KALCHEMIST NEWS

Chair:

Dr. Kent S. Alleman Pfizer 0200-259-175 Kalamazoo, MI 49001-0199 Tele: 269-833-5396 kent.s.alleman@pfizer.com

Chair-Elect:

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

Secretary:

Dr. Joan Esson Kalamazoo College Kalamazoo, MI j.esson@kzoo.edu

Treasurer:

Mr. Shawn P. Hawk
Pfizer
1323 Trails End
Kalamazoo, MI 49001
Tele: 269-833-8924
shawn.p.hawk@pfizer.com

Councilors:

Dr. Dean W. Cooke (2007) 3711 Edinburgh Drive Kalamazoo, MI 49006 Tele: 269-375-2357 dean.cooke@wmich.edu

Dr. Lydia E. M. Hines (2005) 5596 Parkview Avenue Kalamazoo, MI 49009-9487 Tele: 269-375-7349 lemh@medscape.com

Past-Chair:

Mr. Patrick A. Irish
Pfizer 0200-259-277
Kalamazoo, MI 49001-0199
Tele: 269-833-6818
patrick.a.irish@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

KACS WEBSITE:

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

January-February, 2005



Message from the Chair Kent S. Alleman

Welcome to 2005! The Kalamazoo local section has many great events planned for this year, including some new public outreach activities. As always, we will be looking to our membership for volunteers. One of the first volunteer opportunities will be Chemistry Merit Badge Day for the Boy Scouts on Saturday, March 12th (see Page 2 for further details).

We are also accepting nominations for Outstanding Local Section Members. Please contact Sheryl Loux (sjloux@medscape.com) with your nominations. Along the same lines, congratulations are in order for Jackson Hester for 50 years of membership in the ACS. If you know Jackson, please congratulate him on this amazing achievement. One of our Councilors, Lydia Hines, has recently received two service awards, one for 5+ years serving as National Chemistry Week Coordinator and another from the national organization, for service on the Committee on Committees. Congratulations Lydia!

Mark your calendars for our first ACS Tour Speaker. Wednesday, April 20 at 7:00 on the campus of Kalamazoo College (exact location TBD) Dr. J. Ernest Simpson will be giving a presentation on "The Chemistry of Wine." The talk will include an overview of wine and wine making and more detailed descriptions of the chemical composition of grapes and wine. Laboratory methods for analysis of grapes and wines, sensory and organoleptic methods used for wine, the role of tannin and other phenolic compounds in wine, and some potential health aspects of wine will also be covered. In other tour speaker news, our past-chair Patrick Irish has been accepted into the ACS tour speaker service and will be speaking on the topic of, "Why do Drugs Cost so Much?"

Kent

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Call for Volunteers: Chemistry Merit Badge Day for Boy Scouts Saturday, March 12, 2005 Western Michigan University

The Kalamazoo Section of the American Chemical Society (KACS) is sponsoring the 6th Chemistry Merit Badge Day for Boy Scouts in the Southwest Michigan Council. This area covers the six southwestern counties of the state and includes the cities of Kalamazoo, Battle Creek, St. Joseph/Benton Harbor, Three Rivers, Sturgis, and Marshall.

The program - held in collaboration with the chemistry department and faculty at Western Michigan University - will allow over 200 Scouts from 20 troops to finish all of the requirements for the chemistry merit badge in a single day. The Scouts will complete their merit badge training by attending lectures, conducting experiments in college-level facilities, and visiting research laboratories at WMU. KACS is providing the resources for the program and there is no cost to participating Scouts.

If you would like to volunteer for this event, please contact Shawn Hawk at 269-833-8924 or e-mail shawn.p.hawk@pfizer.com.

Workshop Opportunity for Grades 4-6 Teachers

Voyage from the Sun

An interactive science module about the origins, pathways, and uses of solar energy.

An entertaining and educational two-day workshop taught by professionals from the Bronx Zoo, this twenty-lesson science module motivates students to experience science in a whole new way. Using interactive and interdisciplinary modules *Voyage from the Sun* teaches students about the origins, pathways, and uses of solar energy. Attending teachers will also receive a full set of materials for their classroom, including:

- An Energy for Survival Poster
- The Energy Pyramid
- 53 Plant and Animal Cards
- The Voyage from the Sun Comic Book
- Student Activity Guides
- » Race for the Rain Forest Game Materials
- Teachers' Guide

For more information on *Voyage from the Sun* please see the brochure at http://bronxzoo.com/bz-education/teacherinformation/bz-curricula

To Register On Line: Go to the Kalamazoo RESA website: www.kresanet.org

The workshop is sponsored by the Kalamazoo RESA and the Pfizer Foundation.

Councilor's Report of the 228th ACS National Meeting Philadelphia, Pa August 22-26, 2004.

This is the second part of the report from our councilor Dean Cooke from the ACS National Meeting in Philadelphia. The first part of the report was published in the November-December issue of the newsletter.

Approval of Petitions

- The Council voted to accept three amendments to the ACS Constitution and/or Bylaws
- The Petition for Electronic Balloting proposed changes to the Society's Constitution and Bylaws allowing for the option of electronic balloting. The first Society implementation will be internet-based, similar to those currently used by several divisions, sister societies, and other organizations, such as public corporations polling their shareholders prior to annual meetings. This petition must be approved by the ACS membership before it can be implemented.
- The Petition to Change Division Annual Report Deadlines to February 15 makes the annual report deadline consistent with that of Local Sections. This allows the Council Committee on Divisional Activities more time to evaluate Division Annual Reports for making selections for the ChemLuminary Awards program.
- The Petition for Membership Requirements for Teachers allows experienced qualified chemistry teachers, who may not otherwise fully meet the requirements, to become members based on their status and experience. The petition also allows a pre-college chemistry or allied science teacher to become an associate member.

Special Discussion Item

• A special discussion item was put on the Council agenda for this meeting. ACS President Charles Casey and Board Chair James Burke lead the Council in a discussion on the multidisciplinarity/dispersion of chemistry as a discipline and its impact on ACS members and the profession. Questions were raised about the way the federal government identifies jobs held by chemists as one of many indicators of how multidisciplinarity has come to affect the status of chemists. The Board of Directors and the ACS President have established a joint Board-Council task force to assess the challenges and opportunities that multidisciplinarity presents to the ACS and chemical scientists in general. The discussion at Council revealed an interest in this topic, particularly as it applies to the future of the discipline.

Local Section Actions

• On the recommendation of the Local Section Activities Committee, the Council approved a name change for the Peoria Local Section to the Illinois Heartland Local Section. The Council also approved the inclusion of four additional counties to the Wichita Falls – Duncan Local Section.

Approval of the ACS Professional Employment Guidelines

On the recommendation of the Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs, the Council voted to
approve the seventh edition of the ACS Professional Employment Guidelines. These guidelines offer a
variety of recommended practices in employment for professional scientists and their employers in today's
workplace.



2005 KACS Calendar

Contact the person in parentheses to answer questions or to volunteer

February 3 KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm

March 3 KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm

March 12 Chemistry Merit Badge Day for Boy Scouts

Western Michigan University

(Shawn Hawk, 269-833-8924, shawn.p.hawk@pfizer.com)

April 7 KACS Executive Committee Meeting, Pfizer B126 CR, 5:00pm

April 20 Spring Tour Speaker

"The Chemistry of Wine" by Dr. J. Ernest Simpson Kalamazoo College (exact location TBD), 7:00pm

(Kent Alleman, 269-833-5396, kent.s.alleman@pfizer.com)

KACS Website Address: http://www.wmich.edu/acs/

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

Please contact Karina Kwok at karina.kwok@pfizer.com if you prefer to receive your newsletter by email.