officers

Chairperson

Dr. Doug Williams, Kalsec, Inc.
DWilliams@kalsec.com

Past-Chairperson

Dr. Susan Stapleton, WMU – Chemistry
susan.stapleton@wmich.edu

Chairperson-Elect

Vacant

Secretary

Carl Stachew
cstachew@yahoo.com

Treasurer

Dr. John Miller, WMU – Chemistry
john.b.miller@wmich.edu

Councilor

Dr. Lydia E. M. Hines, KVCC
lemhwgh@gmail.com

Alternate Councilor

Mr. Michael Kiella
mike.kiella@charter.net

KACS website:

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

Do you have questions, comments, or would like to contribute to this newsletter? Send an email to:

ACSkzoo@gmail.com

Upcoming events at glance (Jan-Mar 2011)

- **Jan 20** – Mixer from 6-8 pm, WMU Chemistry Building, room 2401
- **Feb 12** – Girl Scout chemistry badge event from 9 AM – 3 PM, WMU Chemistry
- **Feb** – Science Café (topic: Environment and Water), date/time/venue to be determined
- **Feb 28-Mar 7** – Mass spectrometer users group meeting, date/time/venue to be determined
- **Mar 22** – ACS Tour Speaker: Ned Heindel (ACS President, 1994), time/location to be determined
- **Mar** – Spring Science Symposium for local high schools at WMU, time and date to be announced

Help us choose our Spring Speaker Topic!

Our Spring tour speaker will be Ned Heindel, the Howard S. Bunn Professor of Chemistry at Lehigh University and President of ACS (1994). Dr. Heindel will speak on March 22 at a time and location to be announced in our next newsletter. Until then, please help us choose a topic from the list that Dr. Heindel has provided. Please go to <http://www.wmich.edu/acs/> to view a profile of Dr. Heindel and a link to the electronic voting site.

Comments from the Chair

Doug Williams

Continued from page 1

New on our Web site: We have created a larger list of local companies that employ ACS members. If you are an ACS member and your employer is not listed, please let me know. Also, we are offering space to local employers for posting job openings. Listings and traffic for this have been light but it might be more helpful if interest builds.

I want to take this moment to thank Sue Stapleton for her service as our chair in 2010 and to Don Schreiber as our “retiring” past chair. Both will continue on the executive committee in 2011 (Sue as past-chair and Don as Education Committee Chair and WMU Student Chapter Advisor). We also congratulate and thank John Miller, who was reelected for another two-year term as treasurer in our fall elections. Our chair-elect position remains open at this time. Please contact Doug Williams if you are interested in learning more about the glamorous benefits and privileges that accompany this office.

A list of our current executive officers and associated chairs is below. We would like to hear your ideas about local section activities. Please, stay tuned and in touch.

January mixer-New Consultants and Old Posters

Doug Williams

Please mark your calendars for a social-science-career mixer event from **6-8 pm, Thursday, January 20 in room 2401 of the WMU Chemistry Building**. The content depends on you.

I am seeking anyone who is willing to display an old, favorite poster that you still have around. We'll supply poster frames and refreshments. In addition, we will have an informal panel discussion to represent consulting companies that are operating from our section. If you are a self-employed consultant, please let me know if you would be interested in telling us about your work and your experience/advice in setting up your service. Look for an email announcement in January with more details. Please send a note to Doug Williams if you would like to hang a poster or participate on the panel discussion.

Announcements

ACS Fall Tour Speaker – "Chemistry of Coffee"

Dr. Tracy P. Hamilton, University
of Alabama, Birmingham, AL

Wednesday October, 13, 5:30pm,
Chemistry 1260, WMU
(photos courtesy of Andre Venter)



Left to right: Dr. Tracy P. Hamilton,
Dr. John Miller.



Left to right: Dr. Doug Williams, WMU
biochemistry student Phillip Macklin,
Dr. John Miller.

Girl Scout Chemistry Badge Day-Call for Volunteers

Kim Greve

Volunteers are needed for Girl Scout Chemistry Badge Day to be held at WMU on Saturday, February 12th from 9 a.m. till about 3 p.m. The Program consists of 5 experiments, biochemistry, environmental, crime scene, polymer chemistry, and separation science/pH. Supplies for all of the experiments will be provided. Volunteers are with the same experiment for part or all of the day. We rotate the girls to the different labs. Each experiment takes approx. 50 minutes. Lunch will be provided for the volunteers. Please consider volunteering for all or part of the day. This event is being sponsored by the KACS Women's Chemistry Committee and the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan Council. Please contact Kim Greve if you are interested (kfgreve@frontier.com or call 269-679-3036).

Mass Spectrometer Users Group Meeting Coming Up

Andre Venter

Plans are developing for an inaugural meeting of a Kalamazoo area mass spectrometry discussion group on an early evening during the WMU spring break (Feb 28-Mar 7). The meeting will follow an informal meet-and-greet format, and we will try to get as many local people to each give a short 5 minute PowerPoint introduction about their facilities / interests. Please contact Andre Venter at WMU (andre.venter@wmich.edu) if you are interested in participating in this group.

Sudoku challenge

Solve the puzzle, win a prize!

Here's how to win a prize:

- 1) Solve this Sudoku puzzle.
- 2) Email the solved puzzle, as a pdf or jpg, to ACSkzoo@gmail.com
- 3) Submission deadline is January 31, 2011.
- 4) Prizes will be awarded to the first 3 correct entries.
- 5) Winners and solution will be announced in the March newsletter.

Have fun!

Medium difficulty

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	8	2						
					7			
	7	9	2			8	3	
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	6	4			1	7	2	
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						2	4	
	9		4	1		6	5	

New to Sudoku? Click on the [link](#) to learn the few basic rules of the game.