

# THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

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## Chair Column

*Michelle Cummings, Chair, Midland Section ACS*



### Why Should I Get Involved?!

Fall is right around the corner, and yes, it is that time again – time for elections for the Midland Section ACS. We continue to seek nominations for several key positions in the section. These include Councilor, Alternative Councilor, Director, Secretary, Treasurer, and Nominations and Elections Chair. In addition, we have several other committee chair positions that are available.

There are a lot of time constraints on what we do and when we do them. For me, I find it difficult to juggle all of the things that I have to do, and then add in some of the things that I also like to do. The activities that fall into both categories I would rank the highest in terms of satisfaction, and that's what the ACS does for me.

So yes, why get involved in the local section? Here are some reasons for you to think through. First, getting involved will help you to meet people in your field, when you choose an organization that fits within your field

and it is relevant to your career goals. Second, you may find a mentor to help you with your professional needs or you may be in a position to become a mentor to someone else. Third, that list of organizations on your resume or CV and the money you paid to join won't do you any good unless you actually make connections and gain skills and leadership potential through ACTIVE involvement. Fourth, it provides opportunities for you to volunteer for agencies or organizations in your field that will help you to develop the skills you'll need to get the job you want. Lastly, there is no quicker pick-me-up than becoming involved with something that you feel passionate about.

Bottom line, becoming involved in any organization is all about developing meaningful relationships from which you will learn and grow.

### **Call for Nominations for 2015 Officer and Director Candidates** ***Chelsea Quinn, Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee***

Here is your chance to become more involved in your local ACS section. We need candidates to run for the following positions for 2015:

- Chair-elect (1-year term)
- Secretary (1-year term)
- Treasurer (1-year term)
- Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee (1-year term)
- Councilor (3-year term)
- Alternate Councilor (3-year term)
- Directors (3 open positions, 3-year terms)

If you are interested in running for any of these positions, or if you know of someone who might be interested, please contact Chelsea Quinn at [chelsea.quinn@dowcorning.com](mailto:chelsea.quinn@dowcorning.com) or 989-496-1694. If you have any questions regarding the responsibilities of any of the positions, please contact the current officers or Chelsea Quinn, or you are welcome to visit the Midland Section ACS website at [www.midlandacs.org](http://www.midlandacs.org). Our local section handbook also provides further details at [ACSMidlandSectionHandbook](#).

Nominations from the floor will be accepted at the September 15, 2014 Board meeting, held at 5:30 PM in the Thompson Student Activity Room (TSAR) in the Doan Center on the campus of SVSU. Please be aware that any nominees will have to accept their nomination prior to the announcement from the floor.

If you are not keen on running for a board position, there are still many other great areas and committees for you to serve. Open committee positions are listed below.

Membership	Webmaster	Fall Scientific Meeting
Midland Chemist (Editor)	Chemistry Olympiad	Long Range Planning
Technical Society Interface	Publicity	Corporate Agent

There are a variety of compelling reasons to take advantage of the chance to become involved as an officer, director, or committee leader of the Midland Section ACS: networking beyond your work-place, an opportunity to provide vision and voice to your local scientific community, and a chance to hone your interpersonal and leadership skills. Please consider getting involved with the Midland Section ACS.

## Wine, Cheese and Chocolate Party with WCC – September 18

*Jaime Curtis-Fisk, Chair, Midland WCC*

**Thursday, September 18, at the Gourmet Cupcake Shoppe (1908 S. Saginaw Rd., Midland); 6:30–8:30 PM**

Come enjoy some wine, cheese, and chocolate with the ACS Midland Section's Women Chemists Committee (WCC). In collaboration with the GLAD Network of Dow, all friends and family members are invited to share an evening of networking with the newly formed WCC!



You are encouraged to bring your favorite wine, cheese or even chocolate and we will show you what to pair it with. Please contact [Sue Machelski](#) or [Venessa Williams](#) for more information.

The Women Chemists Committee serves the membership of the American Chemical Society. Our mission is to be leaders in attracting, developing, promoting, and advocating for women in the chemical sciences in order to positively impact society and the profession.

## ACS Fall Scientific Meeting – September 27

*Michael Vagnini, FSM Publicity Chair*



**Saturday, September 27, 2014, Delta College, 8:30 AM – 2:00 PM**

This year's Midland Section ACS Fall Scientific Meeting is celebrating the *Sweet Side of Chemistry*. The meeting will feature four seminars by prominent regional scientists working in the areas of the chemistry of ice cream, chocolate, and confectionery.

The featured keynote speaker is Prof. Richard W. Hartel (pictured left), Professor of Food Engineering, at the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He will be lecturing on the topic, *Candy Chemistry*.

Other featured guest speakers and their lecture topics include: Prof. Zeynep Ustunol, Dept. of Food Science and Human Nutrition, MSU, *Ice Cream: Ingredients, Chemistry, and Processing*; Jeffrey Sargent, Kellogg Company, Advanced Nutrition, *Chocolate: From Bean to Bar*; and Prof. Patrick F. Fields, Dept. of Natural and Physical Sciences, Olivet College, *An Introduction to Chocolate and Chocolate Tasting: A Different Side of Chemistry*.

The ACS Fall Scientific Meeting is held annually by the Midland Section to promote research in the chemical sciences and to foster a sense of community among local industrial scientists, academic chemists, and students and others affiliated with chemistry. All are welcome to attend and present, from high school students through senior industrial chemists. The afternoon poster session will feature themed treats from local businesses and awards for the top-rated posters. ACS membership is not required, and this event is

being held alongside the Dow Great Lakes Bay Regional Science and Engineering Festival, also at Delta College on September 27 this year, so the day can be a fun event for the whole family!

Registration is free and lunch will be provided for all pre-registered participants! To pre-register and/or to submit a poster abstract, visit [2014 Midland Section ACS Fall Scientific Meeting](http://2014.MidlandSection.ACS.FallScientificMeeting), and make sure do so no later than the deadline date of Sunday, September 21.

Please contact the meeting co-chairs, Megan Thomas ([mmthomas@dow.com](mailto:mmthomas@dow.com)) or Roja Ergun ([ergun@dow.com](mailto:ergun@dow.com)), for any questions or comments.



# ACS Fall Scientific Meeting

Saturday, September 27 • Delta College • 8:30am – 2pm

## “The Sweet Side of Chemistry”

**Keynote speaker**  
**Prof. Richard W. Hartel**  
“Candy Chemistry”  
Professor of Food Engineering  
University of Wisconsin – Madison



Prizes will be awarded to the top posters, with a 7” 8GB tablet for the first place winner!



Poster session will feature sweet treats from local businesses!

**And featuring presentations on the science of ice cream and chocolate from. . .**

<b>Prof. Zeynep Ustunol</b>	<b>Michigan State University</b>
<b>Jeffrey Sargent</b>	<b>Kellogg Company</b>
<b>Prof. Patrick Fields</b>	<b>Olivet College</b>

**Free registration includes lunch. And the concurrent Dow Great Lakes Bay Science and Engineering Festival will be fun for the whole family!**

**To register and submit a poster abstract by September 21, visit <http://midlandacs.org>**

**Questions? Please contact the meeting chairs at [MMThomas@dow.com](mailto:MMThomas@dow.com) or [Ergun@dow.com](mailto:Ergun@dow.com)**



## LOCO for Cocoa! The Chemistry of Chocolate Comes to Bay City Western – September 30

Amy Tesolin-Gee, Publicity Chair

Tuesday, September 30, 2014, at Bay City Western High School Cafeteria (500 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI); 6:30–8:30 PM; FREE ADMISSION—open to all

*Loco for Cocoa! The Chemistry of Chocolate* features Chef Aaron Gaertner of the Saginaw Career Complex and biochemist Dr. Gina Malczewski discussing the fruit of the plant whose Greek name means “food of the gods.” Discover the history, chemistry and uses of white, milk, dark, Swiss, and Belgian chocolate.

This event has been offered all around the tri-cities area and has been very well received! Be sure to bring your scientific curiosity and your exploratory taste buds, as there will be samples of these experimental delights for all to enjoy!

Appropriate for ages 10 and up; not recommended for younger children. For more information, please contact Gina Malczewski at 989-631-4038 or [reginamalczewski@gmail.com](mailto:reginamalczewski@gmail.com).

The Midland Section of the American Chemical Society presents

# LOCO for Cocoa! The Chemistry of Chocolate

Bay City Western High School Cafeteria  
500 W Midland Rd, Auburn, MI 48611  
Sept 30, 2014 6:30-8:30 pm

With Chef Aaron Gaertner and Dr. Gina Malczewski

- History,
- Mmmolecular structure
- Benefits and Dangers
- White, Dark, Milk, Swiss, Belgian...
- Chocolate versus cocoa
- Processing
- Not just for sweets!
- FREE SAMPLES

**FREE!**

Comida de los dioses !!

Theobromine  
C7H8N4O2

Questions? Contact us at  
[reginamalczewski@gmail.com](mailto:reginamalczewski@gmail.com)

## **Tour of Fabiano Brothers – September 30**

***Randy Kazmierski, Saginaw Valley Chapter, American Society of Quality***

The Saginaw Valley Chapter (Section 1004) of the American Society of Quality (ASQ) is pleased to announce a tour of the Fabiano Brothers beverage distribution center on Tuesday evening, September 30, beginning at 7:00 PM. This is a tour only event (no pre-meeting or dinner).

Fabiano Brothers is a premier beverage distributor providing licensed accounts beverages in central and northern Michigan as well as in central Wisconsin. Established in 1885 in the United States, we are a family owned business with over 125 years of service to the communities in our distribution area. We take pride in providing our customers with sales, delivery, and customer service teams that are efficient, dependable, and responsive to the needs of our customers.

Fabiano Brothers, Inc. has been a family owned business since its inception. Based upon a firm foundation of tradition and integrity, the company continues to thrive under the leadership of the fourth generation of the Fabiano family today.

Our host will be Eric Markel, Director of Information Technology. He will provide a short introduction about the business and discuss some things like inventory control, FIFO and LIFO, and how they are able to assure that the right product gets to the right place at the right time!

Directions: Take US-10 to the Mackinaw Road exit. Go south on Mackinaw Road to just past the McDonalds restaurant, then turn east on Straits Road, then north on East Fisher Road, then right on Bevanda Court. Meet in the lobby of the building.

RSVPs are requested. To RSVP for the tour or for any questions, contact Randy Kazmierski at [randy.kazmierski@nexteer.com](mailto:randy.kazmierski@nexteer.com) or 989-757-1184.

## **CERM 2014 Registration**

***Heather Juzwa, General Co-Chair, CERM 2014***

The registration form for the CERM 2014 meeting (October 29-November 1, Pittsburgh, PA) is now available online at [CERM 2014 Registration Form](#). General information about anything you may wish to know about CERM 2014 can be found at [www.acscerm2014.org](http://www.acscerm2014.org). Thank you for your consideration, and we look forward to seeing you at CERM 2014!

Any questions or concerns should be addressed to Heather Juzwa, General Co-Chair, CERM 2014, via e-mail to [hjuzwa@shimadzu.com](mailto:hjuzwa@shimadzu.com) or to her cell phone at 617-293-8279.

## McMahon Helps with Cholera Project in West Africa

*Niky House, Midland Daily News*

*Midland Chemist* Editor's note: This article is being reprinted from the Tuesday, August 19, 2014 edition of the *Midland Daily News*, page A3.



Joan McMahon, lab manager for Raven Analytical, part of a Midland company known as QuadSil, stepped back onto American soil July 16 after having spent almost a month in West Africa.

"We are all proud of her; not everybody does what she does — goes where she goes," said Vickie Blizzard, wife of one of the owners of QuadSil, John Blizzard. "She goes where most people don't go."

McMahon's colleagues and their families said they were very thankful to have her back, as she left Sierra Leone, located northwest of Liberia, not long before the borders were closed due to the Ebola outbreak. "She made it out just in time," John Blizzard said.

While her job duties in Michigan keep her busy managing two water laboratories and three staff members, conducting water testing and helping with research, in Sierra Leone, McMahon, a Midland resident, was busy educating people.

Along with teaching people how to test their water, one reason McMahon had traveled to Sierra Leone was to help out with the Cholera Project. West African Medical Missions and the Network of HIV Positives, or NETHIPS, are two organizations working together through the Cholera Project to reduce and hopefully eliminate preventable deaths from cholera and diarrheal disease. The groups accomplish this by educating the people about water treatment. The hope is that those people can, in turn, educate their counterparts about the water and about sanitation practices, to help eradicate these deaths.

"They live in tin shacks and don't have access to good quality water," McMahon said. "There is poor sanitation and nowhere for waste to go." What were the existing sanitation system and other infrastructure were destroyed during the civil war, she said, leaving the people very little relief from the conditions.

Someone posted on the West African Medical Missions Facebook page on July 11, "Our new partnership with the Innovations Lab at Prince of Whales set up by MIT has proven to be a great experience for both the pupils and those teaching. It's all about promoting creative thinking for our future leaders. When water testing becomes exciting you must be doing something right! Thank you, Joan McMahon."

While McMahon's compassion for the people of Sierra Leone is clear, the people grew affection for her as well. "Ask what they called her," John Blizzard said. "They called her 'Grandma Joan.'"

Shortly after retiring from Dow Corning, McMahon came on board as lab manager for Raven Analytical, part of QuadSil. McMahon studied "Biology, and I studied nursing before I retired from Dow Corning where I worked in toxicology for the majority of my 33 years there," she said.

McMahon has also traveled to Guatemala as well as Haiti, helping at Three Angels Children's Relief shortly after one of the devastating hurricanes hit there.

Two of QuadSil's owners gave her a generous donation toward her trip to Sierra Leone, McMahon said, and the company also provided a number of water testing kits to help with the project.

"I was most impressed with the young African people, between 18 and 23 or 24, and how they wanted to share with their communities," McMahon said.

QuadSil, which has been open for more than a decade, makes it a practice to give and to help. The group has spent time in Michigan and other states teaching students about science, and helping them get over "chemophobia," John Blizzard said. They also teach kids how to test water.

The company helps with the Midland County Emergency Food Pantry Network as well, Robert McKellar, president and co-owner of QuadSil, said.

John Blizzard, vice president and co-owner, handles research and development, among other things at the company, and his son, John S. Blizzard, also an owner, serves as the acting secretary. Both John Blizzard and McKellar had retired from Dow Corning before beginning the company with two others all those years ago.

The owners were all in agreement that they wanted to continue to generate funds for all kinds of projects, such as their lab manager's trip, to give back to the community and pay it forward.

McMahon's colleagues and their families were elated to have her back, and pointed out, when a picture of her came around holding a baby, that the picture showed her true heartbeat. McMahon just smiled, happy to have contributed to helping and caring for people in areas of the world currently needing a lot of assistance and attention.

### **Women Chemists Committee (WCC) – Connecting STEM and American Girl – October 11 and 12** ***Jaime Curtis-Fisk, Chair, Midland WCC***

Midland WCC is proud to announce that we will be partnering with the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and the Midland Center for the Arts to integrate a STEM experience into the upcoming American Girl Fashion Show®. Three sessions of the event will take place on October 11 and 12 at the Midland Center for the Arts and are expected to draw in an attendance of 1,500 to 2,000. Girls participate in the event as models for American Girl character outfits and through this activity they learn the historical connection to each of the dolls and, more importantly, gain confidence and self-esteem from participating.



WCC has the unique opportunity of bridging fashion and science by working with the girls on hands-on activities while they are not on stage and reaching their entire families with activities in the lobby before and after the show. Our intent is to develop a program of activities related to the chemistry of art or fashion so that the girls and their families will experience that science is around them everywhere, even at a fashion show. We need plenty of volunteers to help generate ideas, plan the activities, prepare the demonstrations, and facilitate the program at the shows. If you would like more information on the fashion show, please visit <http://www.mcfta.org/event/american-girl/>. For questions on WCC involvement or volunteer options, please contact Jaime Curtis-Fisk at [jlcurtisfisk@dow.com](mailto:jlcurtisfisk@dow.com).



## **Introducing ACS Sci-Mind Courses**

***Masha Petrova, MVP Consulting Solutions***

The American Chemical Society has initiated a new series of interactive web-based courses called Sci-Mind. They are intended to train chemical professionals in areas of special interest. Current offerings include Separation Science and Chemical Analysis, Toxicology for the Scientist, and Biopolymers. These are custom-tailored sessions, designed to fit the learning needs of the students. They include instructional videos, articles, case studies and interactive live sessions with the ability to reach out to subject matter experts.

Sci-Mind is not about merely sitting through lectures from one teacher about a given subject but rather to facilitate customized learning from a network of subject matter experts, interactive content, and practical tools to advance one's knowledge. One of the subject matter experts for the upcoming Biopolymers course is a member of the Midland Section ACS, Patrick Smith of the Michigan Molecular Institute.

Please take a look at the promotional information from the ACS (<http://proed.acs.org/sci-mind-features/>) to see whether these courses are for you. By the way, the next cohort of the Biopolymers course is coming up fast, starting on October 13. Please see <http://proed.acs.org/products-services/sci-mind/biopolymers/> if you are interested in signing up for the Biopolymers course.

## **Call for Nominations for 2015 Esselen Award**

***Mukund Chorghade, Chair, 2015 Esselen Award Committee***

The Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society is pleased to invite nominations of worthy candidates for the Gustavus John Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest. This award recognizes chemists for outstanding achievement in scientific and technical work that contributes to the public well-being. The award consists of a \$5,000 prize and a medal of recognition. The presentation will take place at an award ceremony at Harvard University, followed by a formal address by the awardee. The tentative date for this ceremony is April 10, 2015.

The Esselen Award was established in 1987 to honor the memory of Gustavus John Esselen, a distinguished member of the Northeastern Section. The first awardees were F. Sherwood Rowland and Mario J. Molina, who subsequently received a Nobel Prize. Several other recipients of the Esselen Award have also been Nobel awardees.

Any field of chemistry or affiliation is appropriate as long as the scientific work has been an important contribution to the public well-being and its significant value to society has become apparent within the last five years. The deadline date for submitting 2015 Esselen Award nominations is October 15, 2014.

Further information is available at [www.nesacs.org/awards\\_esselen.html](http://www.nesacs.org/awards_esselen.html). Additional questions can also be directed to Mukund Chorghade at [chorghade@comcast.net](mailto:chorghade@comcast.net) or 508-651-7809, or to Karen Piper at [piper281@verizon.net](mailto:piper281@verizon.net) or 978-456-8622.

**Mid-Tech Biobased Materials Commercialization Symposium – October 21**  
**Midland Tomorrow and Omni Tech International, Ltd.**

**Tuesday, October 21, Great Hall Banquet & Convention Center, Valley Plaza Resort (5121 Bay City Rd., Midland); 8:30 AM–3:30 PM**

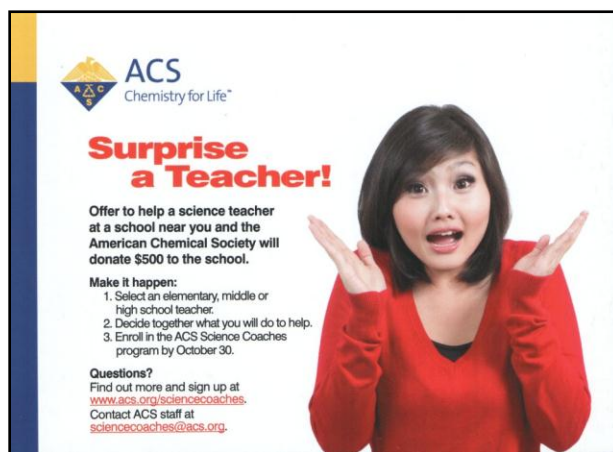
The 2014 Mid-Tech Biobased Materials Commercialization Symposium, *Understanding the Biobased Landscape from Innovation to Commercialization*, is offered as a collaborative event between Midland Tomorrow and Omni Tech International, Ltd. This symposium will bring together bio-based Michigan companies and/or Michigan companies considering a strategy to “go green” for a day of symposia presentations and networking.

The conference cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch. You can register by phone (989-839-0340), or by e-mail ([info@midlandtomorrow.org](mailto:info@midlandtomorrow.org)), or through either of the websites of Midland Tomorrow ([www.midlandtomorrow.org](http://www.midlandtomorrow.org)) or Omni Tech International ([www.omnitechintl.com](http://www.omnitechintl.com)). For complete program details, please see [Mid-Tech Biobased Materials Program](#).

**Call for Volunteers for ACS Science Coaches Program**  
**Gina Malczewski, Outreach Committee and Secretary**

The ACS Science Coaches program is open again and looking for volunteers for the 2014-2015 school year! Please see the information at right for more details. The mentioned “surprise” will probably be the initial contact you have with the teacher about the opportunity. He or she will actually be contacted by ACS, too, before approval, so you need to get the teacher on board first.

The Midland Section ACS was actually one of the pilot sections for this National ACS program, and we have many current and former participants who can share their experiences with you and answer any questions.



You can begin by contacting Michelle Rivard at [michelle.rivard@dowcorning.com](mailto:michelle.rivard@dowcorning.com) or 989-496-5399, or Gina Malczewski at [reginamalczewski@gmail.com](mailto:reginamalczewski@gmail.com) or 989-631-4038 if you think we can help, or for any questions. Thank you.

**Call for Nominations for 2014 ACS Richards Medal**  
**Sheila Hauck, Co-Chair of the 2014 Richards Medal Committee**

I am writing to all of the ACS local sections on behalf of the ACS Richards Medal Committee to solicit nominations for the 2014 Theodore William Richards Medal Award for conspicuous achievement in any area of chemistry. The medal honors the U.S.'s first chemistry Nobel Laureate and is awarded every two years. The 42nd medal was presented to Professor Tobin J. Marks of Northwestern University in 2012.

Nomination packages consisting of a brief curriculum vitae for the nominee and a clear and concise nomination letter outlining the “conspicuous achievements in chemistry” on which the nomination is based should be submitted electronically as a single PDF file to the Co-Chairs of the 2014 ACS Richards Medal Committee, Rosina Georgiadis ([rgeorgia@bu.edu](mailto:rgeorgia@bu.edu)) and Sheila Hauck ([sheila.hauck@gmail.com](mailto:sheila.hauck@gmail.com)).

Nominations must be received by October 31, 2014. The 2014 Richards Medal will be awarded on Thursday, March 5, 2015. More information about the Richards Medal, including the list of all previous recipients, can be found at [http://www.nesacs.org/awards\\_richards-medal.html](http://www.nesacs.org/awards_richards-medal.html).

## **2014 Michigan Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference – November 12**

***Jennifer Acevedo, Office of Environmental Assistance, Michigan Department of Environmental Quality***

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and Michigan State University are hosting the 2014 Michigan Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference, otherwise known as the 6<sup>th</sup> “[GreenUp Conference](#),” on November 12 at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing. This year’s theme is *Cultivating Next Generation Solutions*. Green chemistry and engineering are all about designing, innovating, and manufacturing what’s next and developing less hazardous, more effective materials, processes, and products. Green chemistry and engineering can help businesses create new markets, reduce costs, increase safety, and gain a competitive edge.

The conference will offer an excellent opportunity for ACS Michigan local section members to network and learn about cutting edge technologies in green chemistry and engineering. Your members can participate by submitting a paper, applying for a Governor’s Award, securing a sponsorship, or attending. Contact Jennifer Acevedo at [acevedoj@michigan.gov](mailto:acevedoj@michigan.gov) if you have any questions.

## **In Memoriam – Carl Kenneth Bjork**

***Steve Keinath, Editor, The Midland Chemist, and Bob Howell, Councilor***

*Midland Chemist* Editor’s note: Excerpts of this article appeared in the Thursday, August 7 issue of the *Midland Daily News*, page C6.



Carl Kenneth (Ken) Bjork, 88, of Phoenix, Ariz. and formerly from Midland, died Friday, Aug. 1, 2014. He was born March 16, 1926 in West Burlington, Iowa to Algot and Madeline Bjork. He attended Augustana College, graduating in 1947, with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry. He went on to receive his Master’s degree in Chemistry from DePauw University, and in 1953, received his PhD in Inorganic Chemistry with minors in Organic Chemistry and Metallurgical Engineering from the University of Kentucky. Ken joined The Dow Chemical Co. as a research scientist in the Metallurgy Lab in 1954. Early in his career, he moved to the Patent Department and enjoyed working there until his retirement from Dow in 1995.

He had a very successful career with Dow and left a positive impact with all those he worked with and managed. He always spoke fondly of the people he worked with and met in his long career at Dow.

Ken married the love of his life, Joyce Catherine (Dornacher) Bjork, Sept. 25, 1947 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Moline, Ill. Joyce preceded Ken in death March 9, 2012. Ken and Joyce were devoted to each other. Their marriage of over 64 years and parenting was a role model to the entire family, instilling values of faith in God, love of family, honesty, ethics, hard work, compassion, tolerance, acceptance, and giving.

Ken and Joyce were long time members of Trinity Lutheran Church in Midland. In accordance with their wishes, cremation has taken place and a memorial service celebrating both of their incredible lives is planned for their anniversary date, Sept. 25, 2014, 11 a.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church in Midland. Those wanting to give a memorial in their name may wish to consider Trinity Lutheran Church Memorial and Gift Fund. Sympathies to the family can be sent to P.O. Box 1947, Midland, Mich., 48641.

**Reminiscence of Steve Keinath:** On June 2, 2014, the Midland Section ACS honored a number of current and past Editors of *The Midland Chemist* at a recognition dinner event held at the Tuscany Banquet Hall in Midland. Ken Bjork attended that event with his daughter, and one of the light-hearted comments circulating that evening was that he had traveled the farthest distance to attend, coming in from Phoenix, AZ, his retirement home. Truth be told, he was visiting with family in Midland at the time and it just so happened that he was available to turn out for the dinner and to be honored that evening. He was hale and hearty, sharp of mind, and in good spirits when we talked that evening. Then, two months later, he was gone.

Ken served as Editor of *The Midland Chemist* spanning the period January 1988 through May 1990, coming along shortly after my earlier, first stint as Editor. A recent photo of Ken, grouped in with several other *Midland Chemist* Editors, appears on page 12 of the July 2014, Vol. 51, No. 7 issue of *The Midland Chemist*. See <http://midlandacs.org/uploads/images/newsletter/2014JulMC.pdf>.

**Reminiscence of Bob Howell:** Ken's death was a surprise. He was seemingly healthy at the former *Midland Chemist* Editor's dinner in June. We had a nice chat about our days on the National ACS Patents and Related Matters Committee. Ken was also a long-time member and contributor to the Midland Section ACS. In addition to being the newsletter editor for a time, he also served in several committee roles and was the local section Chair in the mid-80s.

As previously noted, Ken started his career in the Inorganics area at Dow, but as that area waned he move into the patents area where he worked for most of his career. He was a licensed patent agent and handled some major patent issues for Dow. He was a member of the National ACS Patents Committee for several years (he was a member when I joined that committee), very knowledgeable, and influential. In those days, he also always presented a guest lecture on intellectual property protection for the industrial chemistry course that I taught at CMU.

On a personal note, Ken was a very decent human being. He and his wife, Joyce, adopted a large number of children over the years. These were usually children from very difficult circumstances who needed a kind home and some guidance in order to flourish. As he said to me one time, he and his wife started doing this and they just never quit – so that there were always children in their house. A good person – a life well-lived – a sad passing.

## Science Café: Chemistry of Cosmetics – January 10

### MCFTA Program Office

Join us to explore cosmetic science, especially as it relates to silicones in personal care. Learn about hair and skin, the tests that are used to evaluate cosmetic products, and the nature of typical products. Guests will make their very own lotion!

Saturday, January 10, 2015, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM. Held at the Midland Center for the Arts. Ticket Prices: FREE! But, pre-registration is required ahead of time to guarantee a seat! To pre-register, go to [Science Cafe: Cosmetics](#).

Recommended for ages 10 and up. Ages 12 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Limited availability, so please register early! This program is presented in partnership with the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society.

### Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Updates

- September 15 (5:30-8:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS 3rd Quarter Committee updates and dinner meeting, Thompson Student Activity Room (TSAR), close to but a little past the Alumni Lounge, Curtis Hall (first floor), and just past the Cafeteria in the Doan Center, Saginaw Valley State University. Best parking in the Curtis Hall lot. Contact Michelle Cummings ([michelle.cummings@dowcorning.com](mailto:michelle.cummings@dowcorning.com)) for questions.
- September 18 (6:30-8:00 PM) – *Wine, Cheese, and Chocolate Party* with Midland WCC, Gourmet Cupcake Shoppe, 1908 S. Saginaw Rd., Midland. Please contact [Sue Machelski](#) or [Vennesa Williams](#) for more information.
- September 20 (11:00 AM) – Recognition of Edison's Lab as a National Historic Chemical Landmark, Menlo Park Laboratory at The Henry Ford, Greenfield Village, Dearborn. For more information and updates, visit [www.acs.org/landmarks](http://www.acs.org/landmarks).
- September 21 – Deadline for registering and submitting poster abstracts for the 2014 ACS Fall Scientific Meeting. Please note: pre-registration is required to qualify for a free lunch the day of the meeting. Go to [2014 Midland Section ACS Fall Scientific Meeting](#) to register.
- September 27 (8:30 AM – 2:00 PM) – 2014 Midland Section ACS Fall Scientific Meeting, Delta College. Meeting theme: *The Sweet Side of Chemistry*. Registration is free and lunch will be provided for all pre-registered participants. Go to [2014 Midland Section ACS Fall Scientific Meeting](#) to register. Any questions or comments should be directed to the FSM co-chairs, Megan Thomas ([mmthomas@dow.com](mailto:mmthomas@dow.com)) or Roja Ergun ([ergun@dow.com](mailto:ergun@dow.com)).
- September 30 (6:30-8:30 PM) – *LOCO for Cocoa! The Chemistry of Chocolate*, Bay City Western High School, 500 W. Midland Rd., Auburn. For more information, contact Gina Malczewski at 989-631-4038 or [reginamalczewski@gmail.com](mailto:reginamalczewski@gmail.com).
- September 30 (7:00 PM) – Tour of Fabiano Brothers beverage distribution center, a free program offered by the local chapter of the American Society of Quality (ASQ). Location: 1885 Bevanda Ct., Bay City (near the US-10/Mackinaw Road exit, and east of the McDonalds restaurant off of Mackinaw Road). RSVPs are requested. To RSVP or for questions, contact Randy Kazmierski at [randy.kazmierski@nexteer.com](mailto:randy.kazmierski@nexteer.com) or 989-757-1184.
- October 6 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.



- October 11 (12:00 PM & 4:00 PM) – *Connecting STEM and American Girl*, Women Chemists Committee volunteer event, Midland Center for the Arts. For more information on the American Girl Fashion Show®, please visit <http://www.mcfta.org/event/american-girl/>. For questions on Women Chemists Committee involvement and volunteer opportunities related to this event, please contact Jaime Curtis-Fisk at [jlcurtisfisk@dow.com](mailto:jlcurtisfisk@dow.com).
- October 12 (2:00 PM) – *Connecting STEM and American Girl*, Women Chemists Committee volunteer event, Midland Center for the Arts. For more information on the American Girl Fashion Show®, please visit <http://www.mcfta.org/event/american-girl/>. For questions on Women Chemists Committee involvement and volunteer opportunities related to this event, please contact Jaime Curtis-Fisk at [jlcurtisfisk@dow.com](mailto:jlcurtisfisk@dow.com).
- October 15 – Deadline for submitting nominations for the 2015 Esselen Award for Chemistry in the Public Interest, sponsored by the Northeastern Section of the American Chemical Society. For more information, see [www.nesacs.org/awards\\_esselen.html](http://www.nesacs.org/awards_esselen.html).
- October 21 (8:30 AM – 3:30 PM) – Mid-Tech Biobased Materials Commercialization Symposium, *Understanding the Biobased Landscape from Innovation to Commercialization*, Great Hall Banquet & Convention Center, Valley Plaza Resort, 5121 Bay City Road, Midland. Cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch. For more information or to register, please see [Mid-Tech Biobased Materials Program](#).
- October 28 (evening event, save the date) – Women Chemists Committee “Networking Event and Seminar” with Carol Williams, Whiting Forest, Midland. For more information, please contact Beata Kilos at [bakilos@dow.com](mailto:bakilos@dow.com).
- October 29–November 1 – 45<sup>th</sup> ACS Central Regional Meeting (CERM 2014), Pittsburgh, PA. For more information, see [www.acscerm2014.org](http://www.acscerm2014.org).
- October 30 – Deadline for enrollment in the 2014-2015 ACS Science Coaches Program. For more information, or to sign up, see [www.acs.org/sciencecoaches](http://www.acs.org/sciencecoaches).
- October 31 – Deadline for submitting nominations for the 2014 ACS Richards Medal Award. For more information, see [www.nesacs.org/awards\\_richards-medal.html](http://www.nesacs.org/awards_richards-medal.html). For questions, contact the Co-Chairs of the 2014 ACS Richards Medal Committee, Rosina Georgiadis at [rgeorgia@bu.edu](mailto:rgeorgia@bu.edu) and Sheila Hauck at [sheila.hauck@gmail.com](mailto:sheila.hauck@gmail.com).
- November 3 (7:00-9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- November 12 (save the date) – 2014 Michigan Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference (the 6<sup>th</sup> “GreenUp Conference”), *Cultivating Next Generation Solutions*, Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing. Contact Jennifer Acevedo at [acevedoj@michigan.gov](mailto:acevedoj@michigan.gov) if you have any questions.
- December 1 (5:30-8:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS 4th Quarter Committee updates and dinner meeting. Venue to be determined. Contact Michelle Cummings ([michelle.cummings@dowcorning.com](mailto:michelle.cummings@dowcorning.com)) for questions.
- January 10 (11:00 AM – 12:30 PM) – *Chemistry of Cosmetics*, Midland Center for the Arts. Free event, however, pre-registration is required ahead of time at [Science Cafe: Cosmetics](#).

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