



*Parents and kids alike enjoyed the activities at Sci-Fest 2007.*

**Look inside for complete Fall Scientific Meeting coverage (including Section awards), election results, and more!**

# THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

Volume 44, Number 6

December 2007

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*The Midland Chemist* is published six times a year by the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society.

American Chemical Society

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*Chair Column***The Great Feast of 2007**

**I**n my first column of 2007, I quoted Aristotle, who said, “A whole is that which has beginning, middle, and end.” As I come to the end of my term as Midland Section chair, I’d like to reflect back on those components that comprise the whole of 2007.

In the beginning of 2007, we were fortunate to get increased funding from both Dow Chemical and Dow Corning, for which we are very grateful. We used that increase to plan for additional funding for several programs throughout the year—a nice change from cuts that had been necessary for the last several years. We also took the time to set Section goals and establish committees for the year’s events and activities. While this type of work doesn’t get the press coverage or feeling of excitement that other activities might generate, it is a necessary ingredient in our Section’s recipe for success. Beginning a year’s worth of programs with appropriate planning, resources, and leadership is like a chef heading to the right grocery store with a complete list and sufficient funds to prepare for a gourmet meal.

Our Section then used those ingredients to prepare and serve a variety of gourmet courses during the year, which I would like to refer to as our “middle.” In April, we co-sponsored Earth Day with the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art and the Chippewa Nature Center with a broad spectrum of activities for kids and adults, including a speaker on climate change. Later that month, a feast of awards was given to area students, educators, and volunteers at our Spring Awards Banquet. During that time, we had 165 students participate in Chemistry Olympiad from nine different schools and also piloted a successful mentoring program at Central and Northeast Middle School in Midland. Later in the spring, we co-sponsored the Turner Alfrey Visiting Professor program at MMI, where Stephen Cheng of the University of Akron was the visiting professor. Several of our members gave a presentation on Careers in Chemistry at a local high school. We were also fortunately able to sponsor 15 CMU chemistry students to attend the National ACS Meeting in Chicago.

Over the summer, we hosted a very successful Professional’s Day at the Midland County Fair, with 140 people participating! A group of ACS volunteers also took part in the Summer Art Fair run by the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art. Our Section Open House and “Meet the Can-



Dee Strand, Chair  
ACS Midland Section

didate" Event was held in Plymouth Park, with a good turnout of membership and a few new faces.

Finally, this fall we have had a full plate of fun and educational activities. Our Fall Scientific Meeting, which was held for the first time at the Midland Center for the Arts, focused on the Greatest Challenges in Chemistry for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Energy, Water, and Food. We were very fortunate to have Katie Hunt, National ACS President, as our keynote speaker. National Chemistry Week featured the ever popular Sci-Fest which seemed to draw a larger crowd than ever!

Throughout the year, there are numerous programs and activities through Younger Chemists Committee (YCC) and the Mid-Michigan Technician Group (MMTG). In addition, the Midland Section ACS sponsors scholarships, Project SEED, and ACS speaker series. Finally, our councilors work hard representing our Section at national meetings.

And now we come to the end. But as I consider the end, I realize that it is only a prequel to the beginning again. Our end consists of getting a full slate of excellent candidates to run for office, and then electing those who will lead this section in 2008. Our end consists of reflecting back on how we did on those goals we set in the beginning, and improving on those for next year. Our end consists of documenting our activities in 2007, so that those who begin again next year can build off the knowledge we have written down. After the many fine courses in the middle of the meal, the end is that perfect dessert that you can't resist even though you are completely full.

Thank you all for the privilege of chairing the Midland ACS Section in 2007. It was quite a gourmet feast and I would like to express my appreciation for all the chefs who made it happen!

*Reide C. Strand*



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## 2007 FSM Attracts Over 200 Attendees

*By Dale Meier*

The Midland Section ACS 2007 Fall Scientific Meeting was held October 19 at the Midland Center for the Arts (MCFTA). It had the general theme of the Greatest Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century: Energy, Food, and Water and featured Dr. Catherine (Katie) Hunt, president of the American Chemical Society, as the keynote speaker addressing the general theme. Each topic was later covered in three mini-symposia.

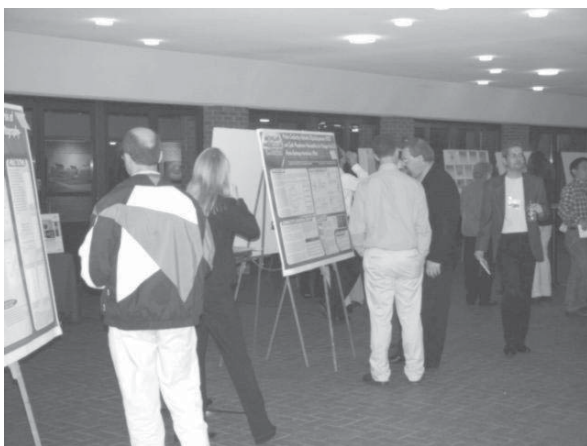
The program attracted 200 registered attendees and began with an excellent sit-down lunch catered by Northwood University. The formal program then followed with a welcome by Dale Meier and Dee Strand and was followed by the Award Ceremony honoring those receiving Section Awards and those who have been ACS members for 50 years or more.

After Dr. Hunt's keynote address on "Sustainable Chemistries," it was time to examine the approximately 50 posters that covered a wide variety of topics and to visit the 12 vendors showing a variety of products. The posters and the vendors were intermingled together in the brick lobby of the MCFTA, an arrangement that met with great approval by the vendors. An incentive was provided to visit the vendors in that a drawing was held for an iPod Nano to be given to one who had collected the requisite number of color stamps by visiting different vendors. The winner was Ali El-Khatib from Dow Automotive.

Following the Poster and Vendor Session, the three symposia began simultaneously in three lecture rooms of the Center. Each symposium topic featured four invited speakers who did exemplary jobs in covering various aspects of each topic.



*Keynote speaker Katie Hunt, ACS President*



*Posters on a wide variety of topics were available for viewing and discussion.*

A social hour, sponsored by the vendors, was provided for the attendees following the meeting at the Main Street Sports Pub on Main Street in Midland.

Overall, the meeting was definitely a success with praise for our keynote and invited speakers and for the poster presenters. The location at the Midland Center for the Arts is now con-



*The social hour gave participants a chance to relax and talk to colleagues, vendors, and speakers.*

sidered to be an ideal venue for such meetings and will be recommended for future such meetings. Finally, the help and cooperation given by the MCFTA staff deserve special praise.

### **2007 ACS FSM Committee Volunteers**

Chair	Dale Meier
Keynote Speaker	Dee Strand
Program	Pat Smith, Petar Dvornic
Registration	Dale LeCaptain
Vendors	Brett Zimmerman, Eric Joffre
Posters	Joel Kern, Brad Fahlman
Publicity	Angelo Cassar, Ann Birch, Rusty Govitz
Energy symposium	Steve Keinath
Food symposium	Scott Young
Water symposium	Pat Smith, John Blizzard
Ad Hoc Steering Committee	Dee Strand, Pat Smith, Petar Dvornic, Greg Potter, Dale Meier



## 2007 Midland Section Awards Announced

*By Scott Gaynor*

### ***2007 Midland Section Award for Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society***

David L. Stickles was awarded the 2007 Midland Section Award for Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society. Dave received an A.A.S. degree in industrial chemistry from Ferris State University in 1973, after which he worked as a technician for Dow Corning Corporation until retiring in 2002. He has served the Midland Section in numerous positions including secretary (1999), on the executive committee (1999, 2002 and 2004), and as a director (2000–2006). Additionally, he has served as chair or co-chair of Sci-Fest (a one day, hands-on exposition of various activities aimed at getting children interested in science) since 1996. He is also a member of the Mid-Michigan Technician Group and has served as the chair (1996–1997) and secretary (1992–1993). He has also been secretary for the national TECH Division of the American Chemical Society (2002). His awards include the Midland Section's Outstanding Chemical Technician Award (1998) and ACS's National Chemical Technician Award (2000).



### ***2007 Midland Section Award for Outstanding Chemical Technician***

Debbie Bailey is the 2007 recipient of the Midland Section Award for Outstanding Chemical Technician. Debbie received a bachelor's degree from Central Michigan University in 1993. After working as a technician at The Dow Chemical Company, Debbie joined Dow Corning Corp. in 1997 where she works in the Analytical Sciences group as a laboratory technician specializing in microscopy. Debbie has been active and a leader in the Mid-Michigan Technician Group, holding various positions including chair (2003), secretary (2005) and serving on the Board of Directors (2000–2002, 2004 and 2006–2007). In 2003, while Debbie was Chair, the MMTG was recognized nationally by the American Chemical Society with a ChemLuminary Award for Best Overall Technician Affiliate Group.



## **2007 Midland Section Award for Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Sciences**

Dr. Petar Dvornic was awarded the Midland Section Award for Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Sciences. Petar is currently Professor and Senior Research Scientist at Michigan Molecular Institute where he has been since 1993. He is also an adjunct professor at Central Michigan University as well as Michigan Technological University. Prior to joining MMI, he held various positions at the University of Belgrade (as head of the Polymer Materials Department for nearly a decade) and the University of Novi Sad. His many awards include the Belgrade Science Foundation Award (1986), the Serbian Chemical Society Award (1990), and the Serbian Chemical Society Deserving Member Award (2002). He is the author of over 60 published papers, six patents, two books, and a college level text book.



### **Service Awards**

*Note: Please see the article on page 7 for more details on service awardees.*

Fifty-year service awards were presented to the following people who have been members of the American Chemical Society for fifty years: Joseph L. Bevirt, Dr. Thomas Gillespie, Dr. Dale J. Meier, Dr. Wendell W. Meyer, Dr. Richard B. Moreau, and Walter Rupprecht.

Sixty-year service awards were presented to: Dr. C. Kenneth Bjork, Charles D. Burton, Gilbert C. Frantz, Ralph E. Friedrich, Dr. David B. Kellom, Richard A. McDonald, Dr. A. Lee Smith, Dr. Alfred F. Steinhauer and Dr. David C. Young.

John H. Davidson, who passed away in September, was recognized as a seventy-year member of the American Chemical Society.



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# Longtime ACS Members Honored

By Peggy Hill

**F**or many years, the Midland Section has recognized members who have been affiliated with ACS for 50 years, a milestone also recognized by national ACS. Now, it is also our privilege to recognize members with 60- and 70-year affiliations! We have not yet caught up with all of these folks to present their awards and highlight their contributions in *The Midland Chemist*, but intend to rectify that in the near future. Below are the biographies that we currently have. The complete "honor roll" is presented on pages 13 and 14. The members and officers of the Midland Section would like to acknowledge these milestones and the many contributions made by these individuals to the field of chemistry.

## Sixty-Year Members

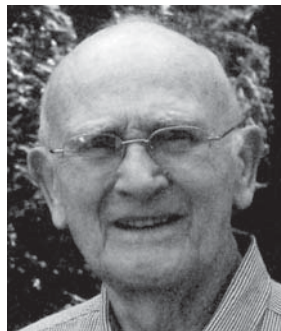
**Donald D. McCollister** earned his B.S. in industrial chemistry in 1942 at Kansas State University, Manhattan, Kansas. His career at The Dow Chemical Company spanned 1942 to 1989, which included a three-year stint in the U.S. Navy from 1944 to 1946. He was a chemist in the Edgar C. Britton Organic Research Lab and a biochemist/toxicologist in the Biochemical Research Lab. He went on to be the manager of Product Government Registration/Regulation in the Agriculture Department at Dow and then Director of International Regulatory Affairs for Health and Environmental Sciences.



Since his retirement, Don has been a consultant for National/International Regulatory Affairs (1989–1991). He is active in the local AARP, the Midland Country Club, and the Investment Club. He maintains a strong interest in politics and professional sports. He played tennis until age 73 and still regularly plays golf.

Don and his wife Susan (also a Dow retiree) live in Midland. They have two children and three grandchildren. Don joined ACS in 1942.

**Dr. C. Kenneth Bjork** began his chemistry education in Illinois at Augustana College where he earned a B.A. degree in 1947. He then headed east to DePauw University (Greencastle, IN), where he completed a master's degree in 1950. Moving southeast, he worked on his Ph.D. at the University of Kentucky, graduating in 1953. He then

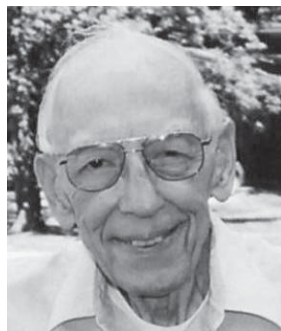


went back to Illinois where he spent one year at International Minerals and Chemical Corporation as a research chemist working on product and process development projects involving inorganic phosphate.

In 1954, Dow lured him up north, where he spent the next 41 years first as research chemist in the metallurgical laboratory, followed by a progression of supervisory positions in the patent department. At the time of his retirement in 1995, Ken was Administration Manager of Patent Operations. He spent some time for a short while after retiring doing patent consulting.

Now, Ken and his wife, Joyce, spend their time between Midland and Phoenix, Arizona, traveling around the U.S. in between to visit their seven children and many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Joyce and Ken just celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary in September 2007. Ken joined ACS in 1948.

**Ralph E. Friedrich** is a 1947 graduate of the University of Michigan, where he completed a bachelor of science in chemistry. In the two years following, Ralph worked as a chemist at Monsanto in a research division. In 1949, he moved to Midland, taking a research associate position at The Dow Chemical Company, where he spent thirty-four years engaged in research activities involving polyacrylamide and electrostatics. Since his retirement in 1983, Ralph volunteers for church-related activities and enjoys sailing and visiting his five children and eleven grandchildren. Ralph joined ACS in 1948.



**Dr. David B. Kellom** earned his bachelor of science at MIT in 1949 and a year later, a master's degree at Columbia University. He stayed at Columbia, earned a Ph.D. in 1952, and for the year following, pursued postdoctoral work at the University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana. David then took a position with The Dow Chemical Company, where he stayed until his retirement. Starting as a research chemist in process development, he later became a patent agent, working on U.S. and international patents. Toward the end of his time at Dow, David worked as a patent consultant on litigation issues. He retired from Dow in 1986.

During his Dow years and for many years following his retirement, David served on several community and church boards. He was a school board member for the city of Midland for 12 years and for Midland County for 22 years. He was a long-time director of the State School Board Association (1979–96) and served as its president from 1989–90. David

and his wife, Jean, have five children and five grandchildren. David joined ACS in 1948.

**Richard A. McDonald** retired from The Dow Chemical Company in 1985 after 33 years of service where he had been a research associate in thermal measurements. Prior to this, Richard worked for five years at General Aniline and Film Corporation doing physical testing and x-ray diffraction. He is a 1945 graduate of Iowa State University. While an undergraduate at Iowa, he participated in production and quality control work that was part of the Manhattan Project. Since retiring, Richard has been spending time reading, traveling, and developing his photography skills. He and his wife raised four children during their years in Midland. Richard joined ACS in 1948.

**Dr. A. Lee Smith** spent 38 years at Dow Corning Corporation, beginning in 1951 as a spectroscopist with expertise in IR, and later as manager of the Analytical Department, followed by positions as scientist and most recently as global analytical coordinator. He retired in 1989 and now enjoys scientist emeritus status. Lee did his undergraduate work at Iowa State University (B.S., 1946) and graduate work at Ohio State University (Ph.D., 1950). Since retiring, Lee enjoys gardening, restoring old clocks, and keeping up with his six daughters and their families. He and his wife, Frances, reside in Midland. Lee joined ACS in 1948.



**Dr. Alfred F. Steinhauer** is a two-time graduate of the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis), where he completed a B.S. degree in 1943 and a Ph.D. in 1949. His doctoral work led him to Colgate-Palmolive, where he applied his training to research on surface-active agents. But, a year later found Al at The Dow Chemical Company where he spent the next 31 years pursuing his research interests. His work resulted in 22 patents that include the basic patent on Dowfax 2A1. Al also developed Aztec and Touch of Sweden. He retired in 1982. Since then, he has done quite a bit of international traveling that included a three-month stay in Zimbabwe in association with the International Executive Service Corps. Al has also been active volunteering for the ACS and enjoying the outdoor life through his camping experiences. In addition, he found a new passion for computers. He says, "I bought one



the day I retired and have been enthralled with them ever since.” Al and his wife, Joyce, raised a son and daughter in Midland. They enjoy visiting their children and two grandchildren. Alfred joined ACS in 1948.

### ***Fifty-Year Members***

**Joseph L. Bevirt** joined The Dow Chemical Company as a research chemist in 1956 after graduating from the University of Missouri with a B.S. in agriculture and biochemistry and an M.S. in bioanalytical chemistry. He later moved into marketing research and subsequently into marketing and product management in Hong Kong, where his work for Dow became international; in his Hong Kong post, Joe spent five years managing Dow projects in more than 50 countries. In 1973, he returned to Midland where he settled into sales, marketing, and corporate account management. During this time, Joe served for two years as the national chairman of the Chemical Marketing and Economics Division of the ACS.



In 1987, Joe left Dow to become the executive director of the Midland County Economic Development Corporation (now known as Midland Tomorrow), a group that facilitates economic growth in the Midland area. Although he retired in 1997, he is still a member of the Midland Tomorrow executive board.

Joe has also been an active participant in numerous community organizations, serving on the executive board of the Lake Huron Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America, the Midland County Cancer Society/Pardee Cancer Treatment Board, and church boards. He was active in the Midland public school committees and PTA and served as president of Trout Unlimited.

Joe and his wife of 54 years, Willi, who is a former Dow chemist, reside

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in Midland. The couple raised three children during their years in Midland. Joe joined ACS in 1958.

**Dr. Dale J. Meier** spent 21 years in polymer research at various posts within the Shell Group after completing B.S. and M.S. degrees at Caltech, and a Ph.D. at UCLA. Dale's work at Shell began in 1951 when he became supervisor of a research group at the Shell Development Company. In 1968, Dale left the U.S. for a one-year sojourn as a visiting scientist in polymer physics research at Shell Amsterdam/Delft. He then spent a year at the Shell Chemical Company as a research supervisor and in 1970 returned to Shell Development.



In 1972, Dale accepted a faculty post at the Michigan Molecular Institute, where he continues to teach and conduct polymer research. Dale's work has been published extensively in *Langmuir*, *Macromolecules*, *Polymer*, *Polymer Communications*, and other journals.

Dale and his wife, Helen, have been married for 59 years and raised two daughters. The Meiers live in Midland, where Dale continues to maintain a full workload at MMI. Dale joined ACS in 1958.

**Dr. Wendell W. Meyer** has a 33-year history with The Dow Chemical Company, retiring in 1994 from his position as a scientist in the plastics division. While there, he was involved in computerization of technical information. Prior to this, Wendell held positions as a specialist in lubricants-elastomers and as a manager in technical placement and hiring. Wendell began his career at Dow in 1961.

Wendell's path to Dow wound by way of Manchester College (Indiana), where he earned an A.B. degree in 1957, followed by Indiana University, where he completed a Ph.D. in 1962.

Now, Wendell continues to pursue professional interests through consulting and he is active in local volunteer work as well as in projects at both the local and state levels of the Kiwassee Kiwanis Club. He and his wife, Barbara, enjoy traveling. Their home is in Midland. Wendell joined ACS in 1958.

**Dr. Richard B. Moreau** combined his interests in chemical education with interests in environmental chemistry to forge a career pursuing both. After completing a B.A. at Eastern Michigan University in 1957, Richard began

his teaching career at Alpena High School, where he taught mathematics for two years. During this time, he earned an M.A.T. at Michigan State University (1961) and moved to Midland High School, where he taught chemistry until 1965. During those early years, he also studied for his Ph.D. at Michigan State University, completing his degree in chemical limnology and watershed resources in 1972.

From 1965 until 1991, Richard taught chemistry and environmental sciences at Alpena Community College (ACC). During the 1990s, Richard taught chemistry at several area colleges including CMU, Ferris State University, Mid-Michigan Community College, and Alma College.

While teaching, he pursued research interests in limnology, natural waters chemistry, environmental quality, and restoration. He served as director of the Alpena Soil Testing Laboratory, director of Fishery and Environmental Technology Programs at ACC, and supervisor of the Certified Testing and Consulting Laboratory at ACC. From 1991 to 1994, he was director of the wet chemistry laboratory at TMJ Environmental Services.

As part of his interests in environmental chemistry, Richard has participated in Project Green, a water quality monitoring program that involved area school students in studies of the Chippewa River watershed. He has also served as a trustee and environmental consultant for Lake of the Hills and a lab proctor for Midland Section Chemistry Olympiad events.

Richard is an avid outdoor enthusiast and participates in Elderhostel programs involving hiking and biking. He also enjoys fishing, kayaking, camping, and gardening. When he has to be indoors, he pursues his stamp collecting hobby and volunteers for Isabella County Commission on Aging projects. Richard and his wife, Diana, make their home in Weidman. Richard joined ACS in 1958.

**Walter E. F. Rupprecht** earned a B.S. in chemistry from the University of Michigan in 1952 and then joined The Dow Chemical Company's polymer R&D division. He spent 37 years with Dow, and at his retirement in 1989, was a senior associate developmental scientist. He is still active, consulting on "green" chemistry and its applications. He lives in Midland with his wife, Joanne, and pursues interests in international travel, toy collecting, church, and family activities. Walt and Joanne have two sons, Erick and Kent, and a daughter, Holly. Walt joined ACS in 1958.





## 2007 Midland Section Honor Roll

*By Ann Birch*

**B**elow and on the following page is a complete list of Midland Section members who have been affiliated with ACS for 50 years or more, along with the year that they joined. Our congratulations and thanks for your contributions!

### 70+ Years

1924	Ray H Boundy	1937	Robert C Reinhardt
1936	Dr Ludo K Frevel	1938	John H Davidson

### 60+ Years

1939	Dr R W Von Korff	1945	Arthur S Teot
1939	James A May	1946	Eldon L Graham
1940	Dr Giffin D Jones	1946	Dr John C Safranski
1940	Dr Lester J Dankert	1946	Harold W Moll
1940	William D Kuhlman	1947	Russell M Tree
1941	Arthur R Sexton	1947	Norman G De Lisle
1942	Raymond H Rigterink	1947	Richard E Anderson
1942	Donald D McCollister	1947	Max L Bottomley
1942	Dr James D Head	1948	Gilbert C Frantz
1943	Dr Charles F Raley	1948	Richard A McDonald
1943	John G Cobler	1948	Ralph E Friedrich
1943	Theodore B Braun	1948	Charles D Burton
1943	John Leo Schick	1948	Dr David B Kellom
1943	Douglas E Lake	1948	Dr Alfred F Steinhauer
1944	Warren B Crummett	1948	Dr David C Young
1945	Franklin E Ford	1948	Dr A Lee Smith
1945	Paul H Sheffield	1948	Dr C Kenneth Bjork
1945	Richard E Cook		

### 50+ Years

1949	Robert J Huoni	1953	Loren A Haluska
1949	Dr James K Rieke	1953	William C Taylor
1949	Dr Masao Yoshimine	1953	Dr Fred A Blanchard
1949	Dr Etcyl H Blair	1953	Dr Frank L Saunders
1949	Robert F Fleming	1954	Dr I Arthur Murphy
1949	George F Lewenz	1954	John C Saam
1950	Dr Gerard C Sinke	1954	Dr Donald R Petersen
1950	William L Fagley	1954	Dr Henry E Hennis
1950	Louis F Wirth	1954	Robert J Cierzniewski

**50+ Years, cont.**

1950	Dr Richard H Hall	1954	Donald N Ingebrigtsen
1950	Dr Charles B Roberts	1954	Robert L Hotchkiss
1950	Dr William R Nummy	1954	Theodore W Selby
1951	Gust J Kookootsedes	1955	Dr Carlos M Bowman
1951	Howard L Garrett	1955	Bart J Bremmer
1951	Louis C Rubens	1955	Arthur Gordon Smith
1951	Owen L Stafford	1955	Dr Douglas E Leng
1951	Alan H Stark	1955	Richard A Stuckey
1951	Gerald A Clark	1955	Dr M Peter Dreyfuss
1951	Dr Robert L Miller	1956	Carl Philip Zupic
1951	D Dick De Line	1956	Dr Robert Michael Nowak
1951	Henry J Dishburger	1956	Mou Shu Chao
1951	Robert A Delap	1956	Dr John Raymond Moyer
1951	Dr James J Leddy	1956	Leroy Hampton
1951	Lawrence H Brown	1957	Dr H David Russell
1952	Vernon A Fauver	1957	Dr Linneaus C Dorman
1952	Dr Robert W Belfit	1957	Dr Duane S Lehman
1952	Dr Richard E Skochdopole	1957	Thomas J Delia
1952	Dr Fred D Hoerger	1958	Walter E F Rupprecht
1952	Donald L Miller	1958	Joseph L Bevirt
1952	Robert H Lyons	1958	Dr Wendell W Meyer
1953	Dr F M Scheidt	1958	Dr Dale J Meier
1953	George K Greminger	1958	Dr Thomas Gillespie
1953	Dr George A Lane	1958	Dr Richard B Moreau
1953	Harold H Gill		

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## **In Memoriam: John H. Davidson**

**J**ohn Davidson, a 70-year member of ACS, died September 8, 2007. He attended Michigan State University where he received a B.S. degree in horticulture in 1937 and an M.S. degree in plant biochemistry in 1940. While he was still in college he began working for The Dow Chemical Company in South Haven. There he met his wife, Betty. They were together for 61 years until her death in 2005.

In February 1943, John enlisted in the U.S. Navy and was sent on active duty to North Africa for 18 months. He received the European and Pacific Area ribbons and was discharged in 1957. He continued to work at Dow as an agricultural chemist, retiring in 1986 after 50 years. He held several patents for agricultural chemicals. John joined ACS in 1938.

## 2008 Board Members Announced

*By Brett Zimmerman*

**O**n behalf of the Nominations and Elections Committee, I would like to thank all the candidates for agreeing to run this year for an elected position in the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society. To remain strong and vibrant, our society depends on volunteers. Your willingness to consider giving of your time and talent in the leadership of the Midland Section is a perfect example of this spirit. Board members for 2008 are shown below, with those elected this year in bold type and the year their term runs through in parentheses. The director, councilor, and alternate councilor positions carry a term of three years; all others carry a one-year term.

Chair	Dorie Yontz
Chair-Elect	<b>Angelo Cassar</b>
Secretary	<b>Beth Nichols</b>
Treasurer	<b>Brian Marinik</b>
Chair, NEC	<b>Kevin Lewis</b>
Councilor	<b>Kurt Brandstadt (10)</b> Bob Howell (08)
Alt. Councilor	<b>Gretchen Kohl (10)</b> Dale LeCaptain (08)
Directors	<b>Wendell Dilling (10)</b> <b>Steve Keinath (10)</b> <b>Dave Stickles (10)</b> Jennifer Dingman (09) Dale Meier (09) Pat Smith (09) Ann Birch (08) John Blizzard (08) Connie Murphy (08)

The 2008 term of office begins January 1, 2008. All elected officers can obtain additional information on the bylaws and on their role and responsibilities on the Midland Section web site at <http://membership.acs.org/m/midl/leaders.htm>. A list of 2007 officers and committee chairs can also be found on that page. For those who ran as candidates but were not elected (and for all members), please consider other volunteer opportunities within the Midland Section. Also, please consider running for elected office in the future!

*Nominations and Elections Committee: Brett Zimmerman (Chair), Jennifer Dingman, Bob Howell, Dee Strand, and Dorie Yontz*

## Tom Lane Wins President-Elect Position in National ACS

*By Ann Birch*

**T**he Midland Section is pleased to congratulate Dr. Thomas H. Lane on being elected president-elect for 2008 for the National ACS. Tom is Director, Global Science and Technology Outreach, and a research scientist at Dow Corning Corporation and has been an ACS member since 1973. Below is a summary of Tom's career and involvement with ACS. We look forward to working with Tom, now at both local and national levels!



Academic record: Purdue University, B.S. in chemistry (honors), 1974; Central Michigan University, M.S., 1979; Open University (Milton Keynes, England), Ph.D., 1990

Professional positions (for past 10 years): Dow Corning Corp., director, global science and technology outreach and research scientist, 2007 to date; senior research scientist and technology leader for silicon biotechnology, 1999–2006; research scientist and manager, health and environmental science, 1994–99; manager, materials technology development and associate research scientist, 1991–94; external research director, Open University, Milton Keynes, England, 1990 to date; external research director, Central Michigan University, 1980 to date

Service in ACS national offices: Committee on Budget & Finance, 2007–09, associate member, 2006; Committee on Corporation Associates, 2000–07, chair 2005–07; vice chair, 2002–04; board of trustees, Group Insurance Plans for ACS Members, 2002–07, chair, 2007, vice chair and chair pro tem, 2006

Service in ACS offices: Member of ACS since 1973. Midland Section: councilor, 2005–07, alternate councilor, 2003–05; past-chair, 1997, 1987, chair, 1996, 1986, chair-elect, 1995, 1985; secretary, 1982; board of directors, 1984–95, 1982; Executive Committee, 1996–97, 1985–94, 1982; ACS National Science Foundation Network member, 1991–2000; ACS science adviser, 1990–92; chemistry lab, Community Culture Center, 1986, 1982; Author's Night Committee, 1984–86; teacher group, 1987, 1984, chair, 1987; Publicity Committee, chair, 1983; Olympics of the Mind, 1982–84; Saginaw Science Fair, 1982–86; Membership Growth Committee, 1980–81, chair, 1981; Seminar Committee, 1979–80, chair, 1980; Award & Recognition Committee, 1979–84; Program Committee, 1979; Fall Scientific Meeting (various committees), 1974 to date.

## Sci-Fest Celebrates 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of NCW

*By Dave Stickles, Joan Sabourin, Angelo Cassar, and Gretchen Kohl*

A celebration of “The Many Faces of Chemistry” came to the forefront on Saturday, October 27, as the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society, the MidMichigan Technician Group, and Delta College sponsored Sci-Fest, in honor of the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of National Chemistry Week. There were many hands-on activities for the approximately 1500 participants to be involved with from 10:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. in and around the Pioneer Gym. In addition there were five astronomy lab shows packed with participants.



Careers represented included: astronomers, microbiologists, veterinarians, laboratory managers, chemical technicians from many different areas, physicists, engineers, (Chippewa Nature Center) naturalist, environmentalists, dental assistants (acid and sugars in food and drinks), plastics/polymer chemist, airplane remodelers (glues, fuels, metals, wood, and plastics), glass blower, soybean chemistry, soil and nature conservationists/nutrition, College Chemistry Club, analytical chemist (chromatography and laboratory automation), green chemists, cosmetic chemist, publicity, packaging engineer, chemical retirees, computational chemist, wood carvers (chemistry of wood, finishes, stains, and glues), mosquito control (pesticide chemistry/DNA fingerprint for identification of mosquito species), anatomy and physiology professor, organic chemist, and veterinarian.

Participants crafted many objects with “Magic Nuudles,” in the presence of a life-size, voice-activated mannequin scientist. They held contests with rocket balloons, battled



with two smoke cannons, worked with molding sand, surface tension of water, construction magnets, and magnet yo-yos, groomed faces with iron filing hair, and pierced balloons. They saw the benefits of solar energy and actually powered a TV through riding a stationary bike. They tested their hand washing skills by applying hand lotion, containing fluorescent dye, to their hands, which simulated where microbes/germs could be on their hands. They viewed their hands under UV light to detect the dye, washed their hands with soap and water, and then viewed their hands again under the UV light to see if all of the dye had been removed. If no fluorescence was detected, their hand washing skills were excellent.

Feathers and foam flew as children decorated full-face masks creating their own “faces of chemistry.” Participants of all ages watched bubbles floating on a sea of dry ice in a fish aquarium, a soapy solution generating bubbles, dry ice used to self-inflate balloons, and tornado in a bottle, and played a xylophone. Animal furs, feathers, and bones were available for tactile exploration; participants created computer-animated molecules, Atomic Comics, using ChemSense. Paper plate half-masks were decorated with paint mixed by the participants. Water and earth tunnel gave a glimpse of life underground and in rivers. They experienced how Dry-Tech, used for baby diapers, absorbs water and counted the number of water drops a coated penny can hold. They took home certificates from their participation that, after



signing their name, could only be viewed under UV light.

Dr. Slime, a Delta College laboratory manager, was center stage with fascinating teaching demonstrations such as the production of an elephant's toothpaste (decomposition reaction of hydrogen peroxide and KI), exploration of the states of matter through demonstrations with dry ice, liquid nitrogen, and air, a Halloween demo with an acid/base reaction with colorful results, and spontaneous changes of pressure blowing a cork off in one instance and creating a vacuum that inflated a glove inside a jar. He shared the excitement of igniting a balloon of hydrogen gas and then explored the energy of enthalpy with hydrogen and oxygen, simulating rocket fuel. His main theme was that chemistry is not magic, but it is the



understanding of how molecules work.

Large blank puzzle pieces were connected on a stage upon which each willing participant drew a picture of someone who uses chemistry. There were over 750 pieces completed. A continuous Power Point presentation showed several examples of what can be produced, using over 50 elements, by those working in careers that use chemistry. Raffle tickets were distributed with the puzzle pieces. Gifts included "You Can Be A Chemist" books (written by Midland Section author Patricia Moore), inflatable globes, flaming "Cat in the Hat" hats, T-shirts, NCW magnets, and flashlights. Many teachers, parents, and caregivers picked up the National Chemistry Week magazines.

Doughnut holes and apple cider were served up by members of the MidMichigan Technician Group, representing food chemists. For advertising the event, 25,000 fliers were distributed to Saginaw, Bay City, Midland, Meridian, Bullock Creek, and Freeland Schools and a parochial school. Articles appeared in the Saginaw Valley Family Magazine, the Saginaw News Weekend Hot Topic edition, Midland Public Access TV, Delta College Radio station, *The Midland Chemist*, Dow Corning and Dow Chemical Intranet, Delta College website, the *Midland Daily News*, and even special flyers posted inside bathroom stalls at Delta College.

There were many positive comments from the participants of all ages. A parent of a 15 year old said that their student had not wanted to attend, but afterwards said it was a blast! There was constant activity for the full four hours.

We are already planning for next year's Sci-Fest with a suggested date of October 18, 2008. The theme for National Chemistry Week 2008 is "Having a Ball with Chemistry," which will center on the chemistry related to sports. This should be "A Ball!" Anyone interested in joining the Sci-Fest team is welcome!

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## Midland Section Members Meet and Greet Candidates

*By Dee Strand*

**O**n September 13, approximately 45 people gathered at Plymouth Park for an open house and Meet the Candidates event. The event was open to both members and nonmembers. On a beautiful fall day, attendees had the chance to socialize and meet the candidates running for Section office. In addition, posters of Section activities as well as recent ChemLuminary Awards were shown to give people a snapshot of all the Section programs and the high quality of those programs.

## **Project SEED: An Important Program in Search of Volunteers**

*By Peggy Hill*

**F**or over twenty years, the Midland Section has supported Project SEED, a program sponsored by the ACS. It takes volunteers to run this program and, although the current volunteer group is dedicated to the success of this important effort, help is badly needed. We'd like to see this important program continue so we're asking members to consider taking some time to help. The summaries below give a snapshot of the program and the Midland Section's involvement in the recent past.

### **What Is Project SEED?**

SEED stands for "Summer Experience for Economically Disadvantaged Students." Project SEED pairs high school students with mentors in industrial or academic research labs to work on research projects full-time for 8 to 10 weeks during the summer. The students must have finished their junior or senior year and have completed at least one year of high school chemistry.

The other requirement is that these students come from families with limited incomes. Generally speaking, these students do not receive the kind of academic nurturing that might otherwise lead them to consider a research-related career. Project SEED helps by creating experiences that offer that nurturing. Potential applicants are made aware of the program by their chemistry teacher or guidance counselor. Most of these students have earned high academic success. All come with a great deal of enthusiasm and a genuine interest in doing something unique.

At present, the students are paid stipends of \$2500 (SEED I or first year students) and \$3000 (SEED II students, those returning for a second summer). The national ACS Project SEED office provides half of these funds; the Midland Section provides the other half.

Mentors (or preceptors, as they are called by the national office) are chemists who host SEED students in their research labs, providing each student with a research topic, day-to-day supervision, encouragement, and mentoring. Preceptors are not paid for their participation and volunteer a large portion of time and effort in this role.

### **Students Hosted in Summer 2007**

This past summer we supported one SEED I student. Andrew Monroe, now a senior at Breckenridge High School, worked with Minghui Chai at Central Michigan University on a project characterizing aspects of levodopa dendrimer degradation, "Characterization of G1 Levodopa



Andrew Monroe

Dendrimers.” Andrew’s work supports Minghui’s interest in developing dendritic drugs that can act as controlled release drug delivery systems in humans.

Because we had two very good student applicants for the SEED position, Minghui decided to take on the second student as well, even though it meant supporting him completely out of her own research funds. Gary Wilks is now in his senior year at John Glenn



Gary Wilks

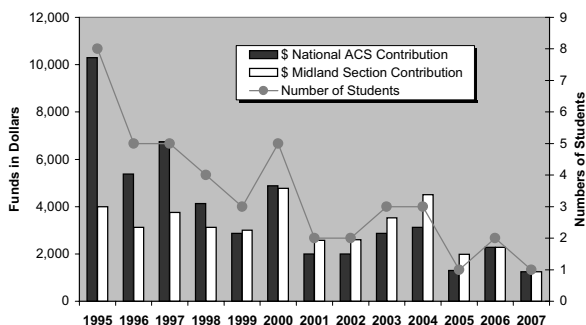
High School (Bay City). He worked on a project aimed at reducing the toxicity of cisplatin, an anti-cancer drug, “Synthesis and NMR Characterization of Platinum (II) Complexes Based on Salicylic Acid and its Derivatives.”

Both students presented their work at research meetings within Minghui’s lab group during their summer stays. Gary’s work was also presented at the October 19<sup>th</sup> Midland Section Fall Scientific Meeting in conjunction with work completed by another of Minghui’s students.

## Some Historical Notes

Since 1995:

- The Midland Section has sponsored 30 Project SEED students.
- 16 of those 30 returned for a second summer.
- 26 preceptors mentored the students at five institutions (CMU, SVSU, Dow, Dow Corning, Raven Analytical).
- The Section spent \$40,489 on Project SEED.
- Numbers of students participating were much higher ten years ago. See the accompanying graph.



A number of factors led to the decline in student numbers. In 2001, The Dow Chemical Company, which had been a major player in SEED student mentoring, decided to no longer accept these students as workers in its research labs. A few years later in 2004, budget concerns within the Section came at about the same time that the national ACS Project SEED office made large increases in the stipends to be awarded to students.

Despite these setbacks, we still have an active, although smaller, Project SEED involvement. We sponsor one, two, or three students per summer at CMU, SVSU, Dow Corning, and/or Raven Analytical Labs.

### **What is Needed?**

We need volunteers to help run the Midland Section's Project SEED program. The following list provides a breakdown of the volunteer duties and approximate times of involvement.

#### ***Coordinator (December–May)***

- Coordinates application to national Project SEED office (end of January)
- Coordinates mailings to high schools (March)
- Receives student applications, coordinates interviews (end of April)
- Notifies students of final outcome (May)
- Co-writes final report (November)

#### ***Coordinator (June–November)***

- Coordinates funds administration and student paychecks (May, June)
- Handles required paperwork (May, June)
- Submits final student reports to national ACS office (end of August)
- Co-writes final report (November)

#### ***Student Selection Panel***

- Interviews student applicants (late April/early May)

#### ***Preceptors/Mentors***

- Host/mentor a student for 8 to 10 weeks, mid-June to early August

The coordinator positions above could be shared by two or more people. The more participating members we have, the better! If you would be interested in helping, or if you have questions, contact Peggy Hill at 989-463-6467, [mhill@chartermi.net](mailto:mhill@chartermi.net).

# CMU Student Wins Award from National ACS

*From Central Michigan University*

*Photo by Robert Barclay, CMU Public Relations and Marketing*

The Women Chemists Committee of the American Chemical Society has established an award designed to recognize a woman undergraduate from a 2-year or 4-year institution for her efforts in overcoming hardship to achieve success in chemistry. The award consists of a plaque, a monetary award of \$250, and up to \$1,000 in travel expenses to the fall ACS national meeting. This year, the American Chemical Society selected Central Michigan University student Nichole K. Nevorski of Chesterfield Township to receive the Overcoming Challenges Award.



Nevorski, a senior chemistry major in the College of Science and Technology, is a standout scholar. Her name has regularly appeared on the dean's list, and in the spring of 2007 she earned a 4.0 grade point average. Nevorski was recognized for her personal initiative, success, improvement, and academic performance.

Unlike the majority of other chemistry majors at CMU, however, Nevorski is legally blind. She was diagnosed with Stargardt's Disease as an adolescent. She lost her central focusing vision within a few years, which created a blind spot in the middle of her line of sight. This makes a number of everyday activities—such as note taking, reading a book or watching a movie—challenging.

Minghui Chai, an assistant professor in CMU's chemistry department, took notice of Nevorski's determination. Nevorski worked meticulously through detailed lab assignments and projects. She would read closer to the screen, take more time on projects, and ask for assistance if necessary.

In her nomination Chai said, "Nichole is one of the most diligent students I have ever encountered. I truly believe that she has excelled in all that she strives for. Nichole is a role model for other chemistry majors and disabled students."

Currently, Nevorski works on fuel technology projects for the U.S. Army's Tank-Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center as a co-op chemist. She will receive her bachelor's degree in chemistry at CMU's commencement ceremony in May 2008.

## Midland Section Participates in Educator Open House

*By Dorie Yontz*

**T**he ACS Midland Section set up an information booth at the Third Annual Educator Open House, sponsored by the Alden B. Dow Museum of Science and Art and the Midland Center for the Arts. The goal of the event is to help educators (teachers and home-schoolers) find resources to help them meet the Michigan Curriculum Framework. The Midland ACS Section was there to showcase the resources we have to help educators with their science objectives. The open house had more than 100 attendees; we estimate our booth had about 40 visitors and approximately half of them filled out forms requesting more information about Section activities. Our poster highlighted the resources we have for each level of education. For elementary/middle schoolers we can provide in-class demos, teacher workshop training through our Science Literacy Program, and simple at-home or in-class experiments from the ChemShorts series available from the Chicago local section. For high school students, we have Project SEED, a summer internship for economically disadvantaged high school students; "Science Elements," a weekly podcast from National ACS that highlights the latest scientific breakthroughs; Watershed Project, where students from high schools throughout the region conduct water quality measurements; and the Chemistry Olympiad competition. Our Earth Day activities, mentoring programs, and Sci-Fest are great venues for teachers to build chemistry awareness, and our educator travel grants, teacher awards, and teacher workshops are ways that help teachers build the next generation of chemists.

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## The Many Faces of Chemistry at Ferris State

*By Dee Strand*

**T**he ACS Student Affiliate Group at Ferris State University hosted a presentation for National Chemistry Week on "The Many Faces of Chemistry." The purpose of the presentation was to show students the many different aspects of chemistry in our lives, and the diversity of careers in the field of chemistry. Dee Strand, Midland Section Chair, was the speaker at the event, held at Ferris State on Sept. 25. Approximately 120 chemistry, biology, and premed students attended the event. Chris Beier, chair of the student affiliate group, organized the program. Attendees included David Frank, Physical Sciences Department head; Pasquale Di Raddo, professor of organic chemistry; Mark Thomson, assistant chemistry professor; and Norman Peterson, retired chemistry professor.



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## Congratulations to Section Student Affiliate Groups!

*From National ACS and CMU*

Once again our area's student affiliate groups have received recognition from National ACS. For the fourth consecutive year, Central Michigan University's ACS student affiliate group has been selected from a national pool by the American Chemical Society to receive the Outstanding Recognition Award. The ACS will honor only 20 student groups from 900 peer societies for their solid organizational foundations of community service and group participation.

The student group also has won a Green Chemistry Award, which is given to societies that acknowledge renewable resources of chemistry, the positive uses of chemistry and the promotion of eco-friendly experiments. The Green Chemistry Institute of the ACS reviews societies' annual reports in consideration of the award.

Chemistry lab instructor Sharyl Majorski co-advises CMU's ACS chapter along with assistant professor Dale LeCaptain. "The members have put so much effort into this—it's great to see their efforts pay off," Majorski said. "They've worked very hard."

The ACS undergraduate task force committee selects award recipients based on community service, faculty interaction, research promotion, and variety of speaker series.

CMU's student group has 35 members. The organization has participated in and hosted several events, including a variety of campus speakers, Earth Day activities, the promotion of green chemistry to Chicago schoolchildren, and numerous chemistry workshops. Eighteen members of CMU's society will travel to New Orleans in April 2008 to be formally recognized at the ACS national conference.

Area groups receiving honorable mention from National ACS include Alma College, faculty advisor Dr. Melissa Strait, and Saginaw Valley State University, faculty advisor Dr. Andrew Chubb. The Midland Section congratulates each of these award-winning groups!

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## Deadlines for 2008 *Midland Chemist*

*By Ann Birch*

Below are deadlines for the 2008 issues of *The Midland Chemist*. The Editorial calendar will be available on the web site in late December.

January 14	July 7
March 3	September 8
May 5	November 3

## What is the Legislative Action Network?

*From National ACS*

**T**he American Chemical Society is committed to keeping its members informed of legislation that may impact the chemical enterprise and to bringing the expertise of ACS members to bear on science policy. The Legislative Action Network is the Society's electronic grassroots program for updating members on federal legislation and facilitating contact with members of Congress. The network focuses primarily on federal science education and R&D policy, but also addresses environment, workplace, and competitiveness issues.

### *How does the program work?*

Roughly eight times per year, network members receive timely Legislative Action Alerts via e-mail urging them to contact their legislators on issues of concern to ACS members. The Alerts will include:

- Background and status of the issue
- ACS position
- Legislator contact information
- Sample letters

### *What are the benefits?*

- Monthly Legislative Bulletins, brief e-mail updates of key federal issues
- Immediate notification of hot issues via Legislative Action Alerts
- Access to our new web-based Legislative Action Center
- The opportunity to impact national issues integral to the chemical enterprise

The new link to sign up for the LAN is [http://acswebcontent.acs.org/acs\\_perl/lan.html](http://acswebcontent.acs.org/acs_perl/lan.html)

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## 2008 Midland Section Board Meetings

*By Dorie Yontz*

**B**elow are the dates for the 2008 Midland Section meetings for the Board of Directors. You'll note that the dates have been changed to the third Monday of each month, except July. All meetings are from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Please watch the web site for the meeting locations.

January 21	May 19	October 20
February 18	June 16	November 17
March 17	August 18	December 15
April 21	September 15	

## Martin Receives Midland Section Scholarship

*By Bob Howell and Eldon Graham*

Jennifer Martin, a sophomore chemistry major and honors student at Central Michigan University, is the 2007 recipient of the Midland Section-ACS Scholarship. The scholarship is awarded annually to a student at one of the Midland Section academic institutions who shows outstanding promise for contribution as a professional in the chemical sciences. The criteria for selection include dedication to a career in the chemical sciences, progress toward a degree, performance in coursework, accomplishments in undergraduate research, and likelihood of success as a professional. Energy, enthusiasm for the field, and a strong work ethic as reflected in letters of recommendation are qualities of merit.



Jennifer has an excellent academic record. Her performance has kept her near the top of her class (current GPA 3.94). She has won praise from all of her chemistry instructors. She is somewhat unique in that she is a chemistry major who intends to teach at the secondary level. Her goal is to teach in Michigan. With the new state graduation requirements, well-trained teachers will be needed.

Jennifer will receive an award of \$1000 to help defray educational expenses. This is well-deserved recognition for superior accomplishment and an incentive for progress toward a career in the chemical sciences.

This scholarship is supported by the members of the Midland Section ACS as an endowment through the Midland Area Community Foundation to encourage students such as Jennifer. Members of the Midland Section who would like to contribute to this endowment fund should contact Lin Dorman at [lcdorman@aol.com](mailto:lcdorman@aol.com) or the Midland Area Community Foundation.

## **S\*M\*A\*R\*T Program Kicks Off at Northeast Middle School**

*By Dee Strand*

**T**he Midland Section–ACS is sponsoring a mentoring program at Northeast Middle School in Midland. A pilot program was developed last spring using United Way funds to evaluate several approaches in the classroom. This school year, Christine Brillhart is building on those trials to formalize a mentoring program with community partnership. The initial approach will focus on science and math mentoring.

Currently, there are 42 mentors interested in participating in the program, which consists of participating in both math and science classes, as well as after-school science activities. The role of the mentors is teacher/class dependent to best suit the needs of the specific teaching environment.

In one of the classes, the mentors join the class for the first 15 minutes while the students put up their morning work samples around the room. The last half of the hour, students are placed into groups with a mentor to review what the class is currently doing or a basic math skill that fits the patterns of the program. This mentor program is not one-on-one unless a student could use special help.

In another class, we are hoping for one-on-one mentoring. Each student will have a folder with items to work on that class period with the mentor. These could be 10 point quiz corrections, test review from a study guide, test corrections, quick binder checks, and ongoing basic skill drills (for example: how to use a graphing calculator, scaling from a map, percents when tipping, interest rate practice, etc.).

The Science Sleuths after-school competitions available at Northeast are Science Olympiad, You Be The Chemist, and NOBECChе. The goal is to have a coach/mentor for each of the Olympiad events to work with the students and mentors to help train/quiz/mentor those students that are preparing for science “testing” challenges.

All mentors are required to attend a training/information session to cover strategies to help when mentoring, communication, how the course chosen is organized, and basic paperwork to survey the mentors. In the future, we hope to sustain the number of mentors we currently have and next year survey the needs of Central MS and Jefferson for their volunteer needs and adapt programs for each of those schools.

Midland Section–ACS is currently sponsoring training materials, study guides, and refreshments for the program. In addition, several of our Section members are volunteering as mentors.

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## In Past Issues of *The Midland Chemist*

By Wendell L. Dilling, *Midland Section Historian*

- **40 Years Ago This Month**—In the editorial “*Protests*” and the *Chemical Profession* by J. E. Dunbar: “Recently a Dow Chemical Company official stated publicly that his company has been hurt by university campus protests against the firm’s supplying napalm to the Defense Department. Many of the recruiters, whose rights to carry on legitimate business at universities and colleges have been infringed, are chemists and are representatives of the chemical profession as well as representatives of their company. Therefore, when they are held up publicly for unjust abuse and ridicule, the chemical profession suffers also.”
- **30 Years Ago This Month**—In *Midland Section Award to Young* by James K. Pierce: “David C. Young is the recipient of the second annual ACS Midland Section Award. The presentation of the award, a plaque given for “outstanding achievement and/or promotion of the chemical sciences,” was made by Section Chairman, Bruce Thill, at the opening session of the Fall Scientific Meeting on October 29.”
- **20 Years Ago This Month**—In *National Chemistry Day 1987* by J. P. Arrington: “National Chemistry Day, November 6, 1987, was a success. What started here as a local ACS program grew until we finally had a joint effort involving local industries, Midland Public Schools, area colleges and universities, the AIChE and ACS. Activities were varied, beginning with the Fall Scientific Meeting’s Keynote Address, and concluding with a major effort on National Chemistry Day, November 6, with chemical demonstrations in local area schools. More than 85 volunteers were involved in reaching over 5500 students with chemical demonstrations. The volunteer activities ranged from planning and organizing, to ordering chemicals, repackaging supplies, training, publicity, and finally to the demonstrators. School feedback has been very positive, and I believe we’ve make a start in helping our future adults appreciate the role of chemistry and chemicals in all our lives.”
- **10 Years Ago This Month**—In *Sci-Fest 97 Draws Crowd at Delta College*: “Sci-Fest is an annual event sponsored by the Midland Section of ACS that provides a fun and educational array of hands-on science demonstrations and exhibits for children and adults. Sci-Fest 97 was held at the Pioneer Gymnasium, Delta College, on November 8, 1997 as a part of National Chemistry Week. This is the first year this event has been held separately from the Fall Scientific Meeting. Attendance was excellent, estimated to be 2000 people.”

## Important Dates on the ACS Midland Section Calendar

- Jan. 14      Deadline for February issue of *The Midland Chemist*  
Jan. 21      Midland Section board meeting, location to be determined, 7:00 p.m., (Dorie Yontz, dyontz@dow.com)

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