

Newsletter for the Kalamazoo Local Section of the American Chemical Society



January 15th, 2020

Volume 10 – Issue 1

2020 KACS Executive Officers

Chairperson

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Dr. Edward Thomas

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Treasurer

Dr. William Schinzer

Councilor

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Dr. Doug Williams, Kalsec, Inc.

dwilliams@kalsec.com

Issue Highlights...

Page 2: One Well Brewing helps KACS Celebrate IYPT

Page 2: Do you have what it takes to be a Project SEED mentor?

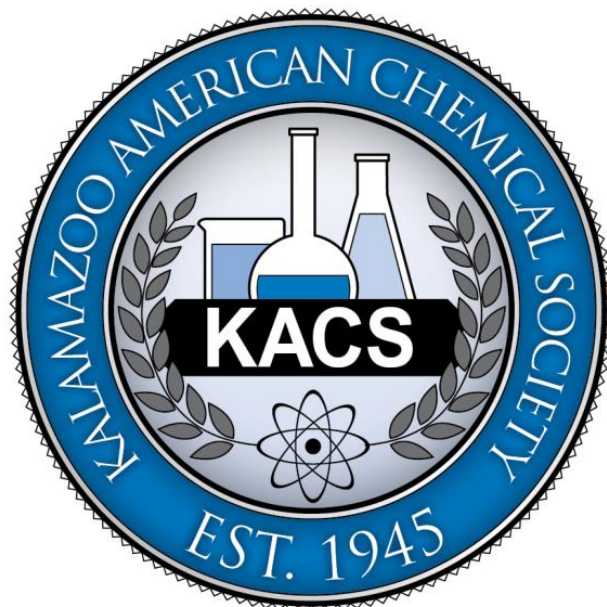
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One Well Brewing helps KACS Celebrate IYPT

About 30 members, family and friends joined us at One Well Brewing (4213 Portage St, Kalamazoo) on Monday, Oct 21 to celebrate IYPT and donate a portion of patron sales to our Project SEED fund. Participants took periodic table trivia quizzes and received commemorative pint glasses and wallet size periodic tables. A hearty thank you the team at One Well for hosting us and making our event successful. Check our [IYPT website](#) for more upcoming events.



Do you have what it takes to be a Project SEED mentor?

Are you a scientist who would like to inspire a high school student to pursue studies and a career in chemistry or a related discipline? Do you work in a facility that conducts scientific study and could offer such a student an 8 week research experience in Summer 2020? If you answered yes to these questions, then Project SEED can connect you with a promising high school student who has one or more years of chemistry and comes from a family with financial need. Stipends for the students are paid by funds from ACS and from our local section. This year, our local section is committed to funding for at least two students. Additional students will be accepted if adequate funding and projects are identified. If you are interested, please send a note to Doug Williams at dwilliams@kalsec.com for more information.

Speed Networking

In late September of this year (2019), we continued the collaborative effort between the KACS, and the Department of Chemistry and the Center for Career and Professional Development at Kalamazoo College, by offering our third annual networking program to our area college students interested in the field of chemistry. This “Speed-networking event” has received the ACS P3 Award on two occasions from the Great Lakes Region and has become one of the highlights of our section’s programming each year since its inception in 2017. The 32 students who chose to participate came from the chemistry departments of Kalamazoo College, Western Michigan University and Kalamazoo Valley Community College; they had the opportunity to engage in planned activities to increase their understanding of work in the field as well as to make connections with industry professionals who were willing to spend an evening sharing advice and expertise with them. Area industries like Pfizer, Zoetis, Forensic Fluids and Kalsec once again supplied a majority of the 21 mentors. We extend our thanks to Kalamazoo College for their enthusiasm in hosting this well-received opportunity to the Kalamazoo-area college community.



Asking ACS members to inform National about their preferred address for reading ACS mail

PLEASE remember to inform ACS of **your most up-to-date contact information (telephone number, mailing address and most-likely-to-open e-address)** so that important information, such as election ballots, will reach you; in this way you may vote and have your voice heard! Send the appropriate address to service@acs.org or call **800-333-9511**.

2019 Sci-Mix / Recycle-a-Poster Session at Bell's Eccentric Cafe

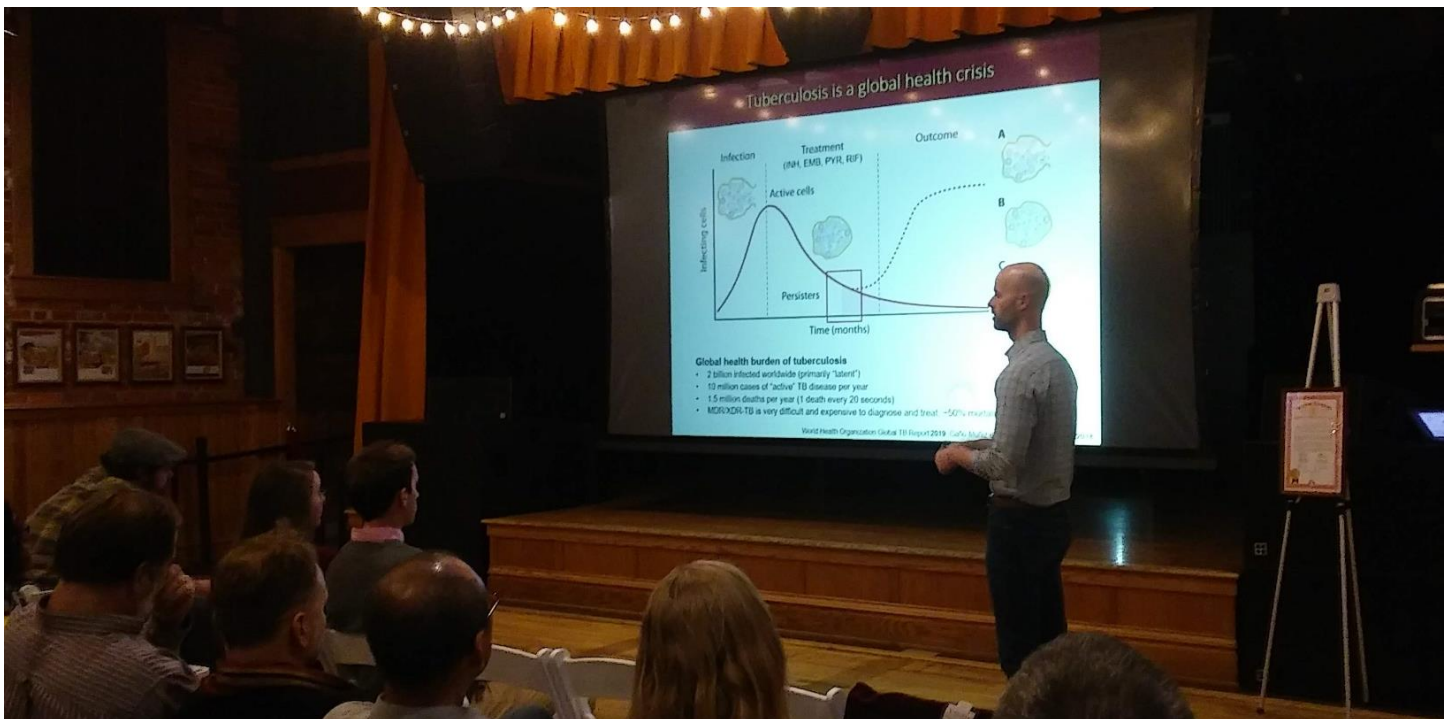
On November 12th the Kalamazoo Section of the American Chemical Society (KACS) had another successful Recycle-A-Poster event sponsored by Zoetis at the Back room of Bell's Eccentric Café in downtown Kalamazoo. Despite the unusually snowy weather on that day this highly-anticipated award-winning event, which occurs every fall and provides an opportunity for local chemists to talk science in a relaxed atmosphere over drinks and hors d'oeuvres, attracted about 70 participants. The evening started with a surprise presentation of a Tribute to the KACS by Senator Sean McCann in recognition of the International Year of the Periodic Table. That was followed by our keynote speaker, Dr. Benjamin Swarts of Central Michigan University, who gave an incredible talk on his career and his use of chemical biology to explore novel approaches to diagnose and treat tuberculosis. The program concluded with the opportunity to review the 26 "recycled" posters displayed by undergraduate students, graduate students as well as local industrial chemists; of those posters submitted by a publicized deadline three were randomly-selected as winners and each presenter received a \$50 Visa gift card: Audrey Searing (WMU, NSF REU research at MSU), Christopher Vennard (Kalamazoo College, Chemistry), and Halle Nienhaus (WMU, Biological Sciences). KACS is greatly indebted to Zoetis, our long-term sponsor for this annual event, and would also like to offer our sincere thanks to our speaker, Dr. Swarts, and the event coordinators, Drs. Tomasz Respondek (Zoetis) and Kelly Teske (WMU), for their diligent efforts in providing us with an amazing night!



Senator Sean McCann reading a special tribute for IYPT at Bell's



Special Tribute Certificate to the Kalamazoo American Chemical Society, in recognition of celebrating IYPT



Ben Swartz, CMU speaker at the Bell's event

Questions? Comments? or would like to contribute to this newsletter?



Send an email to Mike Weslosky, Communication Chair at communications@kalamazooacs.org

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Newsletter for the Kalamazoo Local Section of the American Chemical Society



March 25th, 2020

Volume 10 – Issue 2

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Issue Highlights...

*Page 2: Welcome new KACS Chair
Elect: Edward W. Thomas, Ph.D.*

*Page 3: Science Fun Outreach: WMU
Chem Club and Milwood Elementary*

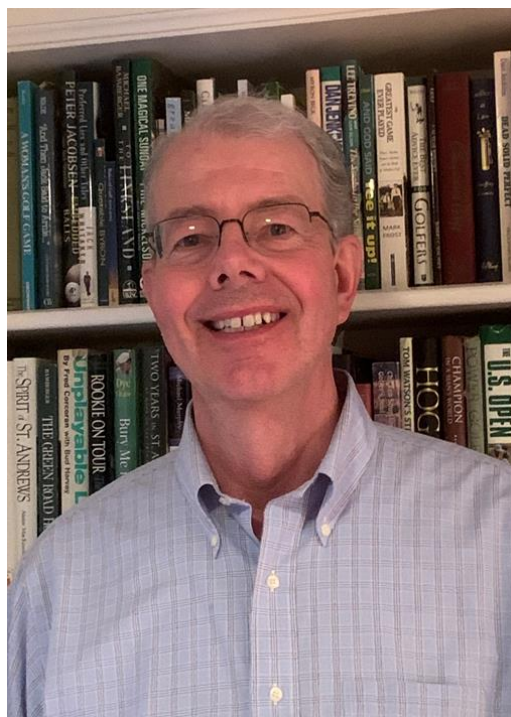
*Page 4: Beer-Food Pairings: A Tasty
Way to Support Project SEED*

*Page 6: Updated 2020 KACS Calendar
Coronavirus Updates*

Welcome KACS Chair Elect Edward W. Thomas, Ph.D.

Please welcome new Chair Elect for the KACS, Edward W. Thomas, Ph.D. He would like to share the following greetings with the Kalamazoo American Chemical Society members:

I am pleased to serve as the 2020 Chair-Elect and 2021 Chair of the Kalamazoo Section of the American Chemical Society. I have over 35 years of pharmaceutical research and development experience and have been a member of ACS for 47 years. With all the benefits I have received from the ACS, I decided it was time to give back. In the past I have given demonstrations at Chemistry Day and visited local elementary schools to share with them the excitement of science and chemistry. Last year I was super-charged by our local section receiving the prestigious ACS National Historic Chemistry Landmark Award. I especially enjoyed the chemistry symposium on the day of the award, May 17, 2019, and the social event and dinner the previous evening. I wish to continue with the local committee to implement interesting scientific member meetings.



Membership enjoyment and participation, scientific meetings and education are my foci for this year. I hope you share with me, or other executive committee members, your interests and needs. Please feel free to contact me at edwardwthomas@gmail.com or 269-365-7507.

I look forward to helping the Kalamazoo ACS section achieve Hershel Jude's and our local section's goals through successful activities and increased membership participation.

Edward W. Thomas, Ph.D.
Chair Elect

Science Fun Outreach to Kalamazoo's Milwood Elementary

Written By: Andrew Simpkins

A group of Western Michigan Chemistry Club members went to Milwood Elementary schools to present five different experiments to 4th graders on Friday, February 7th, 2020. Those experiments included two dealing with pressure, one dealing with polarities, one dealing with making slime, and last being elephant toothpaste. The two dealing with pressure was putting something hot into something that was cold either crushing a pop can or pulling up cold water through an upside down erlenmeyer flask. Some things to make sure you do to ensure safety for those experiment's and the success of it would be to wear goggles, making sure there is water in the pop can or flask, using a hot plate so others around the experimenter are safe, have cold water or ice, have protective clothing, wear gloves, and an oven mit of some sort so you don't burn your hand on the transfer. The polarity experiment dealt with acetone and a styrofoam cup, which showed the kids that "like dissolves like". Some things to make sure of one's safety is to wear goggles, gloves, and have a big beaker so the risk of the acetone splashing on the experimenter and/or the observers, when it's being poured on the cup, is lessened. We also tried to make connections to everyday things they may have used before like nail polish remover for example.

Beer-Food Pairings: A Tasty Way to Support Project SEED



On March 10, we were treated to a presentation of specially-paired foods and beers of Latitude 42 Brewing Company at their Oshtemo location on West Main St. Twenty local members and guests registered to attend and hear Mike Babb's description of the beer styles and flavor attributes that made them suitable for each selected food item. Doug Williams gave a short description of Project SEED, the ACS summer research program for disadvantaged high school students. And, we continued to give out special pint glasses and wallet cards to commemorate 2019 as the International Year of the Periodic Table (IYPT). This was our third IYPT celebration event since last year, all sponsored by an ACS Innovative Program Grant. If you missed them, keep an eye out for us at future activities. We still have more glasses and cards to give away. You can also make donations directly to our local Project SEED fund at our PayPal donation page. See <https://kalamazooacs.org/grants/#project-seed> for more information. Donations of any amount are greatly appreciated. (Photos courtesy of Linda Babb)





Kalamazoo Section of the American Chemical Society (KACS) - Calendar for Spring and Summer

Due to the COVID-19 world-wide pandemic, many activities across the state of Michigan have been modified, postponed or cancelled. Our section's Executive Committee met on March 17, by video conference call, and the following schedule modifications were decided at that time:

- Participation in the April Earth Day-related KACS activities usually staffed by members and students in our college-affiliated chemistry clubs have been canceled.
- The spring Awards gathering for recipients of ACS multi-year membership certificates, recipients of awards recognizing outstanding achievement in chemistry in their college and high school education etc. has been canceled; the awardees will receive their awards by mail and will be recognized through publicity in our KACS newsletter.
- KACS participation by way of offering a water-stop during the Borgess Marathon currently scheduled for May 3rd is under consideration. The marathon organizers have yet to decide on whether or not the 2020 run will take place (NEWS FLASH: the Marathon has been canceled <https://thekalamazoomarathon.com/>)

The Executive Committee will continue to meet monthly via a video conference until such time as it is deemed safe to resume normal activities.

Questions? Comments? or would like to contribute to this newsletter?



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Newsletter for the Kalamazoo Local Section of the American Chemical Society



May 20th, 2020

Volume 10 – Issue 3

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Issue Highlights...

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Page 3: Request for GLR Webmaster

Page 4: Call for volunteers

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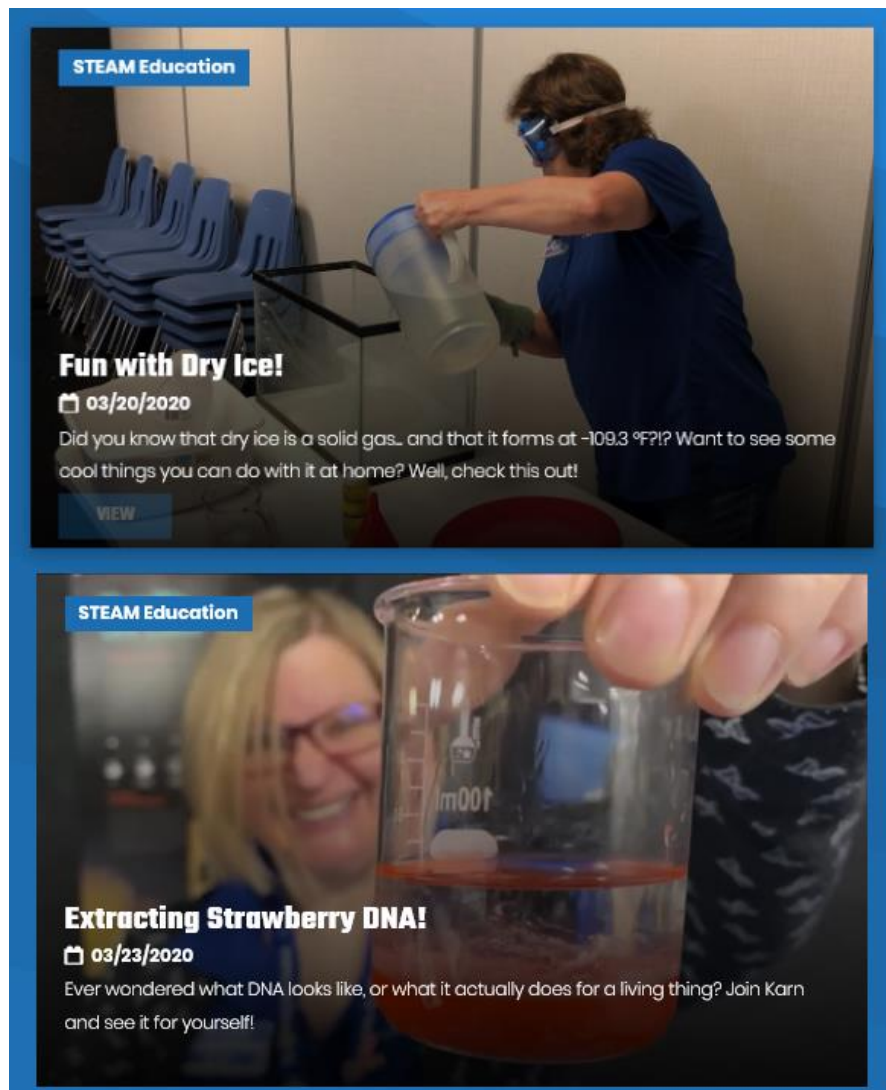
Welcome to Launchpad to Learning!

Online Activities to keep you and your kids entertained (and learning)

The Kalamazoo AirZOO will also feature games, activities and documentary clips from some of our cool partner organizations, like NASA! Check back daily to see what new and exciting educational resources for kids and families we have added. You can also join the conversation on social media, which is linked at the bottom of the linked page.

Click the Link Below!

[Launchpad to Learning](#)



Great Lakes Region Web-Master Position Available

Dear KACS Members:

Currently, the Great Lakes Region (GLR) has a forum on the ACS Network, acs.org/GLR. GLR cannot exist forever with only this limited forum, as we'll need to link and archive Great Lakes Regional Meeting (GLRM) program information and other historical information. We're not so much concerned with past GLRM, but we will post the final programs, etc.

So, the question we request that you consider is the following: is anyone willing to be GLR webmaster?

The GLR webmaster will not need to design the GLR website, just maintain it. GLR is prepared to pay a vendor for design services and the GLR website committee will send a request for proposal (RFP) after a webmaster is on board; GLR cannot have a "free" site with random ads scrolling. It's a good idea to have a webmaster in place during the design, to make sure the webmaster is comfortable. **Ideally, the webmaster should plan to do this for several years.**



Do not hesitate to contact me with your interest, and Joe Sabol (jsabol@chem-consult.com), chair of the GLR website development committee with any questions.

Thank you,
Lydia E. M. Hines
KACS Councilor
Great Lakes Region Board Chairman
21 April 2020

Call for volunteers

ACS Members, my interests this year involve coordinating activities to bring us together and to understand your needs from the local and national ACS organization. Unfortunately, we have not been able to enjoy such activities in person, such as the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. However, activities such as seminars or information sharing could be available via video. Is there interest out there?

Call for Volunteers

This time of year, many chemists share their talents with science demonstrations at their local or children's schools. Would people be interested in making a video that could be shared with your school? Other ideas? Do you know a teacher to ask about interest in such a program?

As always, any undertaking of our local section requires volunteers. Your Executive Committee has identified three areas of interest that require expertise that you may have and be willing to contribute this year.

1. The **Education Committee** is looking for those interested in supporting our yearly chemistry test that ultimately provides the higher scoring students with a monetary award. Also, this committee seeks to partner with science teachers in Allegan, Van Buren, and Kalamazoo counties.
2. The **Kalamazoo Local ACS Website** is undergoing renovation to a more user-friendly version. We are in need of volunteers to maintain and regularly update the site with useful information.
3. A **Regular Monthly Newsletter** facilitates communication among members. Our editor is looking for volunteers to contribute articles and photos of interest on our activities and areas of interest to our section.

I hope some of these thoughts and activities pique your interests to volunteer. Please contact any Local ACS Committee member for more information.

Thanks,
Edward Thomas

Please visit this link during COVID-19 for useful information

"ACS Matters" which has a lot information regarding ACS' resources made available to assist ACS members, educators, other science professionals as well as legislators during this time of crisis; resources are being made available broadly and free of charge

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/covid-19.html>



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Newsletter for the Kalamazoo Local Section of the American Chemical Society



June 30th, 2020

Volume 10 – Issue 4

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American Chemical Society will meet completely virtually

The American Chemical Society (ACS) announced that it will hold the **ACS Fall 2020 National Meeting & Expo completely virtually**. The meeting will now be held Aug. 17-20, 2020, on the World Wide Web.

Originally scheduled to be held in San Francisco, the physical footprint of the meeting was terminated based on established COVID-19 reopening plans of the State of California and the City of San Francisco, as well as direct inputs from San Francisco city and public health officials. The decision, approved by the ACS Board of Directors, is in keeping with the Society's core value of safety by ensuring the safety of its members, staff and the citizens of San Francisco.

Details and other information regarding the Fall National Meeting may be accessed at www.acs.org/meetings where there is an FAQ page, information regarding the Exposition, the technical sessions, registration, etc. as well as a way to receive regular updates regarding the meeting as its start approaches.

The American Chemical Society (ACS) is a nonprofit organization chartered by the U.S. Congress. ACS' mission is to advance the broader chemistry enterprise and its practitioners for the benefit of Earth and its people. The Society is a global leader in providing access to chemistry-related information and research through its multiple research solutions, peer-reviewed journals, scientific conferences, eBooks and weekly news periodical *Chemical & Engineering News*.

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The *Councilor's report* from the terminated **Spring 2020 ACS Council meeting** is on our KACS website; the Council Policy Committee - of which our Councilor, Lydia E. M. Hines, is a member – met virtually and took action on routine issues. Highlights are that the **annual membership dues for 2021** are remaining the **same as for 2020 (\$175)**, and that our two president-elect candidates are **Dr. Mary K. Carroll** (Union College, Schenectady, NY) and **Dr. Angela K. Wilson** (Michigan State University, East Lansing MI); please ascertain that the ACS has your **preferred current e-mail address** so that you may receive your ballot for the fall election.

2020 Kalamazoo ACS Awardees

Though our 2020 Annual Competitive Examination for High School Students was canceled and our in-person annual Awards Gathering was not held due to our current pandemic circumstance limitations, the KACS delivered award certificates to three long-term members of our Society; we also sent award certificates and other tokens of commendation, or cheques, to one High School chemistry teacher and to high school chemistry students and college graduates whose teachers selected them as outstanding.

60-year member: Dr. Verlan VanRheenen

50-year members: Dr. Richard C. Thomas
Mr. David H. Yates

Teacher: Mr. Robert Dick, Decatur HS

Kalamazoo College: Sara Nixon & Chris Vennard

Western Michigan University: Megan Callaghan

Outstanding HS Chemistry Students:

Ethan Makowski – Decatur HS – Mr. Dick

Kara Wesley – Gull Lake HS – Mr. SantaMaria

Katherine Harpenau – Hackett Catholic Prep – Ms. Johnston

Bo Janicki – Hartford HS – Ms. Wright

Connor Stutz – KAMSC – Dr. Tanoff

Charity Sidwell – Kalamazoo Central HS – Dr. Bonner

Sarah Wenke – Kalamazoo Christian HS – Mr. Nieboer

Brian Barbarini – Mattawan HS – Ms. Reeves

Rachel Furge – Plainwell HS – Ms. Schwartz

Zachary Zlomek – Portage Central HS – Mr. Taylor

Justin Hamlin – Portage Northern – Ms. Mason

Cassidy Martens – Wayland HS – Ms. Gabrielse

Resources for teaching your Chemistry Class Online

ACS has compiled hands-on virtual learning resources for students in grades K-12+, and for anyone interested in learning a little more about the practical applications of chemistry in everyday life at www.acs.org/chemistryathome. Educational resources are now available, organized by topic, to aid parents, teachers and the science-curious in knowledge enrichment during this time of distance learning.

Materials from the [Reactions video series](#), [C&EN](#), magazines from the ACS Education Division, and ACS' portfolio of hands-on activities for students in grades K-12 and beyond have been organized and bundled together. These resources focus on five sections: [The Earth](#), [Water](#), [Food](#), [Health & Your Body](#), and [The Periodic Table](#).

Explore how chemistry is at the heart of staying healthy with the [Health & Your Body](#) section. We encourage you to share your pictures doing [fun ACS Chemistry at Home projects and lessons](#), and tag them [#ACSCHEMATHOME](#).



[Introducing Chemistry at Home, A New Distance Learning Resource](#)

Free-to-Read Virtual Issue on Teaching Chemistry Online

To support the dedicated educators who are working so hard and diligently to keep their students' chemistry education moving forward despite the pandemic, ACS Publications and the ACS Division of Chemical Education have compiled a [collection of distance-teaching resources](#), including free-to-read articles from the *Journal of Chemical Education*.

Over the past several years, articles about learning chemistry at a distance and teaching chemistry online have appeared occasionally in the *Journal of Chemical Education*. This [Virtual Issue](#) includes many of these articles, along with a few additional resources, to provide guidance to chemistry instructors who are now finding themselves learning a new, less-than-ideal instructional format on the job, with new challenges arising on a regular basis.

Project SEED News

Project SEED Goes Virtual for Summer 2020

Doug Williams – KACS Project SEED Coordinator



ACS Project SEED provides summer research experiences for economically disadvantaged high school students to experience what it's like to be a chemist. Many of you have contributed time and money to support this program, which has operated nationally since 1968 and locally since 1993. Thank you!

Normally, at this time of year we would be matching our student interns with their project mentors. This summer we had projects ready and waiting at Kalamazoo College and Kalsec. Unfortunately, the coronavirus pandemic has required ACS to cancel all mentor-student internships. In its place, the ACS Project SEED staff and committee members have rallied to prepare Virtual Summer Camp 2020. This four-week program will take in place in July and organize students in online groups of 6-10 for instruction and exercises in basic lab safety, topics in chemistry research, presentation of scientific concepts and college/career readiness (resume writing, professional etiquette, ...). Students will be expected to devote 10-15 h per week for structured activities. The deadline for student applications passed on May 15 and selections will be announced in early June. There was at least one confirmed student application from our local section. Watch for more news later this summer about the successes and learnings from this creative and exciting offering. More details are available at: <https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/students/highschool/seed/virtual-summer-camp.html>

If you feel so inclined, you can donate to our KACS Project SEED Fund by [PayPal](#). All amounts are greatly appreciated and are reserved exclusively for student stipends. Contributions are eligible for tax-deduction.

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Newsletter for the Kalamazoo Local Section of the American Chemical Society



September 30th, 2020

Volume 10 – Issue 5

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Issue Highlights...

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Page 4: Election News for the 2021 ACS President-Elect

Page 5: Update on KACS collaboration with Kalamazoo Valley Museum for National Chemistry Week Virtual Event

Page 6: Recycle-a-Poster canceled

Chemical Society announces winner of 2020 Helen M. Free Award for Public Outreach

WASHINGTON, Sept. 17, 2020 — The American Chemical Society (ACS) today announced **Lydia E. M. Hines**, Ph.D., as the recipient of the 2020 [Helen M. Free Award for Public Outreach](#). This award is presented annually by the ACS Committee on Public Relations and Communications (CPRC) to an ACS member whose outstanding achievements have improved public recognition and appreciation for the field of chemistry.



“Sharing chemistry, both formally and informally, to audiences from the very young to the young-at-heart has been part of my life for so long that it is both humbling and affirming to be the recipient of this award,” says Hines. “This honor holds special significance for me, as I have had the privilege of collaborating with Helen Free over the years and have long admired her passion for outreach.”

Read the whole press release here:

<https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/pressroom/newsreleases/2020/september/american-chemical-society-announces-winner-of-2020-helen-m-free-award-for-public-outreach.html>

Please join us, your Local Kalamazoo ACS Section, in recognizing Lydia on her contributions to public outreach. A Zoom celebration will be held on Tuesday, October 20, at 7:00 pm. All those interested in attending contact Ed Thomas at edwardwthomas@gmail.com and you will then receive a Zoom invitation for the meeting.

Comments from Chair-Elect, Ed Thomas

Last month, I attended the Fall 2020 virtual ACS Meeting, which was to be held in San Francisco. I hadn't been to a national meeting in many years, so I didn't know what to expect. It was wonderful! For a retired ACS member, the registration fee was \$125. No travel costs, hotels or flights. All from my own home!

Leland Jourdan the Chief Diversity Officer at Chevron Corporation presented a lecture on the "Case for Diversity and Inclusion." He made a compelling case for defining diversity as more than visual to include cognitive, values, occupational, societal and relationships. These measures of diversity - blended together on teams, companies and organizations - make for a more successful enterprise.

Ben Feringa, a Nobel Laureate, presented the Kavli Lecture on the "Art of Building Small," involving nanotechnology and mechanical machines. This fascinating work combined chemistry and engineering on the nanoscale to produce machines that move in a regular fashion. It was fascinating. On a less esoteric level, but still scientifically rigorous, I viewed talks on measuring pesticides in beer and the effects of smoke on wine.

Although I missed the energy of a national meeting in person, I was impressed with the quality of the presentations, the lengths to which ACS went to produce this four-day event, and the ease with which I was able to participate.

Election News for the 2021 ACS President-Elect

The **election for the 2021 ACS president-elect** will be taking place by e-mail or regular mail from **September 28 through October 23**. The Committee on Nominations and Elections has approved a Meet and Greet Session for each candidate for ACS President-Elect 2021. Join the candidates for separate informal virtual sessions where each will share her concerns, insights and visions for the ACS. There will be an opportunity to ask questions following their remarks. Candidate statements, bios and links to their websites are available at www.acs.org/elections.

- **Mary K. Carroll**

October 7 at 3 p.m. ET

<https://american-chemical-society.zoom.com/j/8548122276>

or call 833-548-0276 US Toll-free, Meeting ID 854 812 2276.

- **Angela K. Wilson**

October 7 at 4 p.m. ET

<https://american-chemical-society.zoom.com/j/6042106552>

or call 833-548-0276 US Toll-free, Meeting ID: 604 210 6552.

[Participants will be placed on mute upon arrival. Questions may be asked through the chat box. For more information, send an e-mail to nomelect@acs.org.]

Ballots will be sent to addresses of record at ACS, so **please ascertain that your preferred e-address and/or mailing address is available to them** (to update your information contact service@acs.org).

KACS-NCW collaboration with Kalamazoo Valley Museum, and Community Event Updates

>>> Though our annual and very popular

KACS hands-on National Chemistry

Week (NCW) event at the Kalamazoo

Valley Museum (KVM) will NOT happen

in person, our amazing KVM contact,

Mrs. Annette Hoppenworth, has been hard at work with a few of our volunteers preparing for a fun hands-on program which will be presented through the KVM **virtually** on October 17.



- Here is the link to the Facebook event page to share (feel free to post the program as your banner on your Facebook page as well): <https://www.facebook.com/events/748685879021167>
- The registration page on the KVM website: <https://oltp.kvm.kvcc.edu/performance.aspx?pid=14152>

>>> Annually the ACS Committee on Community Activities encourages each local section to participate in a "Community Event" which corresponds to the chosen theme of that year's NCW; this year the NCW theme is "Sticking with Chemistry" (Adhesives) so the Community event chosen was "Sticking with a Cause" and during NCW, the week of October 18-24, members, students, children, are encouraged to **choose a "first responder" (individual or group) to whom to communicate thanks for their continued service during the pandemic.** For the purpose of "statistics," our NCW Coordinator, Lydia E. M. Hines, would appreciate an e-mail (lemhwgh@gmail.com) letting her know that you did so and how.

Recycle-A-Poster canceled



Unfortunately, due to the ongoing Covid19 Pandemic the **2020 Bell's Recycle-a-Poster event** which many of us look forward to in early November every year has been canceled.

We hope to resume this event in 2021 and look forward to seeing members of the Kalamazoo chemical community at other in-person events in 2021!"

Questions? Comments? or would like to contribute to this newsletter?

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November 14, 2020

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Helen M. Free Award*

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KACS named ChemLuminary Award finalist



KACS has been named a **ChemLuminary Award finalist** by the Local Section Activities Committee (LSAC) for “**Outstanding Performance by a Local Section in our local section size category**” - which currently is Medium Small (we have ~320 members). Our current chair of the KACS received this exciting news during the week of October 19. The selection was made after review of our 2019 Annual Report* which we submitted in February of 2020 – congratulations are in order to each member who contributed to any of our many successful programs during 2019!

The ChemLuminary Awards program usually happens at the Fall ACS meeting and is filled with much anticipation and excitement as awards are announced and presented to groups and individuals identified as winners by each of 23 different ACS Committees. Since the 2020 Fall meeting was in an all-virtual format this celebratory event did not take place in August; an online celebration is scheduled for **Wednesday, December 9 at 4 pm Eastern time!** That is when winners for each award will be announced. We hope that many of our **KACS members** will be able to **register at the following link**, www.acs.org/content/acs/en/funding-and-awards/awards/community/chemluminary.html **log in as requested and “attend”** 😊

**2019 Activities*

Spring

- National **H**istoric Chemical **L**andmark (NHCL) dedication and ceremony – recognition of Steroid Research at The Upjohn Co. 1950s-90s
- Chemists Celebrate **E**arth **W**eek (CCEW)
- **A**wards **G**athering – recognition of HS students, active members, and multi-year ACS members

Summer

- **P**roject **S**EED (2 students)

Fall

- **S**peed-**N**etworking event
- National Chemistry **W**eek (NCW) – 33rd Chemistry Day at the Museum
- International Year of the **P**eriodic **T**able (IYPT) Celebration with Beer events
- **R**ecycle-**a**-**P**oster Event at Bell’s Back Room, with presentation of a **T**ribute from the state of **M**I in recognition of the IYPT

2019 Executive Committee

- Luke Chadwick, chair
- Hershel Jude, chair-elect
- Stephen Seceast, past-chair
- Bill Schinzer, treasurer
- Kelly Teske, secretary
- Doug Williams, alternate councilor
- Lydia Hines, councilor

Lydia E.M. Hines, Ph.D., Wins ACS' Helen M. Free Award *Local Section celebrates*

Helen Free was past President of the ACS in 1993 and participated in the establishment of [Kids & Chemistry](#), a program in which scientists do hands-on activities with elementary school students. As chair of the National Chemistry Week Task Force (1987-1992), she shepherded ACS' most successful public outreach program through its formative years. She helped originate and led the movement toward a worldwide International Chemistry Celebration in 1999, and continued with the United Nations' declaration of 2011 as the International Year of Chemistry.

The Helen M. Free Award for Public Outreach recognizes outstanding achievements in the field of public outreach by a member of the ACS who improves public recognition and appreciation for the contributions of chemistry. This award was established in 1995 by the American Chemical Society Committee on Public Relations and Communications (CPRC).

KACS Councilor and long-time public outreach leader Lydia Hines was scheduled to receive the 2020 Helen M. Free Award during the National Fall ACS Meeting in San Francisco. Unfortunately, with the Fall Meeting being moved to an online meeting, Lydia was unable to receive her award in person. With this, the Kalamazoo ACS Section decided to hold a recognition event on October 20 for Lydia. Below is the agenda. The event was attended on a video meeting by 32 ACS members, including friends and family.



Alternate Councilor Doug Williams opened the event with a greeting and welcome to Lydia and all in attendance. He then introduced the evening's speakers who praised Lydia and outlined her accomplishments that made her deserving of this award.

- “Lydia motivated me to reach out to children and instill the love of chemistry that she demonstrated at chemistry day and at schools she visited.”
- “Lydia’s car and house are packed with chemistry experiments that are always available for ACS members and teachers to use in their demonstrations and classrooms.”
- “Lydia is so reliable and when she says she will help; she is always there.”
- “Lydia has made us all better.”
- “She asks, cajoles, and then asks again.”

This patience, persistence and dedication has made a difference in our local section, our schools, the greater Kalamazoo area and on the national ACS stage. Representatives from the National ACS “put her in a class by herself.” Doug deftly managed the meeting so other friends and family could contribute their personal accolades.

Lydia was touched by all these kind words. She then delivered a brief overview of her early years and her love of chemistry that contributed to this award. Lydia was born in the US and then moved to Cyprus with her parents (she is of Greek heritage) to spend her early years on that island in the eastern Mediterranean. She graduated from Aurora College in Aurora, IL, and then received her Ph.D. in chemistry from the University of Illinois. After a stint with Mead Johnson, in 1975 she joined the Patent Liaison Department of the Upjohn Company.



In the Spring of 1987, Lydia organized a Chemistry Day at the local museum, which was then above the public library. Local chemists presented science / chemistry experiments for school children, many times wowing their parents as well. This began before the National ACS, under Helen Free, initiated National Chemistry Week. This work as well as Lydia's outreach to schools, her local and national ACS activities, and her mentoring of other chemists continues unabated. Lydia acknowledged her family, friends and the ACS Staff and members around the country who have supported her in her love of chemistry and her outreach programs for over 40 years. At this conclusion the virtual meeting exploded in applause.

Hershel Jude, the Local ACS Chair, thanked Lydia for her wonderful words and her patience with everyone who doesn't have as much energy as she has. Hershel also put in a plug for obtaining more volunteers for education committee activities that Lydia champions.

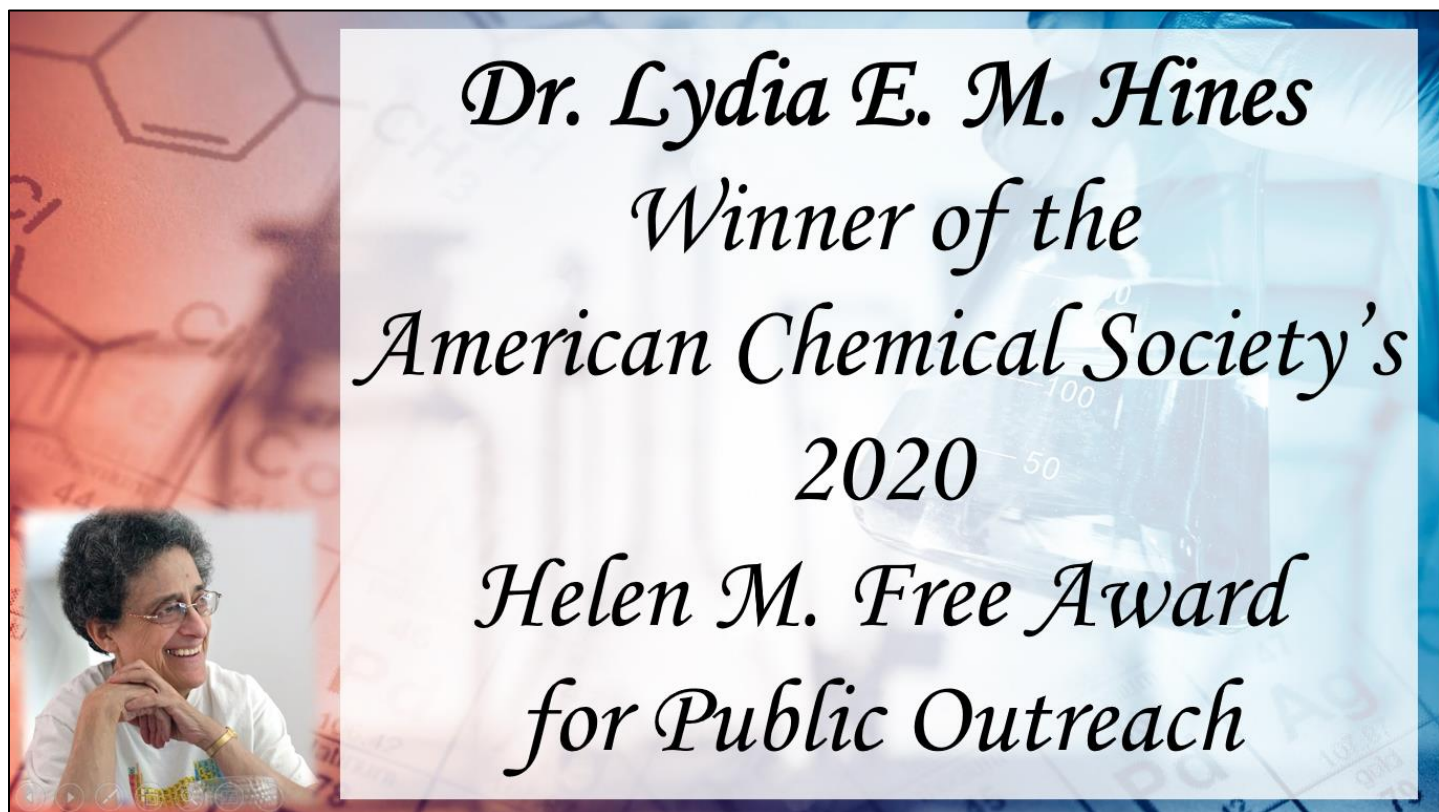


Note from Lydia

"I want to extend my sincere appreciation to Hershel, Ed, and Doug for their kind effort and successful execution of this large ZOOM recognition on October 20. It was delightful, yet somewhat embarrassing, to be the focus of so much attention, but the choice of speakers was absolutely spot-on, as they were representative of the span of years, as well as the variety of outreach, with which I have been involved. Impromptu comments from other colleagues who joined the celebration from different areas of the country were heart-warming as they represented ACS' presence and impact on the national level."

**Kalamazoo ACS Section Recognition Evening for Lydia E. M. Hines, Ph.D.,
The 2020 Helen M. Free Award Winner
October 20, 2020**

- 7:00 PM** Dr. Douglas Williams – Welcome and Opening Remarks
- 7:10 PM** *Words of Congratulations*
- Dr. Brian Eklov, Director of Chemistry, Kalexsyn
- Dr. Jed Fisher, Research Professor, Emeritus, University of Notre Dame
- Dr. James Kiddle, Professor, Department of Chemistry, St. Xavier University
- Mr. Paul Dobrowolski, Scientist, Cayman Chemical
- Mr. Carl Stachew, Process Engineer, Pfizer, Inc.
- Ms. Annette Hoppenworth, Program Coordinator, Kalamazoo Valley Museum
- Dr. Doug Williams, Research Fellow, Kalsec, Inc.
- 7:45 PM** Dr. Lydia Hines, Emeritus ACS Member
Keynote Address
- 8:15 PM** Dr. Hershel Jude, Lead Scientist 1, Kalsec, Inc.
Concluding Remarks



A Special Birthday Greeting



A special birthday greeting is in order for our 77-year ACS/KACS member, **Dr. Don Iffland** (retired from WMU – Chemistry), who will celebrate his 99th birthday on Thanksgiving Day this year! Dr. Iffland served as our Section chair in 1967 (our 25th anniversary as a section) and in 1968.

Questions? Comments?
Want to contribute to this newsletter?

Send an email to Mike Weslosky, Communication Chair at communications@kalamazooacs.org



Visit our website at www.kalamazooacs.org

or

