

THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

A publication of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society

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Chair Column

Krishnaja Duvvuri, Chair, Midland Section ACS



Dear Reader,

December is a season of reflection and gratitude, a time to take stock of our journey and celebrate what we've accomplished together. Looking back, 2025 has been a remarkable year for the Midland Section ACS, achieved against a backdrop of challenging global geopolitical conditions and macroeconomic headwinds for the chemical industry. Despite being in challenging times, our Section thrived because of the dedication and creativity of our volunteers.

Our committees have been the driving force behind everything we achieved. Each month this year, the Midland Chemist Chair column spotlighted a different committee, and when we put them all together, what emerges is a beautiful pattern of events touching every demographic, from students and educators to professionals and the broader community.

The annual **Midland Section Awards Banquet** celebrated outstanding achievements in the chemical sciences in our community. Our calendar was packed with science-centered public engagement led by the **Outreach**

Committee. Annual highlights include **Kids Day at the Mall**, **Earth Day Action Expo**, the **STEAM Summer Camp**, **Midland River Days Festival**, and **Frankenstein Friday**, just to name a few. These events were fun, relevant and made chemistry accessible to all ages.

The Midland Local Section continued its longstanding engagement with high school students through programs like the **U.S. National Chemistry Olympiad**, **Project SEED**, and our **Scholarship Fund**. The **Chemistry Olympiad** engaged high school students in rigorous problem-solving and lab practicals, preparing them for future STEM careers. Several local students advanced to the national level, a testament to their talent and the mentorship provided by our volunteers. **Project SEED** offered hands-on research opportunities, fostering technical skills, mentorship, and pathways to higher education for students who might not otherwise have access. Additionally, events such as **A Day in the Life of a Scientist**, **Girl Scouts STEM Day**, and **YCC-led lab tours** gave young learners a glimpse into real-world chemistry careers. Together, these programs exemplify our commitment to inspiring future scientists and strengthening the pipeline for chemistry.

I am especially proud of the collaborative spirit that flourished this year. Cross-committee initiatives of the **D&I**, **WCC**, **YCC**, and **MMTG**, and partnerships with local STEM organizations including MMAChE and NOBCCHE amplified our impact and fostered a culture of inclusion and support. Initiatives like the **Dow Promise program** and **Dow Championship LPGA event**, and joint outreach efforts showcased how industry and community can work hand-in-hand to advance STEM education and engagement.

This fall, the Midland Section jointly hosted the **ACS Central Regional Meeting (CERM) 2025** alongside our long-standing **Fall Scientific Meeting**, two remarkable days at Central Michigan University. The theme, *Chemistry Reconnected: Empowering Scientists in a Disconnected World*, resonated deeply. The event featured invited talks, poster sessions, networking opportunities, and workshops that brought together academia, industry, and students in a spirit of collaboration and learning. A special highlight was the keynote by **Dr. Sam Gregson**, energizing attendees and reminding us of the power of storytelling in science. The **Senior Chemists Committee** worked hard to revamp the Midland Section ACS Centennial Exhibit at the Bay County Historical Museum, reorganizing the original and adding new displays.

Throughout the year, *The Midland Chemist* served as both a communication hub and a historical archive, chronicling our achievements and preserving the stories that define our Section.

Thank you to each and every one of you for volunteering, organizing, teaching, sponsoring, mentoring, and showing up. Our Section has thrived because of your passion, commitment, and willingness to embrace new challenges. Whether you're a long-time member or just beginning your journey with ACS, I encourage you to stay engaged, share your ideas, and help us build on the momentum we've created together as we step into 2026.

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as the 2025 Chair of the Midland Section. Throughout this year, I have grown, been inspired, and felt proud to be part of this incredible Section. I am deeply grateful for your support.

Wishing you and your loved ones a joyful holiday season and a bright start to the new year!

Warm regards,
Krishnaja Duvvuri
Chair, Midland Section ACS

Midland Section ACS Board of Directors 2026 Election Results

Raghida “Reggie” Bou Zerdan, Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee

The Midland Section ACS elections were held from Monday, October 20, 2025, to Monday, November 10, 2025. This year, about 25% of eligible voters participated. Thank you to all the candidates and all the Midland Section members who voted!

Congratulations to the following individuals who have been elected for 2025:

- Chair-Elect – Raghida “Reggie” Bou Zerdan
- Treasurer – David Potts
- Secretary – Clare Leahy
- Nominations and Elections Chair – Ericka Bruske
- Director (3 years) – Michelle Cummings
- Director (3 years) – Dan Dermody
- Director (3 years) – Steve Keinath

You can find biographical information for each of the elected officers in the October 2025 issue of the Midland Chemist. Link: <https://midlandacs.org/download/the-midland-chemist-october-2025/>

Thank you again to all the candidates and to all the Midland Section ACS members who voted!



Chair-Elect: Reggie Bou Zerdan



Treasurer: David Potts



Secretary: Clare Leahy



N&E Chair: Ericka Bruske



Director: Michelle Cummings



Director: Dan Dermody



Director: Steve Keinath

Scholarship Fund Reaches \$100,000 goal!

Wendell L. and Marcia L. Dilling, Past Midland Section Historians

We are pleased to announce that the Midland Section scholarship fund has reached the \$100,000 goal. A significant contribution of \$25,000 was made in November, which put us over the top. The value of this fund is now \$109,622.60.

The Midland ACS Section Scholarship fund, administered by the Midland Area Community Foundation, stood at \$65,592.19 on 10-2-23; \$76,005.29 on 10-4-24; and \$84,622.60 on 10-3-25. At this rate of increase another two years would have been required to reach our long-term goal of \$100,000 [*The Midland Chemist*, **2002**, 39, 8 (December), 13]. This is a faster rate of increase than it has been over the life of the scholarship.

In an attempt to accelerate the rate of growth of this scholarship fund we agreed to match 1:1, up to \$18,000, any contributions made to this fund starting in May of 2021 [*The Midland Chemist*, **2021**, 58, No. 5 (May), 9]. We appreciate those of you who responded to this offer.

Thanks to Lin Dorman for originating the idea of Midland Section scholarships and the \$100,000 goal. Unfortunately, Lin did not live to see this goal reached.

We would also like to thank Heather Cowl for her help as the Scholarship Coordinator and Impact Assistant at the Foundation.

Now that the goal has been reached more students can be assisted in their quest for a chemistry related degree.

Volunteers Wanted to Support Local Science Teachers

Kevin Shaughnessy, Midland Kiwanis President

Do you have an interest in helping teachers nurture a curiosity for science? Can you interact with youth and are you able to explain STEM concepts?

The Midland Kiwanis Club has some members currently volunteering in the county schools at the later-elementary school science classes and high school chemistry levels. Support has ranged from assisting with hands-on activities in Elementary settings to helping high school teachers set up labs and assist in planning lessons. Each situation is driven by the teacher, with volunteer assistance in a manner requested.

Of recent significance, Midland Kiwanis has had additional interest expressed from principals and teachers across the county to explore additional STEM partnerships. Might you have an interest to share your expertise and time and be a catalyst for STEM learning in local classrooms?

Given that every classroom has unique needs, we'd work with you and the teacher to find the right fit based on curriculum and your time. This could also be an initial connection for educators to pursue the ACS Science Coaches program.

Your expertise and support can make a lasting impact! For more information, please contact Kevin Shaughnessy at Kmshaug6@gmail.com

Girl Scouts STEM Outreach Day

Kim Dinh, Diversity & Inclusion Committee Chair, Midland Section ACS

On November 15, the YCC, WCC, and D&I Committees co-hosted with Mid-Michigan AIChE and Mid-Michigan SWE a Girl Scouts STEM Outreach Day. Over 20 Girl Scouts along with some of their siblings and parents attended to participate in multiple demos. The demos included making slime (and blowing bubbles), fake snow, and shrinky dinks. They also had to identify the thief who stole the cookie using microscopes and some clues. The kids had a great time, and we look forward to hosting this again next year!



Girl Scouts STEM Outreach Day. Photos provided by Kim Dinh.

Volunteer Voices: A retired research scientist chats about Senior Chemist Committees

Vickie Langer, Co-Editor, *The Midland Chemist*

Editor's note: This article is reprinted as it appeared online in *Chemical & Engineering News*, November 20, 2025.

Gina Malczewski shares the fulfillment and enjoyment she gains from ACS volunteering

by [Nina Notman, special to C&EN](#).



Gina Malczewski (second from left) holds the ChemLuminary Chemists with Disabilities Inclusion Award during a ceremony at ACS Fall 2025. Credit: EPNAC.com

Gina Malczewski spent nearly 30 years at Dow Corning before retiring in 2013. “I was a biochemist at a material science company, so I did a lot of different things,” she says. Her roles included collecting data on the safety of silicone breast implants, after thousands of women sued the company claiming to have been harmed by the devices.

Malczewski started volunteering with the Midland Local Section in 2008 and since her retirement has built an army of senior chemists who run many of the section’s outreach activities. She recently spoke with Nina Notman about her local section’s Senior Chemists Committee (SCC). This interview has been edited for length and clarity.

VITALS

Current location: Midland, Michigan

Job title: Retired research scientist, Dow Corning

Volunteer role: Chair, Senior Chemists Committee, Midland Local Section

Favorite element: Silicon

What does being a chair of a local section's SCC involve?

Unlike in some local sections, our SCC doesn't meet as a body of people—we don't host meetings or events just for senior chemists. Instead, we organize ourselves by email to run outreach events. We recruit younger members to support these events, and we've had some really good cross-generational projects.

What are some examples of outreach events your SCC organizes?

Our Chemists Celebrate Earth Week is huge. We have an Earth Day Action Expo at a local high school; it had about 70 exhibitors this April. We have speakers, food trucks, bike repairs, clothing upcycling—and people in the parking lot sharing their experiences with electric vehicles. Then, all throughout the year, some of our senior chemists visit local schools as part of the ACS Science Coaches program. I'm in a middle school classroom once a month, teaching all the classes for one day. Multiple times a month, we have ad hoc outreach going on. I'm currently preparing to do outreach activities at the Girls' Day Out at Delta College in November, aimed at encouraging girls into science careers. Another senior chemist and I also regularly visit a special needs school and run outreach activities. We got a ChemLuminary award for that in 2025. Our senior chemists also support Project SEED summer students at Michigan State University every year.

Is your SCC involved in local section plans to celebrate ACS's 150th anniversary in 2026?

We are updating the *A Century of Science and Service* exhibit that we built for our section's centenary in 2019. It was reopened in 2022 at Central Michigan University Museum, and we are refreshing it again now and adding more stuff for it to reopen in a third location this fall. This exhibit features important molecules that were invented and synthesized for the first time in Midland. These include Silly Putty, Styrofoam, and Saran. We also cover the dioxin cleanup that happened here because of Dow in a part of the exhibit called *Unintended Consequences*. This exhibit is organized entirely by our senior chemists. We are also running hands-on science programs at the new exhibit monthly.

In a nutshell, why should more retired chemists get involved with their local SCC?

Seniors are an underutilized resource across the board. Senior chemists have a lot of experience, and we have a lot of soft skills and scientific skills to share. We can also help with the diversification of role models for kids, so they know that we don't all look like Albert Einstein! Sometimes it's hard for students to be inspired by the typical chemistry curriculum, and our outreach gives them previews of the science they're going to see if they hang in there.

Why do you choose to invest so much time doing ACS volunteering?

I really enjoy the interaction. It's also an opportunity to stay young, because I'm interacting with the next generation of scientists. When we do outreach we always do feedback forms, and when you get feedback like "My son loved this, and now he wants to be a chemist" it feels amazing. It gives me a sense of still being able to contribute in a valuable way to society and to the next generation. You can't beat it.

Day in the Life of an Industrial Scientist

Kim Dinh, Diversity & Inclusion Committee Chair, Midland Section ACS

The Diversity and Inclusion and WCC Committees co-hosted with Mid-Michigan AICHE, Midland NOBCCHE, and the Huron Valley and Detroit ACS Sections *Day in the Life of an Industrial Scientist* on September 27, 2025 at UM-Flint. Approximately 30 students (undergraduate, graduate, and post-docs) attended from universities including University of Michigan, Wayne State University, and SVSU to learn about science in industry.

The day featured a workshop in the morning on decision making with imperfect information and a panel in the afternoon with Dr. Rana Mohtadi, Senior Principal Scientist at Toyota Research Institute of America, Dr. Jessica Kelts, Professor at UM-Flint, and Monique Wilhelm, Field Services Engineer at Agilent Technologies. Our panelists spoke about their career paths, why they chose their career path, and how they achieved their goals. The workshop was very well received. Thank you to all 20 of our volunteers for making the trip to Flint and spending time with the students to talk about their career paths! A big thank you as well to Brian Clark, Jeffrey Trost, and Deboleena Chakraborty who facilitated our workshop in the morning!

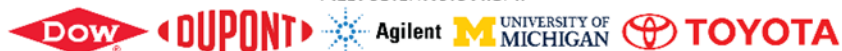
SKILLS BEYOND THE BENCH: A DAY IN THE LIFE OF AN INDUSTRIAL SCIENTIST

Spend a day learning about STEM careers in industry!
Work with industry professionals on a case study,
poster session, and networking with industrial scientists.

EVENT SPONSORS:

American Chemical Society | Women Chemists Committee | NOBCCHE | Mid-Michigan AICHE

MEET SCIENTISTS FROM:



Who: Anyone interested in STEM careers

When: Sept 27, 2025, 9 am - 3 pm

Where: University of Michigan-Flint, Flint, MI

Cost: Free

Refreshments and lunch provided with registration.
Transportation to be subsidized. Carpooling encouraged!

Questions?

Email Kim Dinh at KDinh@dow.com
or Jessica Tischler at jtisch@umich.edu



**Register by
Sept 19th!**

KEYNOTE:

Setbacks and Solutions:
Problem Solving and Growth in STEM Careers



Rana Mohtadi, PhD
Senior Principal Scientist
Toyota Research Inst. of America



Jessica Kelts, PhD
Professor
Univ. of Michigan-Flint



Monique Wilhelm, MS
Field Services Engineer
Agilent Technologies



Day in the Life of an Industrial Scientist. Event photos provided by Kim Dinh.



Answer for the Fifth R,S-Puzzle

Wendell L. Dilling, Past Midland Section Historian

David D. Ginsburg, Science Librarian, Retired, Central Michigan University



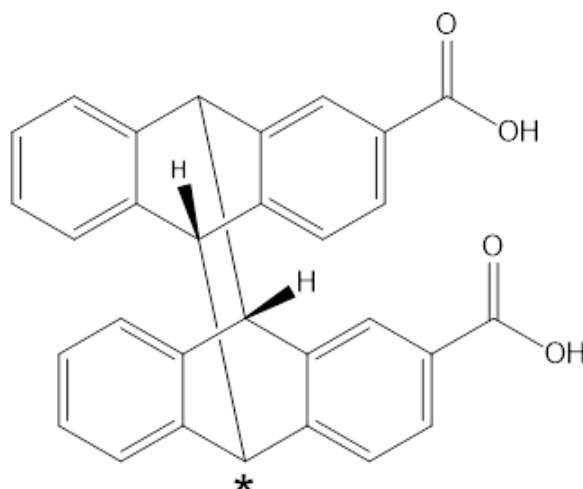
Wendell Dilling



David Ginsburg

Wendell has a new coauthor this time. David has contributed significantly to many projects especially this one. This **R,S**-Puzzle was more challenging than some of the previous ones. Andrew Chubb from SVSU answered this one correctly, **R**, actually before Wendell did. A correction to the previous report [*The Midland Chemist*, **2025**, 62, No. 11 (November), p 21] should be made. The score then should have been: SVSU 2, CMU 1. With the present result, the score is SVSU 3, CMU 1, Everyone else 0. These **R,S**-Puzzles are meant for all ACS members, industrial, academic, government, and any others.

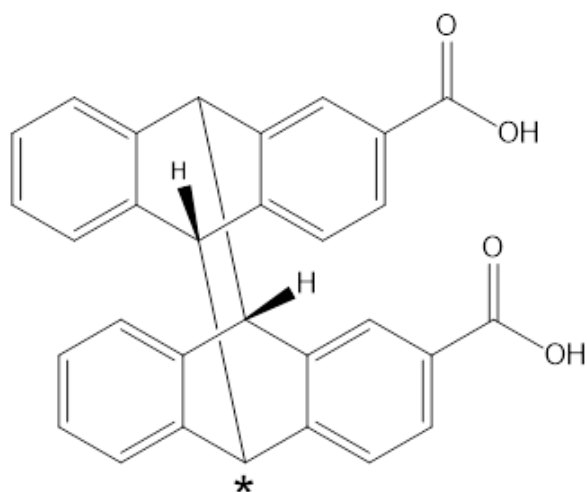
Now for the explanations for the present puzzle (Andrew's explanation):



Looking at the starred atom in the plane of the paper, from the bottom of the page, the H atom is coming straight at the observer. The three highest priority groups are going away from the observer, with the two directly-bound aromatic moieties on top and the C with the labeled H on the bottom. The two aromatic carbons have “three” Cs connected, while the third has two Cs and a H, making this the lowest priority. Of the two remaining, the aromatic moiety on the right has a carboxyl on it, making this higher priority. So, the order of descending priority is right, left, down: **S**. But the H atom is coming straight at the observer, so the apparent “rotation” through the three highest priority groups will be opposite of the actual answer: **R**.

And now for Wendell’s explanation:

If you had trouble understanding this structure you are not alone.

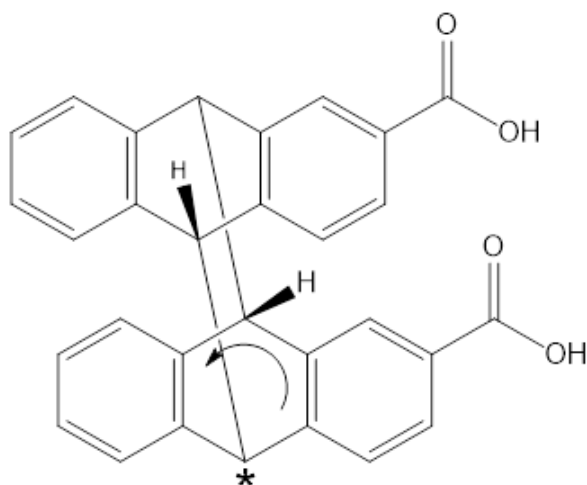


This is a very strange way to draw this compound, yet this is the way Chemical Abstracts Service drew it. Some bonds appear to cross other bonds in impossibly strained positions. A ball and spring model of the central portion of this molecule (conformation) is shown in Figure 1.

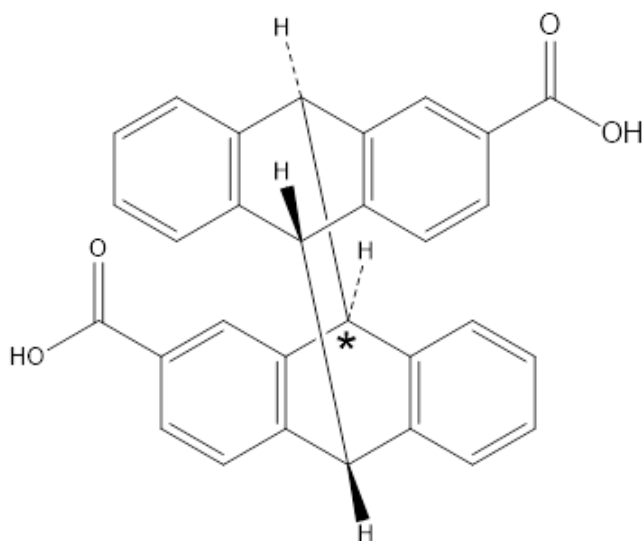


Figure 1. Partial structure. (Photo by Marcia Dilling)

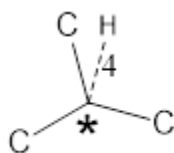
We were finally able to understand this structure by twisting the lower 6-membered ring 180 degrees in a counterclockwise direction.



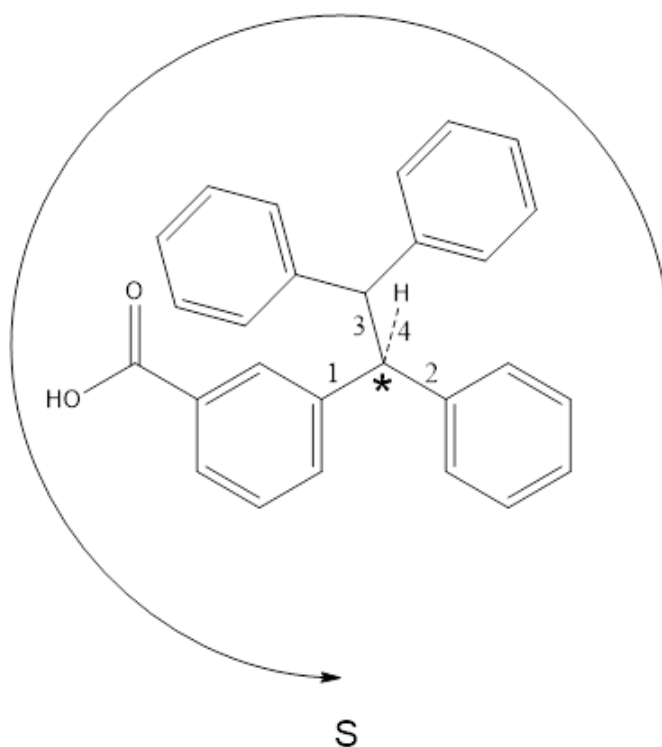
This motion converts this structure into the more familiar conformation:



The starred carbon atom is attached to three carbon atoms and one hydrogen atom which automatically becomes the fourth or lowest priority.



The diarylmethyl substituent on the starred carbon has two carbon atoms attached to an alpha carbon and thus has priority three; the phenyl and carboxyphenyl substituents each have three. The carboxyphenyl group has a higher priority than phenyl group making the former priority one and the latter priority two. The counterclockwise order of the substituents makes the starred carbon the S configuration.



The problem with Wendell's analysis of the situation is that he has changed the configuration of the starred carbon atom by the unfolding action in going from the 4th to the 5th figures. So even though the structure remains the same, the R,S designation of some atoms is changed.

H2O Q Water Quality Outreach at Clare High School

Selena Macias, H2O Q Coordinator, Central Michigan University

The H2O Q team recently had the opportunity to engage nearly 80 11th-grade students at Clare High School in a two-day water chemistry and quality education experience. This outreach event allowed students to connect classroom concepts with real environmental data collection while gaining a deeper understanding of the importance of monitoring their local water resources.

The first day focused on field testing at the Tobacco River. With support from CMU volunteers, students collected their own water samples and measured key indicators of river health, including turbidity, pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and total dissolved solids (conductivity). This hands-on experience introduced students to environmental sampling methods and helped them see how each measurement contributes to understanding overall water quality.

On the second day, the work continued in the classroom. Three CMU volunteers assisted students as they analyzed their river samples for alkalinity, phosphate, and nitrate. These tests encourage students to think critically about nutrient levels, watershed dynamics, and the environmental factors that influence water quality in their own community.

Overall, the outreach event provided a meaningful combination of hands-on fieldwork and classroom chemistry.



CMU student Grant Conger guides Mr. Winkler's 4th-hour biology students through hands-on alkalinity testing during the H2O Q water quality lab.



Mr. Winkler's 3rd-hour biology students conduct field testing for dissolved oxygen at the river site.

ACS Spring 2026, March 22-26

Steve Keinath, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist

Editor's note: The information contained in this article is reprinted, in part, from a National ACS email communication to all members, dated Friday, November 7, 2025.



This in-person and digital meeting will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, USA, and globally from March 22-26, 2026. The ACS150 Countdown Is On! Plan to celebrate with us in Atlanta.

For more information, please click on [ACS Spring 2026](#)

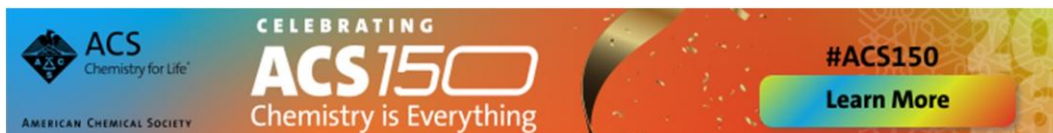
Join us for a celebration of 150 years in the making at [ACS Spring 2026](#) as we honor progress in chemistry and the community that makes it all possible. This celebration is more than just a moment. It's a journey guided by the theme **"Chemistry is Everything"** and shaped by the ACS enduring core values: **passion for science, inclusion and belonging, lifelong learning, and sustainability.**

Join us in Atlanta to experience all the excitement and celebrate the past, present, and future of chemistry with special events, including:

- **ACS Exposition 150th Anniversary Activities and Giveaways**
- **ACS150 Networking Celebration at the ACS Connect Happy Hour**
- **Special Opening Session Honoring ACS 150th Anniversary**
- **Daily ACS150 Programming in the ACS Expo Theatres**
- **ACS150 International Welcome Reception**

Don't miss out on these events and more. Join us for the celebration.

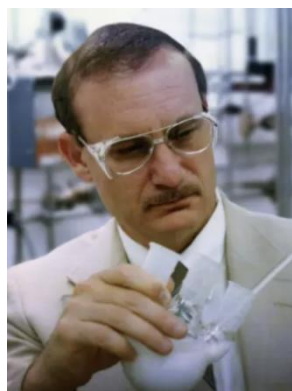
ACS Spring 2026 Registration Opens Wednesday, December 10



We'll be celebrating ACS150 all year. Each month in 2026, we'll spotlight a unique theme that reflects the ACS core values. ACS will amplify these themes through videos, stories, podcasts, and more. Stay in the loop with everything happening. Visit the [ACS150 homepage](#) to learn more and sign up for anniversary extras!

In Memorium – Daniel Graiver
Steve Keinath, Co-Editor, *The Midland Chemist*

Editor's note: Daniel Graiver's obituary notice as it appears here is reprinted, in part, from the Saturday-Sunday (Weekend), October 18-19, 2025, issue of the *Midland Daily News*. Daniel joined the American Chemical Society in 1979 and at the time of his passing he was a 46-year member of the ACS.



Daniel Graiver, 78, of Midland, MI, passed away on October 14, 2025. He was born on September 13, 1947, in Haifa, Israel, to parents Boris and Zipora (Glitzenstein) Graiver.

Daniel received both his Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel, after finishing his commitment with the Israeli Defense Force, which included service in both the '67 and '73 Wars. He arrived in the United States in 1973 to study at Case Western Reserve University, in Cleveland, OH, where he completed his PhD in 1978. After graduation he worked at Dow Corning until 2000 in Central Research where he became a Senior Scientist and a U.S. leader in the polymerization expertise center. This was followed by working for Michigan State University to the present as an adjunct professor of polymer science in the Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science. His career produced over 100 patents and multiple scientific publications.

His personal pursuits included becoming a private pilot for over 35 years and going on adventures in our National Parks (and beyond) with his wife. He was a volunteer for the EAA Young Eagles and enjoyed lunches with the Dow Corning Retirees Group. Passions outside of polymers included photoshopping the perfect photograph, reading about the universe, and all things Benny Hill and James Bond.

Daniel is survived by his wife, Mary, who he met on Valentine's Day 1976, and married on September 1, 1979, in Midland, MI; his two children, David (Robyn) and Natalie (Christopher); two grandchildren, Kyran and Rylan; and his sister, Ronit, and her children, Miri and Dani. He was preceded in death by his parents.

There was a Visitation on Monday, October 20, 2025, from 3:00-7:00 PM at the Ware Smith Woolever Funeral Home, in Midland, and a Funeral Service on Tuesday, October 21, 2025, at 10:30 AM, also at the Ware Smith Woolever Funeral Home, 1200 West Wheeler Street, in Midland. Family greeted guests from 9:30 AM until the start of the funeral service. Daniel was laid to rest in the Midland City Cemetery.

In accordance with Jewish tradition, in lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Kevin Mullin Memorial Fund for Brain Tumor Research, at the Kevin Mullin Memorial Fund, 1398 Morrison Farms East Drive, Blacklick, OH 43004-8388.

All of us at Ware Smith Woolever Funeral Home (1200 West Wheeler Street, Midland, MI 48640-2891, Phone: 877-631-2292, www.wswfh.com) are honored that the Graiver family has entrusted us with the care of their loved one.

In Memorium – William E. Dennis, Jr.
Steve Keinath, Co-Editor, *The Midland Chemist*

Editor's note: Bill Dennis's obituary notice as it appears here is reprinted, in part, from the Wednesday, December 3, 2025, issue of the *Midland Daily News*. Bill joined the American Chemical Society in 1963 and at the time of his passing he was a 62-year member of the ACS.

Bill's obituary notice mentions that he was very active in the American Chemical Society. Midland Section ACS Past Historian Wendell Dilling was able to document the following service roles for Bill Dennis over the period from 1970 through 1995: Fall Scientific Meeting Committee, 1970; Fall Scientific Meeting, Meeting Place Committee Chair, 1972; Seminar Program Chair, 1973-1974; E.C. Britton Industrial Symposium Committee Chair, 1976; Nominating Committee Chair, 1978; Midland Section ACS Secretary, 1980; Midland Section ACS Chair-Elect, 1981; Midland Section ACS Chair, 1982; Midland Section ACS Executive Committee, 1982; Midland Section ACS Past Chair, 1983; Midland Section ACS Director, 1986; National Chemistry Day Demonstrator, 1987; and finally, Public Affairs Committee Chair, 1995. Well done, good and faithful servant.



William (Bill) E. Dennis, age 89, passed away in his sleep on November 18, 2025, at Candlestone Assisted Living, in Midland, Michigan. Bill was born March 23, 1936, in Raton, New Mexico, to William E. and Marjorie (Leake) Dennis. Bill was preceded in death by his father (1940), his mother (2009), and his daughter, Jill (2013).

Bill grew up in Mendon, Missouri; Fort Madison, Iowa; and Kansas City, Missouri. He graduated from Central High School and attended Kansas City Junior College in Kansas City.

Bill met his beloved wife and lifelong companion, Mary Little, while working at a summer job at the Homestead Resort in Glen Arbor, Michigan. Bill married Mary on August 13, 1955, in Shepherd, Michigan. Bill and Mary lived in Shepherd while Bill worked as a technician in the latex lab at Dow Chemical in Midland.

As a father with three children, Bill returned to school in 1961 at Alma College. The chemistry faculty at Alma scheduled the advanced chemistry courses in the morning so that he could continue to work at Dow. Bill received a B.S. in chemistry from Alma College in 1962 and a PhD in chemistry from Wayne State University in 1966. Bill then accepted a research position at Dow Corning Corporation in Midland. Bill worked in many areas of Dow Corning, including fiber optics innovation, until his retirement in 1998.

Bill was a personable, gregarious man who especially enjoyed the friendship of his many co-workers and customers. Bill was very active in the American Chemical Society, including serving as the local section chair.

In retirement, Bill and Mary enjoyed traveling throughout North America, Europe, and Asia with friends, Jim and Sue Peters.

Bill's hobbies included golf, sailing, bicycling, and bridge. He taught his family to sail in his Lightning sailboat named "Question of Balance." He enjoyed riding in the DALMAC (Dick Allen Lansing to Mackinac) and PALM (Pedal Across Lower Michigan) bicycle tours with his family. He belonged to a 50-year bridge group which included: George Vogel, Gerry Cappo, Rudy Phillips, Tim Hueston, George Gant, Carl Woods, Ted Skinner, and Sandy Berger.

Bill loved spending time along Lake Michigan with family gatherings in Glen Arbor each year near where he and Mary first met.

Bill had a great sense of humor, and eclectic musical taste that ranged from opera, classical, jazz, country, and rock. Bill's family called him Bear. He was an intelligent, playful, fun-loving spouse, father, grandfather, and friend. He will be dearly missed.

Bill is survived by his beloved wife, Mary Dennis, with whom he celebrated 70 years of marriage; his children, Debi (Jack Markin) Dennis, Kathryn (Eric) Joffre, Jon (Pat) Dennis, and Kristin Wager; his grandchildren, Abraham Markin, Max Markin, Zach (Maura Cheeks) Markin, Kevin (Xinyi) Joffre, Dagny (Christopher) Beale, Leif (Erica) Joffre, Scott Joffre, Therese Joffre, Ruth Wager, Laya Wager, Naomi Wager, Paul Wager, and Rosemary Dennis; and his great-grandsons, Aster Beale and Shiloh Bear Joffre.

The family would like to thank the Candlestone Assisted Living caregivers and CorsoCare Hospice nurses, Keri and Amber, for their loving care of Bill.

A celebration of life memorial service was held at 2:30 PM on Saturday, December 6, 2025, with visitation with the family from 1:00 PM until time of service at Ware Smith Woolever Funeral Home, in Midland.

In lieu of flowers, memorial gifts may be made to Alma College and sent to Attn: Advancement Office, 614 West Superior Street, Alma, MI 48801-1504.

All of us at Ware Smith Woolever Funeral Home (1200 West Wheeler Street, Midland, MI 48640-2891, Phone: 877-631-2292, www.wswfh.com) are honored that the Dennis family has entrusted us with the care of their loved one.

Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Updates

- December 1 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [December 2025 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 938 651 597 463 5, Passcode: FV2oA7.
- December 6 (1:00 – 2:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS STEM Outreach event, “Christmas Chemistry,” Bay County Historical Society, 321 Washington Avenue, Bay City. For more information or any questions, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.
- January 5 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) (Tentative) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [January 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 939 576 147 515 1, Passcode: A52hAT.
- February 2 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) (Tentative) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [February 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 939 576 147 515 1, Passcode: A52hAT.
- March 2 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) (Tentative) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [March 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 939 576 147 515 1, Passcode: A52hAT.
- March 22-26, 2026 (Save the Date) – ACS Spring 2026 National Meeting & Exposition, Atlanta, GA. This meeting will be a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting. For more information, please see the information on page 16 or click on [ACS Spring 2026](#). Please note: The deadline for abstract submissions was September 29, 2025. Registration opens on December 10, 2025.
- April 6 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) (Tentative) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [April 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 939 576 147 515 1, Passcode: A52hAT.
- May 4 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) (Tentative) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [May 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 939 576 147 515 1, Passcode: A52hAT.
- June 1 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) (Tentative) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at [June 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link](#), Meeting ID: 939 576 147 515 1, Passcode: A52hAT.
- August 23-27, 2026 (Save the Date) – ACS Fall 2026 National Meeting & Exposition, Chicago, IL. This meeting will be a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting. For more information, please see [ACS Fall 2026](#).
- November 7-11, 2026 (Save the Date) – ACS 2026 Central Regional Meeting (CERM 2026), Cincinnati, OH. Watch here for more information to follow.

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