



The Hall of Ideas at the Midland Center for the Arts brings the wonder of science to children and families, p. 3

THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

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*Chair Column***News Update: Section Up for *Three* Awards**

Okay, the first thing I'd better do here is straighten out the mess that I created in the last column. I wrote that we had received a letter from the National ACS telling us that we "had been nominated for the Activity or Program in a Local Section that Best Addresses the ACS Strategic Thrusts Award." Well, it turns out that we received *three* letters in the same envelope, one citing the Strategic Thrusts Award, the second nominating us for the "Outstanding Kids and Chemistry Program Award," and third nominating us for the "Outstanding Performance by Local Section Medium Large Size Category Award."



George Eastland, Chair
ACS Midland Section

The letters were virtually identical, save for the citation of the particular award. I read the first, and looked at the other two, concluding that they were all the same.

Now, I had never even heard of the Strategic Thrusts Award—it sounded to me like an award given to someone who wins a sword fight. So I called Gretchen Kohl, who knows all there is to know about things like this. Without going into all of the subsequent details, she finally got me straightened out, and I read all three letters. But the rest of what I said goes...at this writing we still don't know if we won or not, though by the time this issue of *The Midland Chemist* actually emerges, the announcements will have been made. And, finally, the bit about the dedication of people in this section is certainly true, and since we got three letters to that effect, it must be three times as true!

And speaking of hard work, dedication, and competence, in case you missed it, Dave Stickles has been elected secretary of the Division of Chemical Technicians (TECH). He begins his term on 1 January, 2002. Congratulations, Dave!

It took a little while this year to get our publicity committee off the ground, but it is in very good hands now. Angelo Cassar and Kristine Danowski attended what they reported to be a most useful and informative session run by the ACS at the Belmont Conference Center in Elkridge, Maryland, a few weeks ago. The workshop covered the important aspects of publicity and public relations. This is an important committee for us, and I am sure that all of us in the section will benefit from their efforts.

And speaking of good committees—our nominations and elections committee has been hard at work again, once more led by Steve "I won't

take no for an answer” Keinath. The slate of candidates presented at the August board meeting comprises an outstanding group of individuals. The work of Steve and the rest of the committee is almost too good...it is going to be hard to make a choice in some of those races. But **please**, when the ballot comes out, **do** make a choice—vote. That’s the way a democracy works.

There has been a break in my typing, as I had to trundle off and interview a candidate for our women’s basketball coaching position, take her to lunch, and then a tour of campus. I just got back, and have received a letter from ACS giving us some information on our nomination as Outstanding Performance by Local Section Medium Large Size Category Award. Some interesting stuff.

There are three nominees—Midland Section, Indiana, and Rochester. We had 19% of our membership voting in the last election while the other two were, respectively, 1.7 and 11%. So, while 19% isn’t great, it is a long way from the worst. We didn’t measure up to the other two in number of section meetings. We held 6, while the other two were 10 and 18. We were the only section of the three to survey the membership. We were the only one with a long-range plan. We had 12 new activities while the other two introduced 8 and 3, respectively. We gave 7 awards to students, teachers, and members, with the other two sections logging 4 and 5, respectively. We gave 134 talks to the public this last year. The figures for the other two sections were 0 and 16. We promoted 17 activities to the media—the other two sections were 0 and 3. Aha!! I just noticed. The last three cited above were part of the “Strategic Thrusts” category. Now I’ve got it. I think.

Well, from my point of view, we should be a shoe-in for outstanding section. By the time that you read this, we’ll know.



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Hall of Ideas: Many Worlds of Learning in a 'Please Touch' Atmosphere

By Karol Childs

Director of the Hall of Ideas and Midland Section Board Member

The Hall of Ideas museum, located in the Midland Center for the Arts, features three levels of unique interactive exhibits and traveling science exhibitions. Visitors will be amazed by a giant skeletal replica of an American Mastodon. A voyage through the Hall of Ideas includes the opportunity to captain a Great Lakes fishing boat, set off a mine blast, ride in a combine, manipulate a larger-than-life periodic table of the elements, test for balance, create computer music, and experience an old-time theatre. Hands-on exhibits are dedicated to discovery. The museum is wheelchair accessible, and the permanent exhibits are labeled in Braille. Science outreach programs are available to schools, civic groups, and other educational organizations. This fall we will

be featuring the "Contraptions A to Z Exhibit" from September 13 to November 13.



The Hall of Ideas hosts traveling science exhibits as well as being home to numerous permanent exhibits. The Hall of Ideas staff participates in many community science-related activities.

The Hall of Ideas and the American Chemical Society, Midland Section, have a long record of collaboration. In the late 1960s when the new science/art museum was being planned, some members of the Midland Section served on a community committee that was led by Alden B. Dow, architect of the Midland Center for the Arts, whose ideas, with input from the committee, formed the original Great Hall of Ideas. For many years, Midland Section members have supported the science education programs and projects of the Hall of Ideas through their ideas and participation as demonstrators and volunteers.

Our latest joint project has been the Project Science Literacy curriculum. It is a rewarding experience to collaborate in advocacy of science literacy. Many Section members participated in the April Recognition Banquet held at the Midland Center for the Arts. At that time attendees had the opportunity to experience a trip through the museum. If you did

not have that opportunity I invite you to come to the Hall of Ideas. It's open from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. every day of the week—and it's *free!*

You, members of Midland Section, your friends and families, are welcome to become Hall of Ideas members, visitors, and volunteers. Membership in the Hall of Ideas brings perks such as free seats at Science Sundays and reciprocal free admission to science museums around the world.

I hope to see you at the Hall! Call the Hall of Ideas at 989-631-5931

at 1917 for more information.

Career Workshop Being Planned

By Don Miller

The Career Services and Professional Committee is contemplating setting up a session (workshop or discussion) on career transitions sometime this fall or winter if there is interest in this subject in the Section. We are thinking of mid-career people who are contemplating early retirement and starting another career, e.g., teaching, consulting, or starting a business, as well as retirees or anyone thinking of changing careers. If interested, contact Don Miller, Career Services Chair, 421 Morningside Dr., Midland, MI 48640, phone 989-832-8270, donmiller@tm.net. Please indicate if you would prefer a week night or Saturday session.

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Combinatorial Chemistry

By Dave Baker

In recent years combinatorial chemistry has become a new subfield of chemistry to synthesize and screen very large numbers of compounds from small numbers of reagents. Combinatorial chemistry is not so much a new technique but a method of applying traditional methods of synthesis and analysis in new ways.

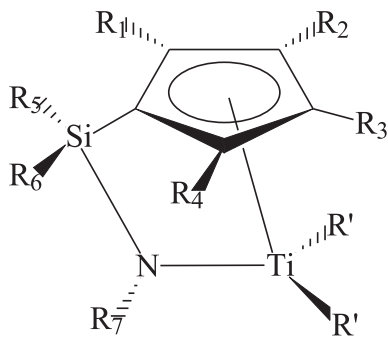
In a recent article in *Advanced Materials*, Vol. 12, No. 23, pp. 1819–1822, Dow authors H.E. Tuinstra and C.H. Cummins describe Dow's use of combinatorial chemistry in catalyst research. The excerpt below was adapted from the introduction to their article with permission.

With roots in the discovery of peptide-based drugs, combinatorial chemistry is now an important part of the lead identification programs of most major drug and agricultural chemical companies. Through a variety of techniques, hardware, and methodologies, combinatorial chemistry offers two fundamental advantages: the ability to rapidly synthesize a diverse set of candidate materials and the ability to rapidly screen these materials for biological activity. This approach is in contrast to what had been the norm for lead discovery for the previous two to three decades—theoretical identification of a lead candidate compound by a combination of modeling and experimentation, followed by preparation of the potential lead compound and subsequent evaluation and diversification. This latter linear approach is both time and resource intensive. The combinatorial approach, on the other hand, is quite empirical and in principle says “make *every* compound, and screen them for the desired property.” It is the advent of the new technology accompanying the combinatorial philosophy that has allowed this to be a reasonable proposition.

While it is, of course, impossible to screen every possible substance against a specific application, combinatorial chemistry typically allows a much more comprehensive sampling of a particular molecular structure space than has been available in the past. These advantages have been made available through the use of new rapid-synthesis and high-throughput screening techniques and the appropriate use of robotics. Additionally, as the rapid evaluation of hundreds or thousands of samples generates enormous quantities of information, data handling and analysis systems specific to combinatorial chemistry have been developed.

The challenge for The Dow Chemical Company and for the chemical industry in general, has been to apply the methodologies and tools developed by the agricultural chemicals and pharmaceutical industries towards problems of interest to the chemical industry. Not unlike ag and pharma, a significant amount of research in the chemical industry involves screening. Researchers in the chemical industry screen for new catalysts for existing processes as well as new catalytic transformations. They screen for new materials and modification of existing materials for new applications. They screen for new product formulations for improved performance. In addition to these (and other) examples of molecular diversity, they screen for process diversity (kinetics, economics, time, temperature, pressure, agitation, etc.) to improve chemical processes and materials processing.

It is important to remember that combinatorial chemistry is a tool, and as such is not likely to be of value to every research problem. In fact, its utility is limited to specific situations where the ability to screen large numbers of materials would have a positive impact on the ability to deliver technology. There is a substantial investment both in capital and resources involved in establishing a combinatorial capability, and this effort must always be weighed against the option of a simple, serial approach to compound preparation and screening. In those cases where only a small set of samples is to be screened, a combinatorial approach is probably not worth the investment. An additional consideration is whether, once in place, the combinatorial technology developed for the specific application can be leveraged against other research problems.



$R_{1-7} = \text{H, Me, Et, } i\text{-Pr, } n\text{-Bu, Ph, 4-MePh, 4-F-Ph, C}_6\text{H}_5, \text{ Naphthyl}$

This titanium complex has 10,000,000 possible molecular variations based on a diversity of only ten choices for each R group. A combinatorial approach to this challenge would allow many more of these compounds to be examined than could be achieved in a linear fashion.

“Classical” combinatorial chemistry can involve conducting a number of solution-phase reactions simultaneously in well-ordered sets. Other companies and research groups have approached this using split-pool approach. These methods have been made possible because of

Continued on page 14

Mentors Needed for Project SEED

By Peggy Hill

For over 30 years Project SEED has had enormous success in introducing young people to chemically related science careers by sponsoring them to work directly with a research scientist in either an academic or industrial lab setting. This program specifically targets youths who would otherwise not have this kind of opportunity, as the Project SEED mission statement reads,

“To assure that students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds have opportunities to experience the challenges and rewards of chemically related sciences.”

Students are supported through funds provided by the Project SEED office and the Midland Section of the ACS. They are high school students within the five-county Midland Section area who have completed a year of chemistry and are interested in working on a summer research project. Interested students submit an application and are interviewed by the Project SEED coordinator and a prospective mentor. Students are selected based on grades, teacher recommendations, and the interview.

Students work with their mentors on a daily basis as full-time workers. Mentors select and supervise the student's research project, providing day-to-day guidance during the 8–10 week summer period.

Projects should be in a chemically related area and should enable the student to have hands-on experience working on laboratory or field work. Computer-based projects are also welcome.

Would you like to sponsor a Project SEED student next year? You could make a big difference in the life of a young person! For more information, contact Margaret Hill, Project SEED Coordinator, Department of Chemistry, Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48859, 989-774-3143, hill1mr@cmich.edu.



Laura Platt was a SEED I student last year and is currently a SEED II student at Central Michigan University.

Photo by Peggy Hill

Section Members Attend PR Workshop

By Angelo Cassar

From Friday, July 20, to Sunday, July 22, Kris Danowski and I, as chairpersons of the Public Relations Committee for the Midland Section, spent a full weekend in Baltimore, Maryland, learning how to become knowledgeable communicators for our Section. We attended the Elements of Communication Workshop held at the Belmont Conference Center. I had assumed that we would be in a hotel in the middle of a large metropolitan area. Instead, we discovered that the Belmont is surrounded by rolling hills, farmland, and a large herd of friendly deer.



The ACS also owns the Dobbin House, which is used to house members attending conferences such as the Elements of Communication Workshop held in July.

The Belmont is actually owned by the American Chemical Society. The main house was built in 1768. This old and quaint building was used in several capacities: the Belmont has rooms, which provided some of our fellow ACS members a place to sleep; a dining area with an attached kitchen, and finally a meeting room where our first meeting was held. If you were to ask me which room I enjoyed the most, it would have to be where the food was served, the dining room! I would rate the food equal to a five-star restaurant!

There were two other interesting buildings that the ACS owns which were also in use that weekend. Next to the Belmont is the 'Carriage House' conference center, where all but the first meetings were held. This is where 95% of our work took place. The second building is the Dobbin house, which is located about a quarter of a mile down the road from the Belmont. The Dobbin House was my home away from home.

At this weekend seminar, Kris and I met a number of people, both from the ACS Office of Communications and other participants from other sections around the country. I found the staff at the Office of Communications, Nancy Blount, Sharon Worthy, Marv Coyner, Ann Higgins,

and Rodney Pearson, to be very knowledgeable and willing to assist all of us in learning how to become good publicity chairpersons.

Friday evening began with introductory remarks from the staff followed by dinner and a social hour. Saturday's work began at 7:30 a.m. with a short breakfast and lasted until 9:00 p.m. A few of the subjects that were covered on Saturday include:

- Elements of the News: How They Relate to Your PR plan
- Writing for the Media, Part I & II
- Media Panel: Working With Reporters, Editors and Broadcasters. (The panel consisted of a reporter from *USA Today*, a Bureau Chief from *The Baltimore Sun* and an assignment desk manager from NEWSCHANNEL 8, in Washington, DC)
- Writing for the Media: Op-Eds and Letters to the Editor
- ACS's 125 Anniversary
- Group Discussion: Sharing Ideas
- Regional Meetings, Divisions and Local Sections Breakout Sessions
- Communicating With Impact, with Doris McMillon

The last session of "Communicating with Impact" was perhaps the highlight of the weekend. One member of the class was asked to role-play as a reporter and another was asked to role-play as a representative of a local section. The "TV reporter" did a mock interview of the ACS member. The purpose of this role-playing was to teach us how to work with the press, in the event any of us would be interviewed.

Sunday was a shorter workday, ending at noon. The topics included:

- National Chemistry Week
- News Release Review
- PR Plan Reports
- National Historic Landmarks Program, with Ann Higgins

The seminar actually concluded with a "Graduation Ceremony." The staff brought a CD player and played the music "Pomp and Circumstance" so often heard at graduations. Each member of the class was handed a certificate of completion as we received a handshake or a hug from a member of the ACS staff.

I left the Belmont realizing that we learned a great deal and at the same time had an enjoyable experience with fellow ACS members from different parts of the country. The staff at the national ACS office is commended for putting on an excellent Public Relations Workshop.

Section Staffs Booth at Regional Meeting

By Chuck and Barbara Roth

A booth featuring Project Science Literacy (Bringing Science to Life in the Classroom) was hosted by Midland Section members at the 33rd Central/Great Lakes Regional ACS Meeting. Over 700 registrants participated in this joint section meeting held at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids on June 11–13.

Sandy Pederson, a graphic artist and Gretchen Kohl's sister, created the attractive triptych display used at the booth. This beautiful display contained pictures, charts, and some of the awards presented to the Midland Section for the Project Science Literacy program.

Project Science Literacy is a program of the Midland Section that assists elementary and middle school teachers to better understand and feel more comfortable teaching basic science concepts to their students. The "Bringing Science to Life in the Classroom" workshops have been presented to over 1800 teachers in Michigan. A second workshop, "Clowning Around with Polymers" is now also available and being presented to many school districts.

A steady flow of attendees stopped by and showed considerable interest in the workshop content and program and were impressed when shown the numbers of school districts and teachers that have participated in these workshops since their beginning in 1995.



Joan Sabourin helps out at the Project Science Literacy booth. Chuck Roth is at left.



Barb Roth prepares for another group of visitors. Midland Section representatives explained the program to ACS members from several other sections.

Many contacts were made with ACS members who were interested in following up with their own section or with their local school district administrators to see if similar efforts could be started in their area. Midland Section representatives offered their time to work with any of these groups or organizations to further this effort. The Midland Section received very favorable comments from attendees and ACS officers over the large amount of volunteer effort that has made this project so successful. Among those praising this work of the Midland Section was ACS Board of Directors chair, Mrs. Nina McClelland, who said that she expects to see the Midland Section promote Project Science Literacy at the fall National ACS meeting in Chicago.

Any members interested in more information about these workshops or the Project Literacy activities should contact Mike Ferritto at 989-496-3244, m.ferritto@dowcorning.com.

**Please visit the Midland Section
website (membership.acs.org/M/Midl)
for the latest updates on the
2001 Fall Scientific Meeting.**



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ACS Tour Speaker

Dr. Wiemer Discusses 'Search for Natural Insecticides'

By Anton Jensen

Monday, October 15 at 4:00 p.m.
Central Michigan University
Dow Science Building room 175
(reception at 3:30 p.m. in room 264)

Dr. David F. Wiemer, professor of chemistry at the University of Iowa, is the Fall 2001 ACS Tour Speaker. On October 15, Dr. Wiemer will present "A Search for Natural Insecticides." Anyone wishing to have dinner with the speaker at The Embers in Mt. Pleasant should contact Dr. Anton Jensen at anton.w.jensen@cmich.edu or 989-774-3125. Please RSVP by October 12. Dinner will begin at approximately 5:30 p.m. Meals may be ordered from the menu at your own expense.

Abstract

The leafcutter ants (Hymenoptera, Formicidae, Attini) are classed as agricultural pests throughout the tropical Americas, both because of the massive amount of leaf material that they harvest and their special fondness for agriculturally important plants. Colonies whose foraging is restricted to areas of native forest encounter a great variety of potential host plants, but while the ants are considered polyphagous, they are quite specific in their preferences for some plant species and dislike of others.

We have been investigating avoided plants for the presence of natural chemical defenses against this insect. From the leaves of unpalatable plants, we have isolated a number of compounds that function as ant repellents. Representative structures will be presented to illustrate modern techniques for determining the structures of natural products (e.g. 2-D NMR and chemical synthesis).

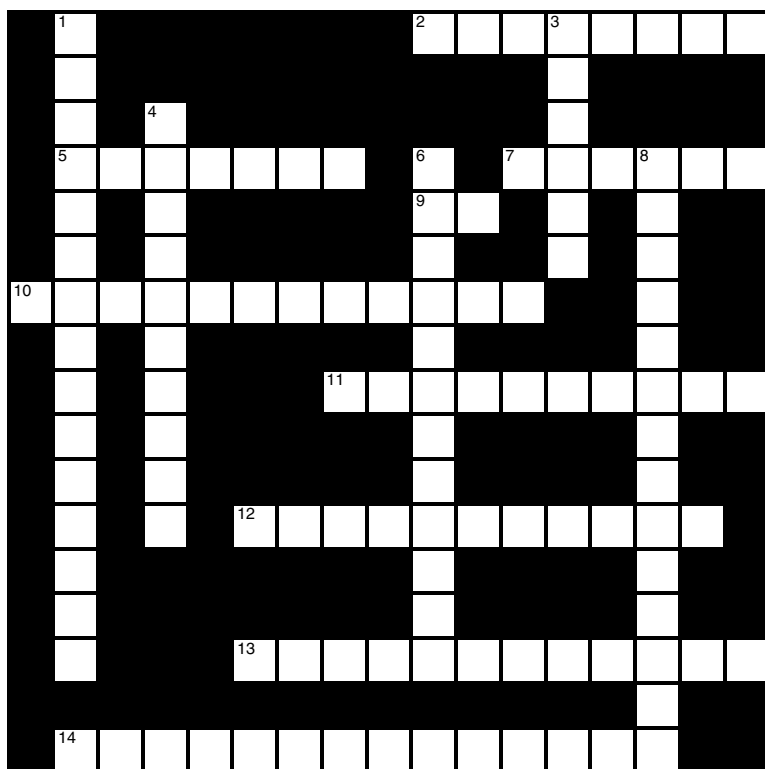
Dr. David F. Wiemer

Dr. Wiemer received a B.S. degree from Marquette University in 1972, before moving to the University of Illinois at Champaign-Urbana to pursue graduate study in organic chemistry. He received a Ph.D. in 1976 in synthetic organic chemistry under the direction of Nelson J. Leonard, and then continued with postdoctoral study at Cornell under the direction of Jerrold Meinwald. He joined the faculty at the University of Iowa in 1978. His honors include a National Institutes of Health postdoctoral fellowship, a fellowship from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, a University of

Iowa Faculty Scholar Award and Collegiate Teaching Award.

Dr. Wiemer is interested in the isolation, characterization, and synthesis of biologically active natural products and the field of chemical ecology. His research projects include studies of the chemical basis of host-plant resistance to defoliation by leafcutter ants and of natural insecticides and anti-fungal agents in general.

ChemPuzzler is Back!



Everything is Constant

Most of these values are considered “universal” constants. How many can you identify? Answers next month.

2. 0 K (-273°C)
 11. $1.660 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
 12. $6.672 \times 10^{-11} \text{ m}^3 \cdot \text{kg}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-2}$
 13. $9.109 \times 10^{-31} \text{ kg}$
 14. $1.602 \times 10^{-19} \text{ C}$

Across

2. 6.02×10^{23}
 5. $96485 \text{ C} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1}$
 7. $6.62 \times 10^{-34} \text{ J} \cdot \text{s}$
 9. 3.141592653

Down

1. $5.67 \times 10^{-8} \text{ W} \cdot \text{m}^{-2} \cdot \text{K}^{-4}$
 3. $8.314 \text{ J} \cdot \text{mol}^{-1} \cdot \text{K}^{-1}$
 4. $1.672 \times 10^{-27} \text{ kg}$
 6. $299792458 \text{ m} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$
 8. 2.71828

ACS Seeks Profiles of Successful Women Chemists

By Kristine Danowski

Next year, *Chemical and Engineering News* will run a series of articles on successful women in chemistry. One woman will be profiled each month except for March (National Women's History Month)—the feature that month will be a tribute to those pioneer women chemists who are deceased.

National ACS has asked for help identifying candidates for these articles. The president-elect of the ACS will appoint a selection committee. The theme for the articles is focused on the future by profiling women who will have an impact in the chemical sciences during the next 25 years. There are no citizenship or geographical requirements on the nominee, nor is ACS membership a requirement. Preference will be given to women age 50 or younger or within 25 years of obtaining her highest college degree.

Nominations should be for outstanding contributions related to the chemical sciences during the 1927–2002 time period. Recognition may be given for accomplishments in basic or applied research, education, public policy, or positive impact on quality of life. The list of nominees should represent the full diversity of women in chemistry. I think that this should include all disciplines and sectors of chemistry and the chemical enterprise. I would like to see a broad spectrum of nominees. Hopefully we would all be able to read this series and see someone we identify with.

Combinatorial Chemistry, from page 6

developments in chemical, software, and instrument technologies, along with improved screening and analytical techniques. Combinatorial chemistry seeks to rapidly produce large chemical libraries of potential drugs and chemical reagents.

Only last year The Dow Chemical Company entered into a new discovery and licensing agreement with Symyx Technologies Inc. based in Santa Clara, CA, to develop catalysts for the manufacture of advanced pharmaceuticals. Symyx develops and applies high-speed combinatorial technologies to the discovery of materials for life science, chemical, and electronic applications. Other Symyx partners include BASF and Bayer. One of the founders of Symyx is Dr. Peter G. Schultz, head of the Novartis Institute for Functional Genomics.

Editor's note: This is the first of what will be an ongoing series of articles on new chemistries. Readers are invited to submit ideas or articles to The Midland Chemist for consideration.

I know several women who could be considered for this honor. Would you like to nominate someone?

I have included the nominations form. Please let me know if you have any suggestions for nominations (Kristine Danowski, 989-638-6912, kldanowski@dow.com). The deadline for submission is September 7, 2001. Nominations can also be sent directly to Valerie Barrett at vbarrett@sunkistgrowers.com.

Nominee

Name _____

Pioneer yes no

Address _____

Telephone _____

E-mail address _____

Date of birth _____ or

Year highest degree obtained _____

Accomplishment _____

Contribution _____

Time frame of accomplishment _____

Affiliation (academia, government, industry, nonprofit) _____

Area of chemistry _____

Brief description of accomplishment(s) and include impact of the accomplishment _____

Nominator

Name _____

Telephone _____

E-mail _____

2002 Officer Candidates Announced

Chair-Elect (one to be elected for a 1-year term)

Mike Owen

Bill Pike

Secretary (1 to be elected for a 1-year term)

Cindy Peck

Wendy Flory

Treasurer (one to be elected for a 1-year term)

Doug Beyer

Barkley Sive

Chair, Nominations & Elections Committee (one to be elected for a 1-year term)

Jennifer Ehlert

Kermit Kwan

Councilor (one to be elected for a 3-year term)

Gretchen Kohl

Marvin Tegen

Alternate Councilor (one to be elected for a 3-year term)

Angelo Cassar

Steve Keinath

Directors (three to be elected for a 3-year term)

Ann Birch

Wendell Dilling

Estelle Lebeau

Joan Sabourin

Phil Squatrito

Joe Ceraso

Additional nominations will be accepted from the floor or by petition at the September 10, 2001, Midland Section ACS Board meeting. Nominees should have agreed to be a candidate and serve, if elected, before floor nominations or petitions are made. If you have an additional officer candidate nomination in mind and cannot make it to the September 10 meeting, please contact Steve Keinath, Chair, Nominations & Elections Committee, at 989-832-5555, ext. 588, or via e-mail at skeinath@mml.org. Biographical information for all of the candidates and the election ballot will be published in the October issue of *The Midland Chemist*.

ACS and SPE Offer Ice Cream, Popcorn, and Fun at the Fair!

By Angelo Cassar, Gretchen Kohl, and Karol Childs

Friday, August 17th, marked the second annual Family Fun Day at the Midland County Fair for local section members of the ACS and the Society of Plastics Engineers (SPE). Attendance was up this year, to 300

people. There were booths for the Midland Section ACS, SPE, and the award winners of the ACS Salutes to Excellence program. Jiggs the clown and her assistant Fluffy painted faces and made balloon animals for the kids.

We also gave free coupons for pop, popcorn, cotton candy, ice cream, face painting

and prizes for games. It was a pleasure to see so many ACS and SPE members bring their entire families for a fun day at the fair!

The ride passes that were purchased allowed the children (and even some fun-loving adults) to enjoy the midway rides from 1 p.m. till the fair closed. For those who wished to consume more sustenance than ice cream and popcorn, we offered ACS and SPE members the opportunity of

purchasing a prime rib dinner from the 4-H Club for 50% off the regular price. At 6 p.m. that evening, the ACS Salutes to Excellence Awards were given, which are detailed in a separate article on page 20 of this issue of *The Midland Chemist*.

One of the unusual happenings at this year's fair was the opportunity to meet Bill



Serious face painting is underway at the Family Fun Day at the Midland County Fair sponsored by Midland Sections of ACS and SPE. Photo by Gretchen Kohl



Karol Childs provided information on the Science Outreach Programs at the Midland Center for the Arts Hall of Ideas. Photo by Gretchen Kohl



The Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee for Soybean Products was a Salutes to Excellence award winner. Mr. and Mrs. Curtis Thayer were on hand with a display developed by the committee.

Photo by Gretchen Kohl

Carroll, one of the candidates for the office of president-elect of ACS. The second candidate for the office of president-elect, Elsa Reichmanis, was also invited to our Fun Day; but was unable to attend. She hopes to make it to Midland before the November election. Her pamphlets arrived the day after the fair, but will be displayed at our Fall Scientific Meeting.

Angelo had the opportunity to casually interview Bill on a range of topics that included the effectiveness of the peer review process of journal articles, advances in biochemistry, and the role of ACS as a scientific organization relative to our changing society. On the subject of

peer review, Bill felt that the peer review process was not perfect, no more than our democratic system is perfect, however, it is the best system that we have. Bill also was aware of the excellent activities of our Midland chemists and technicians. Bill pointed out that the Midland Section is known for its involvement in many very effective community activities. We thank Bill for battling the weather and the flight schedules between here and Dallas to join us at the picnic.



Saran PVDC resin and Saran Wrap™ film have been in use for over 60 years and they're still going strong. Doug Beyer of The Dow Chemical Company manned a display of applications.*

Photo by Gretchen Kohl

Our thanks to the fair volunteers whose hard work and planning made this year's fair an enjoyable experience for many Midland Section families. We hope to continue this tradition of a picnic at the fair for the fami-

lies of ACS and SPE members next year. Fair volunteers included:

Karol Childs	Bill Childs	Kendra Titus
Gretchen Kohl	Angelo Cassar	Margo McIvor
Harry Fowler	Mike Ferritto	Joan McMahan
Paul Popa	Joe Powers	Marv Tegen
Ronda Grosse	Karen Moore	Janet Smith
Dana Saxton	Peter Qian	Csilla Kollar
Wendell Dilling		

New H.S. Chemistry Text Emphasizes Societal Issues

Chemistry in the Community (ChemCom) is a high school chemistry textbook for college-bound students. The book is organized around societal issues involving chemistry. Students learn more organic and biochemistry than in traditional courses, as well as some environmental and industrial chemistry. The course is about 50% laboratory-based, and features decision-making activities which give students practice in applying their chemistry knowledge in decision-making situations. This course clearly addresses the fundamental concepts and principles found in the *National Science Education Standards*.

The seven units of study in *Chemistry (ChemCom)* cover the topics of :

- Water
- Resources
- Petroleum
- Air
- Industry
- Nuclear Issues
- Food

The Fourth Edition, soon to be available from W.H. Freeman and Company, will contain new and exciting additions and updates.

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Salutes to Excellence Recognizes Products of Chemistry

By Karol Childs and Gretchen Kohl

As part of the 125th anniversary theme for ACS this year, the Midland Section recognized Products of Chemistry of the Past, Present, and Future in the Salutes to Excellence program at the Family Fun Day on August 17th at the Midland County Fair. Gretchen Kohl introduced Wendell Dilling, past Midland Section chair, who presented the awards.

Doug Beyer of The Dow Chemical Company, accepted the Salute to Excellence for a Product of the Past for Saran* PVDC resin and Saran Wrap™ film. Although Saran was invented in 1939 and is a milestone of the plastics industry, new applications are being developed for present and future use. A display of this versatile product was visited by fair-goers.

Diazem Corporation has developed a unique product based on siliconized hyperbranched polymer bonded onto a porous silica substrate. It



The Salutes to Excellence for Products of Chemistry were presented at the ACS/SPE Family Fun Day at the Midland County Fair. Shown in this photo are Curtis Thayer, Product of the Future; Doug Beyer, Product of the Past; Wendell Dilling, past-chair Midland Section; Gretchen Kohl, councilor Midland Section; Adrienne Witt, Product of the Present.

Photo by Connie Murphy

is for this technology that Diazem Corporation was recognized for the Product of the Present. One of the commercial uses of this product is for process purification, where homogeneous metal can be cost effectively and efficiently removed from a process stream. Adrienne Witt accepted the recognition on behalf of Diazem Corporation.

The Salute to Excellence for a Product of Chemistry for the Future was given to the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee for Soybean Products. As we consider the place of green chemistry in our future, industrial products such as cleaners, soy diesel, lubricants, and solvents from soybean ester are in a leadership role. Soybean products have a long history of use in the United States. The recognition plaque was received by Curtis Thayer, who provided a display for fair-goers.

A gentle reminder to all of you: The final Salutes to Excellence will be presented at the Fall Scientific Meeting on October 13. Please forward your nominations for People of Chemistry salutes to Karol Childs (childs@mcfta.org, 989-531-5930 x1215) or Gretchen Kohl (gretchen.kohl@dowcorning.com, 989-496-8200) by September 10, 2001.

ACS Offers Green Chemistry Resource

Real-World Cases in Green Chemistry by Michael C. Cann and Marc E. Connelly is an educational resource published by the American Chemical Society. The 72-page book, designed to be used in a variety of ways in undergraduate courses, contains descriptions of ten projects that have won or been nominated for the Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge awards. The book can also serve as a resource for anyone wishing to be better informed about specific ways in which the redesign of chemical products and processes is preventing pollution and solving environmental problems.



To order, telephone ACS Education Products customer service representatives at (800) 227-5558 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday-Friday. Prices:

- ACS members: \$12.00 per copy
- Non-members: \$16.00 per copy
- Multiple copies \$10.00 per copy (30 or more)

Important Dates on the ACS Midland Section Calendar

- September 1 Deadline for Fall Scientific Meeting posters (David Karpovich, 989-790-4349)
- September 10 Deadline for nominations for "People of Chemistry" in the Salutes to Excellence Program (Karol Childs, 989-631-5930, x1215)
- September 10 Deadline for October issue of *The Midland Chemist*
- September 10 Midland Section board meeting, Delta College, Midland Center, room 12, 7:00 p.m.
- September 10 Deadline for nominations for Midland Section officers (Steve Keinath, 989-832-5555, ext. 588)
- September 14 Deadline for call for nominations, Midland Section awards (Phil Squattrito, 989-774-4407)
- October 1 Midland Section board meeting, Delta College, Midland Center, room 12, 7:00 p.m.
- October 13 Fall Scientific Meeting, Dow Chemical Employee Development Center, 8:00 a.m.—noon.
- October 15 Dr. David Wiemer, ACS Tour Speaker, "A Search for Natural Insecticides," Central Michigan University, Dow 175, 4:00 p.m., reception preceding in Dow 264 (Anton Jensen, 989-774-3125)

All meetings are open to all ACS members and the public.

AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY

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