

American Chemical Society – Kalamazoo Local Section {(Bi)monthly} Newsletter

March 13, 2011

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Comments from the Chair

Doug Williams

We are entering our busy quarter of the year for academic achievements in chemistry with our annual high school competitive exam and selection of outstanding area teachers and students. However, this is not all as we are continuing to offer interesting talks and activities for our professional community. Please keep checking our web site <http://www.wmich.edu/acs/> for details and announcements. In addition to our KACS sponsored events, several recent WMU Chemistry Department seminar events have been featured on our web site in the past two months. As always, if you want to post chemistry-related events, job openings or announcements, please send a note with proposed content to ACSkzoo@gmail.com.

Our Feb 22 Science Café at Martini's Restaurant about the Kalamazoo River oil spill clean up was lightly attended due to challenging weather but thoroughly enjoyable. Professor Steve Hamilton of MSU Kellogg Biological Station is an outstanding speaker and authoritative spokesman for river preservation and natural remediation. We are grateful that he took time to share his knowledge with us. More details and photos are in the Past Events section of our web page.

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 a glance (Mar - Apr 2011)

- **Mar 22** – ACS Tour Speaker: Ned Heindel (ACS President, 1994), 6:30 pm, Kalamazoo Area Math & Science Center

- **Apr 16** – Earth Day celebration, ACS public outreach table (10 am – 4 pm), Kalamazoo Nature Center, free to the public

- **Apr 28** – IYC 2011 2nd quarter, presentation by Four Elements Energy on Small Wind and Solar Power Generation in Michigan, 6:30 pm, location to be announced

- **May 3** – (rescheduled) High School Spring Science Symposium. (Contact donald.schreiber@wmich.edu for details)

Do you have an event that you would like to have listed in this newsletter? Send an email to:

ACSkzoo@gmail.com

Section Service Award

Lydia Hines

Each year at our Section's Award Ceremony - where we recognize our outstanding High School chemistry students, a High School chemistry teacher and two College students - we also recognize at least one member of our Local Section who has served selflessly over an extended period of time. We have awarded this recognition for 21 years to 28 volunteers. If you would like to recommend a Section member for recognition, please send a note giving the individual's name and the rationale for the nomination to the chair of the Awards Committee at lemhwgh@gmail.com by April 30, 2011. Thank you.

Spring Tour Speaker – Prof. Ned Heindel

Doug Williams

We are in our final advertising push for the upcoming talk by Professor Ned Heindel on “Tinctures, Tonics, and Patent Medicines: A History of Commercialized Quackery” (6:30 pm, March 22, Kalamazoo Area Math & Science Center). Local schools have been notified and various event calendars have been updated. Plans have been made for a preview interview with Dr. Heindel on WMUK in advance of the talk. You can help us get the word out by distributing our [printable flyer](#) on our web site. We're looking for a big turnout. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Announcements

Local Section Annual Report Available

Our 2010 Annual Report for the Kalamazoo section can be viewed on our web site (see link under Executive Committee on our [home page](#)). Everything was submitted on time thanks to the diligence of our past chair Sue Stapleton and treasurer John Miller.

Earth Day

We still have openings for any member to come and represent ACS at our outreach table during the Kalamazoo Nature Earth Day celebration on April 16. See our last newsletter for more details. Please contact Lydia Hines (lemhwgh@gmail.com) if you are able to help for any amount of time.

Ideas for New Activities or Programs

Have you been thinking about something we should be doing to improve our local section program? If so, we'd love to hear it. ACS Innovative Program Grants of up to \$3000 are available to local sections for activities that 1) are new to the local section, 2) stimulate local section member involvement, and 3) serve as pilot projects for a continuing section activity or else take advantage of a unique upcoming opportunity for the local section. Please send ideas to ACSkzoo@gmail.com. We'd like to have a short list of ideas before our next executive committee meeting on Apr 13.

International Year of Chemistry

Introduction

Lydia Hines

2011 is being celebrated as the International Year of Chemistry (IYC) by the American Chemical Society (ACS) and Chemical Societies around the world. Our Local Section has been participating in these celebrations by sponsoring Science Cafe's, lectures, will attend a table at the Kalamazoo Nature Center for Earth Day on April 16, and will offer other activities which will be announced in the Newsletter as the year moves along. The year also offers the opportunity to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Marie Curie winning the Nobel Prize in Chemistry, and the 100th anniversary of the International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). The Unifying theme for the year is "Chemistry - our Life, our Future"; to that end the year has been apportioned into four themes, one per quarter, to be used to educate our public concerning the importance of Chemistry as it relates to Energy, the Environment, Materials and Health. There are many free downloadable materials which can be found at www.acs.org which contain ideas for activities appropriate for use with non-science audiences, and daily items of information concerning the applications of chemistry in our lives (365:Chemistry for Life). The worldwide experiment centered on the theme "Water: a chemical solution" is available for members, as well as High School students and teachers, at water.chemistry2011.org for collection and submission of data starting on March 22, 2011 - please let us know (lemhwgh@gmail.com) if you or any acquaintances participate in this worldwide experiment :) I hope that you will avail yourselves of the many ways in which ACS and we in our Kalamazoo Local Section are determined to make a difference in the public's perception of our profession.

Virtual Journal

David Bolliet

As part of this year's celebrations of IYC, ACS created a Virtual Journal where one can find highlights from scientific journals in the fields of energy, environment, health, and materials. Issue 2 can now be found online. Topics in the February issue include personalized solar energy, "karrikins" and the key role they play in post forest fires new plant growth, a more efficient and less expensive synthesis of Tamiflu®, and a new process for making conductive energy textiles. A link to the IYC Virtual Journal can be found on our [homepage](#).

Announcements

Google Virtual Science Fair

David Bolliet

Be a part of the first global online Google Science Fair. Chemistry is one of 11 categories in which youths aged 13 to 18 are encouraged to send their [submissions through April 4](#).

In July, one of the three finalist winners (one in each age category: 13-14, 15-16, and 17-18) will get a chance to become the grand-prize winner and receive, among other things, a \$50,000 scholarship, and a National Geographic trip to the Galapagos Islands.

Further, **we all can be a part of the Google Science Fair** by [viewing and voting](#) on the work by the 60 semi-finalists, announced on May 9.

Watch the Rube Goldberg machine created specially to advertise for this event by clicking on the Google picture.



Sudoku Challenge – February Winners

Congratulations to **Tova Samuels, Miao-Miao Horng, and Tim Evans** for submitting their winning entries to the February Sudoku challenge. They each received a \$5 gift certificate to Fourth Coast Café, located in the Vine Neighborhood, at 816 S. Westnedge Ave.

Thanks to all who participated in this challenge. Below is the solved puzzle.

Up to the task for another Sudoku challenge? Go to page 6 of this newsletter for your chance to win a prize...

Difficulty: Hard

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

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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 March 31, 2011.
- 4) Prizes will be awarded to the first 3 correct entries (entries must be from Kalamazoo Local Section ACS members who have not won a prize in the two most recent newsletters).
- 5) Winners and solution will be announced in the next newsletter.

Have fun!

<u>First Name:</u>	<u>Last Name:</u>
<u>Email address:</u>	

Difficulty: **EVIL**

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

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