

American Chemical Society – Kalamazoo Local Section Newsletter

July 11, 2013

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Comments from the Chair

Elke Schoffers

Dear Readers,

I thank all the volunteers who helped make recent KACS Education events a success: the “High School Chemistry Symposium” on April 30 and the annual “Awards Ceremony” on May 20. A special thank you goes to Dr. James Kiddle (WMU), the KACS Chair of the Education Subcommittee in charge of identifying



James Kiddle, Ph.D.
(KACS Competitive Exam
Chair, right) with Elke
Schoffers, Ph.D. (KACS
Chair)

outstanding High School chemistry students through the competitive exams process. All winners and awardees are listed in this issue.

We include a special call for volunteers for “**Chemistry Day at the Museum**” scheduled for October 12. **We need you!** Please contact Dr. Lydia Hines **as soon as possible**. KACS also needs to identify officers for our upcoming joint regional meeting in 2015 as outlined on page 2.

Please read on to find out why you should mark your calendar for a **party on Tuesday, September 10** at the Westin Indianapolis Hotel.

We hope that you will continue to check in with us to learn about the events we are planning for our fall schedule.

Thank you!

2013 KACS Executive Officers

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Dr. Elke Schoffers, WMU – Chemistry
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Dr. John H. Engelmann, Miller Canfield
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Councilor

Dr. Lydia E. M. Hines, WMU – Chemistry
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Alternate Councilor

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

We Need Volunteers
- SEE PAGE 2 -

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

Volunteering Opportunities

By Lydia Hines

Seeking Volunteers for our Chemistry Outreach in October

National Chemistry Week (NCW) is coming up again - October 20-26 this year – with the theme “Energy! Now and Forever”. Our popular annual outreach to the community at the Kalamazoo Valley Museum (KVM) will be on **Saturday, October 12, from noon to 4 p.m.**, and as always we are **requesting that you volunteer as a science activity presenter**. This year the KVM needs to ascertain our intent and commitment to participate by mid-July, so I am asking you to let me know **immediately** of your willingness to be a part of this event and to put the date on your calendar. It takes about 50 volunteers to present the 20-25 activities we try to offer. Some sample activities we have had in the past are *electrolysis, super-absorbent polymer, “magic” sand, slime, silly putty, chromatography flowers, liquid nitrogen effects, shiny pennies, emulsions, iron in cereal, chemiluminescence, volcano*. I look forward to hearing from you either by **e-mail at lemhwgh@gmail.com** or by **phone at 269-375-7349 as soon as possible**. Thank you for your willingness to show the relevance of chemistry to our Kalamazoo-area public.

Be a part of a successful Professional Meeting in our Region, the 2015 JGLCRM (Joint Great Lakes-Central Regional Meeting)

Our Local Section (in the Great Lakes Region) has been given a wonderful opportunity to co-host a Regional Meeting in Grand Rapids along with the Western Michigan Section (in the Central Region) in 2015. The most recent past time that the Kalamazoo Section acted as co-host of a Regional Meeting was in 2001, also in Grand Rapids with the Western Michigan Section. [For a short *history* of Regional Meetings and a *map* of the 10 Meeting Regions go to our website www.wmich.edu/acs and follow the link to KACS History and then to Great Lakes Regional Meetings]. 2015 may sound like a long way away, but if we want to have a successful meeting we need to start planning immediately. At this point I want to **thank those who have already volunteered for the positions of Program co-chair (James Kiddle) and Exhibits/Fundraising co-chair (John B. Miller)**. Our **immediate needs** are to identify a **Publicity co-chair and an Awards co-chair** from our Section for our Region. The success of any Meeting is in large measure dependent on the nature of the program and the diligence of its organizing committee, so it is imperative that we have a full complement of co-chairs as soon as possible and no later than the beginning of August. To learn more about the responsibilities of either of the 2 positions being solicited and **to volunteer**, please contact the 2015 JGLCRM General co-chair Lydia E. M. Hines either by **e-mail at lemhwgh@gmail.com** or by **phone at 269-375-7349**. Thank you.

Feel free to contact KACS at Elke.Schoffers@wmich.edu if you would like to announce specific events or share links.



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Announcement

Good News about our Section – KACS is ChemLuminary Finalist



By Lydia Hines

It has been six years since our Section received a ChemLuminary Award [2007 for *Best on-going event for National Chemistry Week*]. This year our self-nomination has brought us the designation of “finalist” (one of three) in the “Most Innovative New Activity or Program” category – look in our September Newsletter after the Fall National ACS Meeting in Indianapolis to see if we were declared the winner; better yet, **if you**



are attending the Indy Meeting, join the ChemLuminary party on Tuesday evening, September 10, at the Westin Indianapolis Hotel from 8:00 p.m. to midnight [free hors d'oeuvres and dancing, too] and learn first-hand if our Section is declared the winner in this category!

Report

Report of the 40th High School Chemistry Symposium, April 30, 2013

By Don Schreiber and Lydia Hines

It was a wet morning when sixty High School students from 6 high schools in a 9-county area along with their teachers arrived at the Chemistry Building on the WMU campus for the 40th KACS-sponsored High School Science Symposium. No morning event would be complete without donuts and Kool-Aid. The local section is always indebted to Western Michigan University for hosting the event and to members and friends who take the time to hold interactive sessions with the students or give tours of their facilities.

This year's keynote address was given by Bridget Lorenz Lemberg of Forensic Fluids who gave a talk entitled "Oral Fluid Drug Testing: The Story of Forensic Fluids". The other presenters and their topics were Manuel Bautista, "Our Place in the Universe"; Frank Meints & M. Morris, "Glass Blowing" Demonstration; Sherine Obare, "Nanotechnology" Demonstration; Stephanie Morley, "Veterinary Medicine"; Torrey Wenger, "Tales of a Field Biologist"; Asghar Kayani, "Linear Accelerator"; Mark Wolf, "Food Chemistry – the Spices of Life"; Kathryn Docherty, "Microbial Biodiversity"; and Robert Eversole, "Electron Microscope" Demonstration.

Sincere appreciation is extended to the Education Committee – Drs. Donald Schreiber, James Kiddle, Sherine Obare, and Andre Venter - for organizing and publicizing the Symposium, and to Mrs. Robin Lenkart for her able organizational assistance once again.

Annual Award Ceremony

Report of the 40th KACS Awards Gathering, May 20, 2013

By Lydia Hines

What a pleasant evening we had hosting a gathering of approximately 100 enthusiastic attendees: students, parents, grandparents, high school teachers, and KACS members, for our Section's fortieth Awards presentation to High school students who have excelled in Chemistry either routinely in the classroom, as recommended by their teachers, and/or as a result of success on a two-stage chemistry exam administered by our Section. In the last couple of years we have also formally recognized past chairs of the Section with "Past-Chair" pins. Also recognized at this ceremony are KACS members who have been members of the Society for 50 years, outstanding College Students nominated by the two 4-year colleges in our Section, an outstanding high school teacher, and one (or more) Section member(s) or friend(s) who has consistently given of his/her time and energy for the successful execution of any of our Section's activities – it is always "fun" to see the surprise on the recipient's face.



Reception in the atrium of the WMU Chemistry Building



Outstanding high school seniors



Examination winners



Outstanding College Chemistry students: Brandon Barr (left), WMU, and Joshua Abbot (right), K-College



Outstanding high school teacher Theresa Schwartz with Elke Schoffers

Awards Ceremony cont'd

Examination winners

James Gibson – Gull Lake
Michael Melbow – Gull Lake
Grey Braybrooks – KAMSC/Kalamazoo Central
Tyler Leverton – KAMSC/Loy Norrix
Daniel Woodworth – KAMSC/Kalamazoo Central
Henry Spies – Gull Lake
Callahan Katrak – Mattawan
Cooper Quartermaine – KAMSC/Gull Lake
Quinton Colwell – KAMSC/Portage Central
Sarah Glass – Wayland Union
Nicholas Bertoldi – Mattawan
Kylee Chaffin – Gull Lake
Caelan Deater – Gull Lake
Kelsey Ernst – Plainwell
Morgan Freeby – Portage Central
Katie K. Lee – KAMSC/Portage Central
Alex Z. Lim – Kalamazoo Central
Madelene McKenzie – KAMSC/ Portage Northern
Joshua Mussche – KAMSC/Comstock
Sergio Rodriguez-Labra – Portage Northern

Outstanding high school seniors

Andrew Behrman – Comstock
Zachary Carr – Gull Lake
Samantha Ternes - Hackett Catholic Central
Alex Lim – Kalamazoo Central
Nolan Stoffer – Kalamazoo Christian
Quinton Colwell – KAMSC/Portage Central
Lucas Ryan – Lawton
Nicholas Bertoldi – Mattawan
Renee Schwartz – Otsego
Samantha Pursley – Paw Paw
Kelsey Ernst – Plainwell
Scott Linder - Portage Central



Past chairs in attendance were Michael Kiella (left), Monica Whitmire (middle) and Elke Schoffers (right)



50-year members in attendance were Dr. Robert C. Kelly (right) and Dr. Douglas L. Rector (left); each received a certificate supplied by the National ACS. Drs. Fred Antosz and Charles Hall did not attend.



Our startled **Section Awardee** was Robin Lenkart of the Chemistry Department at Western Michigan University.

Thanks are due once again to our Awards Committee, and to our KACS Education Committee – Drs. Donald Schreiber, James Kiddle, Sherine Obare, and Andre Venter - for another successful event.

Student Group Reports

CGSA's 2013 BBQ for Kalamazoo Chemists

On June 7, the Chemistry Graduate Student Association (CGSA) of Western Michigan University hosted its 3rd annual cookout for local chemists at Oshtemo Township Park. First and foremost, CGSA would like to thank KACS and Western's Graduate Student Advisory Committee for the generous financial support. The event was successful. We had more than 60 attendees, including faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students from WMU, and KACS members from around Kalamazoo. This was a 50% increase in attendance over last year. Many participated in activities such as tennis, volleyball, and soccer. We are glad to see this event gaining popularity as a local tradition.



DOW-BQ at Kalamazoo College

On May 17, 2013 the chemistry and biology departments of Kalamazoo College gathered for DOW BBQ. The event was sponsored by Kalamazoo College's ACS student group. A strong turnout of over 50 students and faculty enjoyed some tasty food and science camaraderie. Students and faculty mingled over lawn games, chatting about various scientific interests. Seniors swapped stories about their Senior Individualized Projects (SIPs) and discussed their plans for after graduation. Freshmen and sophomores were provided the opportunity to ask upperclassmen questions about SIPs and applying to postgrad programs. Upperclassmen readily shared advice they wish they had gotten before embarking on their own SIPs and application processes. DOW BBQ provided a comfortable and casual setting for students to socialize with classmates in other departments and years, along with faculty. The event was successful, connecting students to like-minded individuals with a passion for the sciences.

Sudoku Challenge (Solution to May 2013 Puzzle)

Congratulations to Tim Evans for solving our last Sudoku puzzle. Tim will receive a \$5 gift certificate to [Black Owl Café](#). Below is the solution. A brand new Sudoku Challenge awaits you below...

Difficulty: **HARD**

Digits in **black** were given.
Digits in **red** were blank.

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

Sudoku Challenge

Solve the puzzle, win a prize!

Here's how to win a prize:

- 1) Solve this Sudoku puzzle on your own.
(please, **do not use** an online Sudoku solver)
- 2) Email the solved puzzle to ACSkzoo@gmail.com
- 3) Submission deadline is **July 28, 2013**.
- 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 most recent newsletter).
- 5) Winners and solution will be announced in the next newsletter.

Have fun!

First Name:

Last Name:

Email address:

Difficulty: **EVIL**

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

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