THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

A publication of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society

February 2026, Vol. 63, No. 2

Contents

Chair Column

Judith Espinoza, Chair, Midland Section ACS

Dear Readers,

Welcome to February! As we step into a new month, many of us may feel that January flew by, especially as our schedules get busy. That was certainly the case for the Midland Section ACS, where the year began with a full schedule of meetings, outreach, and event planning.

In January, we held our first board meeting, during which our Treasurer, David Potts, presented the 2026 budget. Later in the month, the Board of Directors elected the directors who will serve on the 2026 Executive Committee. Supporting leadership development, our chair-elect, Raghida Bou Zerdan also finalized plans to attend the ACS Leadership Institute in Atlanta, Georgia.

Our committees accomplished a great deal as well. The Outreach Committee participated in the Kids' Day at the mall event, where 125 children and their families explored the chemistry of herbs and spices through hands-on activities at the Midland Mall. The Women Chemists Committee is ready to host the IUPAC Global Women's Breakfast. While the Mid-Michigan Technician Group is preparing for its seminar, Skydiving into Retirement: Enjoy the Ride and Land Softly, presented by Bill Carroll. You will find details for both events in this issue.

As we carry January's momentum into February and continue celebrating the ACS 150th anniversary, we are invited to reflect on this month's ACS core value: Integrity. Reflecting on this theme brought to mind one of my earliest experiences in scientific research. During my fourth year as a chemical engineering student, I had the opportunity to work in a materials science research center in northern Mexico.

On my first day, my soon-to-be thesis advisor welcomed me, introduced me to the graduate students, showed me the facilities, the library, and the laboratory where I would work. But when I began generating data, I quickly became frustrated. As a young student, I wanted my results to support my hypothesis; instead, they made little sense to me, or at least that was my initial impression. When I shared them with my advisor, he listened patiently and then said something that has stayed with me ever since: "The data did not align to the hypothesis, that is your contribution. That is a new insight. The data is not incorrect, and the experiments did not fail. Welcome to R&D 101." He smiled, and at that moment, I understood something fundamental: unexpected results are not setbacks; they are opportunities, often the most meaningful ones. I am deeply grateful for that lesson. By reporting my data without any manipulation, I was doing what is expected of us as scientists and chemists.

This experience shaped my understanding of integrity in science. Integrity must be reflected in our daily actions, from reporting accurate data to ethical decision-making and respectful collaborations. These personal commitments collectively define the character and strengthen our local scientific community. Within the Midland Section ACS, practicing integrity ensures transparency, accountability, and trust in how we lead, serve our members, and engage with the broader community. Today, more than ever, it is only through integrity that we are able to serve with purpose and credibility, promoting chemistry, and improving the public perception of science.

As we move into February, let us carry that value, integrity, with us; into our work, our interactions, and our shared commitment to advancing chemistry. Here's to a month of purpose, curiosity, and connection. February, here we go, together!

2025 Project SEED Outstanding Mentor Award

The American Chemical Society has named Dr. Tami Sivy one of the two recipients of the 2025 Project SEED Outstanding Mentor Award, recognizing her exceptional dedication, leadership, and long-standing commitment to empowering SEED students. Her nomination rose to the top because of her unwavering support for the Midland ACS Project SEED site and her remarkable impact on the students she mentors.

For years, Tami Sivy has played a pivotal role in the success of the Project SEED program, consistently opening her laboratory at Saginaw Valley State University to host multiple students each summer. Her mentorship extends far beyond day-to-day research guidance—she fully integrates students into her projects, ensures they gain real scientific skills, and helps them build the confidence they need to grow as emerging scholars.

Tami describes her approach best in her own words: "By hosting and mentoring Project SEED participants, my undergraduate students and I guide them in hands-on field and lab experiences that they otherwise wouldn't have. It's thrilling to watch them grow in confidence and knowledge."

Her willingness to "host two students again this summer" reflects a long-standing pattern of generosity, reliability, and deep commitment. Her continued involvement strengthens our entire site and exemplifies the spirit of mentorship recognized through this award. Students trained under her guidance routinely finish the program with a deepened love for chemistry, meaningful research experience, and a clearer understanding of their future academic paths. Many go on to present their work at conferences, embark on college STEM programs, or continue research after their SEED summer—outcomes made possible through the thoughtful, hands-on mentoring Dr. Sivy provides.

Her colleagues echo this sentiment. Upon receiving the award notification, she was met with congratulations from across the Midland community—clear evidence of how respected she is within the SEED network. This award highlights what we, in the Midland local section, already know: Tami Sivy is an extraordinary mentor whose dedication transforms student lives, strengthens the Project SEED mission, and exemplifies the very best of what this program strives to achieve.

IUPAC Global Women´s Breakfast, February 10

Paulami Majumdar, Secretary, Midland Section ACS

Join the IUPAC Global Women´s Breakfast hosted by ACS Midland Women Chemists Committee:

Many Voices, One Science

for a casual conversation over complimentary breakfast, with our guest speakers on the role of diversity in their STEM careers

Deboleena Chakraborty
Dow

Jing Yu
Corteva

Where: Mi Element, 3124 Jefferson Ave, Midland, MI 48640.
When: February 10th – 8:30 to 10 am.
RSVP: https://forms.gle/xCGww6K7o8uzWNv97

If you have any questions, please reach out to Paulami Majumdar: PMajumdar@dow.com, Helena Zhang: szhang@kettering.edu, Julia Sunderland: jsunderland@dow.com

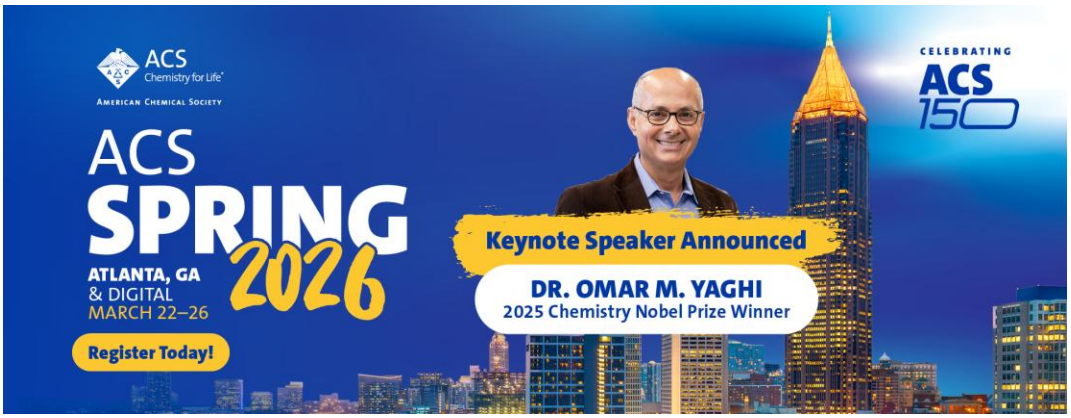
Skydiving Into Retirement, February 12
Michelle Rivard, Midland Section ACS

ACS Spring 2026, March 22-26

Vickie Langer, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist

Editor's note: The information contained in this article is reprinted, in part, from a National ACS email communication to all members, dated Friday, January 30, 2026.

2025 CHEMISTRY NOBEL PRIZE AWARDEE TAKES THE ACS STAGE



Join us for a special **ACS150 Keynote Address featuring Dr. Omar Yaghi,** the 2025 Chemistry Nobel Prize Awardee, as he highlights **Organic Chemistry and AI for Our Planet,** shares the experiences that led to his Nobel Prize, and discusses the impact ACS has had on his career. Add Dr. Yaghi's address, along with the other keynote events, to your schedule on the **ACS Spring 2026 Virtual Platform.**

REGISTER BY FEBRUARY 23 TO SAVE THE ADVANCE RATE

REGISTER TODAY!

The Midland Local Section Got Bigger

Mark Jones, Director, Midland Section ACS

New year, new challenges and opportunities. The Midland Local Section has historically encompassed five mid-Michigan counties: Midland, Bay, Saginaw, Gratiot, and Isabella. As of January 1, that changed. The ACS began an evaluation of members in unaffiliated counties in 2023. The Local Sections Activities Committee (LSAC) petitioned the Council at the Fall 2025 ACS National Meeting in Washington, DC. The Petition for Changes in Local Section Territory sought to assign over 600 unassigned counties to 82 local sections. Approximately 1000 members lived in those unassigned counties. In Michigan, the lower peninsula north of Midland consisted of unassigned counties. In the now approved petition, areas on the northwestern side were added to the Western Michigan Local Section. Areas in the northeastern lower peninsula are now part of the Midland Local Section. The formerly unaffiliated areas in the eastern UP are now part of the Upper Peninsula Local Section.

The Midland Local Section now encompasses all of the northeastern Lower Peninsula. The 16 counties added to the Midland Local Section are shown in red and the original five counties in orange.

This swells the Midland Local Section from five counties to 21 counties. The Midland Local Section now consists of Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Bay, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Gladwin, Gratiot, Iosco, Isabella, Midland, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, Saginaw, Huron, and Tuscola counties (original colored red). The land area of the Section will increase from 2900 square miles to over 12,400 square miles. The farthest driving distance from Midland was about 55 miles. Now the farthest reaches of the Section are over 175 miles away. The fifteen added counties contain only 22 members and associates. The members added are not proportional to the area added. The counties are largely sparsely populated areas with chemists even more sparse.

Michigan is home to six other local sections. These are Detroit, Western Michigan, Michigan State University, Kalamazoo, Huron Valley, and Upper Peninsula. Michigan counties are part of local sections shared between two states. These include Toledo, Northeast Wisconsin, and St. Joseph Valley local sections.

Enlarging the Section creates the challenge of providing services to those counties. We are working to identify opportunities to serve the new communities while trying to drive membership and engagement. The Midland Local Section has a proud history of service and recognition of excellence. Two spring programs, the Midland Local Section Awards and the Chemistry Olympiad, are examples of programs where we are scrambling to make connections and offer opportunities to the newly added counties.

The ACS now assigns members to a local section based on their address. This is, however, just a suggestion. Members get to choose their local section. The Midland Local Section has members living outside the ACS geographic boundaries. While we encourage all ACS members to be active in their local section, we welcome all who want to remain loyal to Midland after leaving the area.

Announcing the 2026 Spring Awards Recognition Banquet and Call for Nominations

Allison Abdilla and Kajari Bera, Awards Committee Co-Chairs, Midland Section ACS

The 35th annual American Chemical Society-Midland Section Spring Awards Recognition Banquet is scheduled for Wednesday, April 22, 2026, at the Great Hall Banquet & Convention Center in Midland. Please consider taking a moment to read about the awards that are open for nominations and consider nominating a worthy peer. Details of the program, including the featured speaker, are still being finalized. Watch for the *Midland Chemist* March issue for all the information and how you can register to attend.

The awards program is about recognizing outstanding educators, volunteers, and colleagues that you have graciously taken the time to nominate. The awards banquet is a great way to connect with others in the industry, those who have gone before us, those who teach the next generation, and those who will be following in our footsteps. Please consider joining us on Wednesday, April 22. We continue with the goal of having outstanding students from all area high schools and universities/colleges recognized, and to have a nominee for each award offered this year. Please help make this happen as there are very deserving people in every category!

The process of nominating is very easy. The minimum submission criteria for nominations are a quality nominating letter extolling the virtues of your nominee and supporting the criteria of the award, along with one supporting letter of recommendation, two are even better (outstanding high school and collegiate student awards require only the Student Award Nomination Form submitted by the appropriate chemistry teacher or department head). The letter must state why the nominee is deserving of the award with specific examples of professional involvement/growth, contributions to industry, and outside affiliations. It is highly recommended that the nomination includes a publications and patent list where applicable. Additional letters of support can come from students, parents, community members, and/or administrators. An example nomination letter can be requested from the awards committee co-chairs via email.

Consider getting your colleagues together for lunch and putting together a nomination packet. If you are in a managerial role and are worried about favoritism, consider nominating two to three qualified persons (you will remain anonymous, if requested, and nominations are considered for three years). If you would like to be considered for an award, there is the option to self-nominate. If you are a parent, consider nominating your child's outstanding science or chemistry teacher, or a science volunteer you know. It takes less than an hour to put together an award-winning letter and an additional 15 minutes soliciting supporting letters. Think of what it will mean to that person and how good you will feel about your generous deed.

Previous award recipients are listed at the end of this article (see pages 11 to 15) as nominees must not have received the award that they are being nominated for within the past ten years. Nominations not meeting the minimum requirements, and submissions received after the **Sunday, March 22, 2026, deadline**, will not be considered.

Please reach out if you have any questions to Allison Abdilla or Kajari Bera at awards@midlandacs.org, Midland Section ACS Awards Committee Co-Chairs.

Call for Nominations: 2026 Teaching, Volunteer, Education, and Chemical Sciences Awards

Allison Abdilla and Kajari Bera, Awards Committee Co-Chairs, Midland Section ACS

The Midland Section of the American Chemical Society presents awards to recognize outstanding achievement in the chemical sciences each year. Nominations for the 2026 awards are invited for the following areas:

- Outstanding Achievement: Elementary Level Science Teaching
- Outstanding Achievement: Middle Level Science Teaching
- Outstanding Achievement: High School Chemistry Teaching
- Outstanding Achievement: College Chemistry Teaching
- Science Education Volunteer of the Year
- Outstanding Achievement in the Promotion of Diversity in Chemistry, Related Sciences, and Engineering
- Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences
- Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society
- Outstanding Chemical Technician
- Outstanding High School / College Chemistry Students
- Team Innovation Award

Outstanding Science / Chemistry Teaching Awards

Candidates for the teaching awards must be educators at schools in the 21-county geographical area of the Midland Section: Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Bay, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Gladwin, Gratiot, Iosco, Isabella, Midland, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, Saginaw, Huron, and Tuscola Counties. One candidate will be recognized for their teaching contributions in each of the following categories: Elementary Level, Middle Level, High School, and College.

Science Education Volunteer of the Year

The Science Education Volunteer of the Year award is presented to an individual who makes a substantial contribution to science learning in the Midland Section through voluntary efforts.

Outstanding Achievement in the Promotion of Diversity in Chemistry, Related Sciences, and Engineering

This award recognizes a person or group residing in Alcona, Alpena, Arenac, Bay, Cheboygan, Clare, Crawford, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Iosco, Isabella, Midland, Montmorency, Ogemaw, Oscoda, Otsego, Presque Isle, Roscommon, Saginaw, or Tuscola County for outstanding achievement in enhancing the participation of under-represented groups in the study of chemistry, related sciences, and engineering. The nomination must come from a Midland Section ACS member. The criteria for this award include teaching, mentoring, serving as a role model, and active and sustained participation in organizations that support diversity which have had a demonstrable impact on the promotion of diversity in chemistry, related sciences, and engineering. ~~Members of the Midland Section ACS Diversity and Inclusion Committee are ineligible to receive this award.~~Corrected 2/13/26

Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences

Each year the Midland Section honors an individual residing within the Section's geographical area who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and promotion of the chemical sciences. This award recognizes dedication and service to the chemical profession, but the recipient need not be an ACS member. **The deadline for nominations is Sunday, March 22, 2026**, so that the Midland Section ACS Board can reach a decision at their April Board meeting.

Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society

The Section sponsors an annual award to recognize outstanding service to the Midland Section of the ACS. This award recognizes achievement in the promotion of the goals and objectives of Society. Nominees shall be members of the Midland Section. Nominations should include a history of service to the Midland Section and supporting letters from fellow ACS members.

Outstanding Chemical Technician

The Section presents an annual Outstanding Chemical Technician Award to an individual who has demonstrated an extremely high degree of professionalism as a chemical technician. Nominees must have worked for five years as a chemical technician, or in a related field, and whose primary job includes conducting experimentation or correlating information to help solve chemical problems or discover new chemical knowledge. The nominee must have successfully completed a two-year post-high school level chemistry curriculum leading to an associate degree, the equivalent course in a baccalaureate program, or equivalent experience. Chemical technicians do not need to be an ACS member to be eligible for this award. Nominations should include outside affiliations. *Request the National ACS nomination form from the awards committee co-chairs to nominate in this category.*

Outstanding High School / College Chemistry Students

The Awards Committee also recognizes outstanding chemistry students at the high school and collegiate levels. Those students should be selected by their respective departments, and their names forwarded to the Awards Committee using the Student Award Nomination Form. Download the form, complete the form, and save it locally as a PDF file. Then, send the PDF file as an email attachment to Allison Abdilla and Kajari Bera at awards@midlandacs.org, One selection per school; no supporting letters are needed.

Team Innovation Award

Up to three awards per year recognizing the teams responsible for successful, commercialized product or process innovation taking place in the Midland Section area within the current or previous two calendar years. One award will be reserved for organizations with less than 300 employees. ACS membership is not required. Nominations will be judged on inventiveness, impact (economic, environmental, societal), and connection to the Great Lakes Bay Region. Work done outside the area will be considered provided that the contributions of Midland area-based team members are significant. Press releases or other public announcements are expected to be included with the nomination packet for commercialized products or processes (support letters from company leadership will be accepted in lieu of press releases). A $60 submission fee is required for each team innovation award nomination.

-- -

Recipients of all awards will be selected by the Awards Committee with the exception of the Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences award which is submitted to the Midland Section ACS Executive Committee for approval. Nominators should write a letter indicating the award and describing the attributes of the candidate.

The deadline for all nominations is Sunday, March 22, 2026. Nominations not meeting the minimum requirements, and submissions received after the March 22 deadline, will not be considered. Mail or fax submissions are acceptable; *electronic (email) submissions are preferred*. All submissions must be accompanied by the name, position, address, and phone number of the nominator.

Award recipients as well as Chemistry Olympiad winners, National Chemistry Week Poem Contest winners, and Fifty/Sixty/Seventy Year ACS Members will be honored with certificates or plaques and featured in an article in the *Midland Chemist*.

The Awards Committee greatly appreciates the efforts involved in nominating someone and wishes to thank you for helping to recognize deserving students, colleagues, and educators in our local section. Please pass this information along to anyone involved in our local science programs!

-- -

The National ACS has many great awards available as well. The links to the web addresses where you can find the list of awards and the criteria for nomination are listed on pages 16 to 18. Now is the time to begin nominations for National ACS awards for 2026-2027 as most annual reviews have a deadline of around November 1, 2026.

For more detail on any award, please contact Allison Abdilla or Kajari Bera at awards@midlandacs.org, Midland Section ACS Awards Committee Co-Chairs.

Previous Recipients of Midland Section ACS Awards

Allison Abdilla and Kajari Bera, Awards Committee Co-Chairs, Midland Section ACS

Elementary Level Science Education		Middle Level Science Education		High School Chemistry Teaching	
1992	Karen Ziemelis	1992	Derrell Steffen	1989	Robert Wallace
1993	Lela Wade	1993	Laurie Hepinstall	1990	Gary Ronk
1994	Constance A. Dullock	1994	JoAnn Kraut	1991	No Recipient
1995	Joan Klopcic	1995	No Recipient	1992	John Clark, Edna Konwinski
1996	Mark Hackbarth	1996	Barbara J. Bibbee	1993	Mary Irons
1997	Denise Koppleberger, Cheryl Ruthig	1997	Gary J. Johnson	1994	Jo Ann Pelkki
1998	Barbara McGivern	1998	No Recipient	1995	No Recipient
1999	John Clark	1999	No Recipient	1996	Sandra Schafer
2000	Sue Burtch, Robin Harshman-Rogers,	2000	No Recipient	1997	Mary Fredell
	Vicki Richard, Clare Jorgensen	2001	No Recipient	1998	Dale Ressler
2001	Cathy Egerer, Amy Hindbaugh-Marr	2002	Joel Mikusko	1999	Robert Enszer
2002	Maureen Becker	2003	No Recipient	2000	Steven Kelly
2003	Leon Katzinger	2004	Christine Brillhart	2001	William Stokes
2004	Joan Roels	2005	No Recipient	2002	Robert Hansen
2005	Curt Moses	2006	Matthew Miller	2003	No Recipient
2006	Robin Allen	2007	John Hoving	2004	Doug Grezeszak
2007	Diane Huckins	2008	Mark Koschmann	2005	Pamela Thompson
2008	Rachel Pappas	2009	Carla Piazza	2006	Daniel Sealy
2009	No Recipient	2010	Melinda Coyle	2007	No Recipient
2010	No Recipient	2011	Jennifer Lenon	2008	No Recipient
2011	Beth Quimby	2012	Jayme Swanson	2009	Nancy Vossen
2012	No Recipient	2013	John Barnes	2010	Sandra Schafer
2013	No Recipient	2014	No Recipient	2011	David Allan
2014	No Recipient	2015	Mark Hackbarth	2012	David Bruessow
2015	Molly Kelsey	2016	No Recipient	2013	Tom Short, Sarah Beery
2016	No Recipient	2017	Allison Vandriessche	2014	No Recipient

2017	Rebecca Field	2018	No Recipient	2015	Jeff Yoder
2018	Suzanne Billette	2019	Darci Merillat	2016	Lisa Parsons
2019	Nicole Roberts	2020	No Recipient	2017	Kenneth Quackenbush
2020	Amy Crosby	2021	No Recipient	2018	Jason Brown
2021	No Recipient	2022	Michael Graves, Megan Konkol,	2019	Rick Cahoon
2022	Lori Hall		Jennifer Lehman, Victoria McPeak,	2020	No Recipient
2023	Julee Dillon		Rebecca Stinson	2021	No Recipient
2024	No Recipient	2023	No Recipient	2022	Jessica Schwarz
2025	No Recipient	2024	No Recipient	2023	Brian Reinhardt
		2025	Heather Richards	2024	No Recipient
				2025	No Recipient

College Chemistry Teaching

1989	Joan Sabourin	2004	Katherine Blystone	2019	Jeffery A. Turk
1990	Bob Howell	2005	Ronald Sharp	2020	Choon Young Lee
1991	Robert Kohrman	2006	Arthur G. Smith	2021	Janice Hall Tomasik
1992	Scott Hill	2007	Cynthia N. Peck	2022	Tami Sivy
1993	Ajit Sharma	2008	No Recipient	2023	No Recipient
1994	Laura Vosejpka	2009	No Recipient	2024	Adam Warhausen
1995	George Eastland	2010	Anton Jenson	2025	Stephen J. Juris
1996	Martin Spartz	2011	No Recipient		
1997	Philip Squattrito	2012	David S. Karpovich		
1998	Thomas Delia	2013	No Recipient		
1999	Steven E. Keinath	2014	David Baker		
2000	James Hutchison	2015	Estelle Lebeau		
2001	Sandra Smith	2016	Angela McGuirk		
2002	Margaret Hill	2017	Joel & Nancy Dopke		
2003	Dale Meier	2018	No Recipient		

Science Education Volunteer of the Year

1992	Gregg Young	2006	Tom Chamberlin	2020	Michelle Rivard
1993	Peter Bonk	2007	Teri Bickmore, Cal Goeders	2021	Brett Zimmerman
1994	Peter Moehs	2008	Tim Drier	2022	Dale LeCaptain
1995	Gretchen Kohl	2009	Dave Stickles	2023	Diana Deese
1996	John Blizzard, Richard Van Effen	2010	Lisa Thackery	2024	No Recipient
1997	Marvin Tegen	2011	Charles & Barbara Roth	2025	No Recipient
1998	Carlton Beyer	2012	Estelle Lebeau		
1999	William Albe	2013	No Recipient		
2000	Karol Childs	2014	Charles Nielsen		
2001	Donald Petersen	2015	Gina Malczewski		
2002	Joan McMahon	2016	Dennis Klipa		
2003	Charles Roth	2017	Nalayini Kogulan		
2004	Jan Zanyk	2018	Wendell Dilling		
2005	Eldon Graham	2019	Jennifer Reil		

Outstanding Achievement in the Promotion of Diversity in Chemistry, Related Sciences, and Engineering

(Awarded every other year, 2002 through 2022, then annually since 2023)

2002	George Gant, Richard Stringfield	2012	Linneaus Dorman	2022	Alyssa Fielitz
2004	Smallwood Holoman, Jr.	2014	Victor Atiemo-Obeng	2023	Anne-Catherine Bedard
2006	Joan Sabourin	2016	Roland Wallace	2024	Bingbing Li
2008	Sandra Parker	2019	Karen Carter (CERM Award)	2025	Kim Dinh
2010	Theophilus Leapheart	2020	Anja Mueller		

Outstanding Achievement and Promotion of the Chemical Sciences

1976	Dr. Turner Alfrey, Jr.	1996	Dr. Hans G. Elias	2016	Dr. Ronda L. Grosse
1977	Dr. Etcyl H. Blair	1997	Dr. Ludo K. Frevel	2017	Dr. Mike Ferritto
1978	Dr. David C. Young	1998	Dr. Patrick B. Smith	2018	No Recipient
1979	Dr. Vernon A. Stenger	1999	Dr. David E. Henton	2019	Dr. Jerzy Klosin
1980	Dr. Daniel R. Stull	2000	Dr. Steven J. Martin	2020	Dr. Chris Goralski,
1981	Dr. Bob A. Howell	2001	Dr. Edwin C. Steiner		Dr. Brad Fahlman
1982	Dr. Wendell L. Dilling	2002	Dr. Thomas J. Delia	2021	No Recipient
1983	Dr. Donald R. Weyenberg	2003	Dr. Robert M. Nowak	2022	Dr. Richard K. Helling
1984	Dr. Edwin P. Plueddemann	2004	Herbert D. (Ted) Doan	2023	Dr. Tami Sivy
1985	Dr. Raymond P. Boyer	2005	Dr. Michael J. Owen	2024	Dr. David Meunier
1986	Stanley P. Klesney	2006	Dr. Robert E. Kohrman	2025	Dr. Benjamin M. Swarts
1987	Dr. Warren B. Crummett	2007	Dr. Petar R. Dvornic		Dr. Dimitris Katsoulis
1988	Dr. A. Lee Smith	2008	Dr. Jack Kruper		
1989	Dr. Do Ik Lee	2009	No Recipient		
1990	Dr. Joseph E. Dunbar	2010	No Recipient		
1991	Dr. Thomas H. Lane	2011	Dr. James Falender		
1992	Dr. Donald A. Tomalia	2012	No Recipient		
1993	Dr. Dale J. Meier	2013	No Recipient		
1994	Dr. Philip T. Delassus	2014	No Recipient		
1995	Dr. Duane B. Priddy	2015	Dr. James Tonge		

Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society

1989	Dr. David C. Young	2004	Dr. Steven E. Keinath	2019	Dr. Dale LeCaptain
1990	Dr. Linneaus C. Dorman	2005	Ann Birch	2020	No Recipient
1991	Dr. Donald R. Petersen	2006	Dr. Philip Squattrito	2021	Michelle Cummings
1992	Dr. Wendell L. Dilling	2007	David L. Stickles	2022	Michelle Rivard
1993	Dr. Bob A. Howell	2008	Connie Murphy	2023	Vickie Langer
1994	Eldon L. Graham	2009	No Recipient	2024	Dr. Amanda Palumbo
1995	Gretchen S. Kohl	2010	No Recipient	2025	No Recipient
1996	Fran K. Voci	2011	No Recipient		
1997	Dr. Thomas H. Lane	2012	No Recipient		
1998	Vicky S. Cobb	2013	No Recipient		
1999	Dr. Theodore E. Tabor	2014	No Recipient		
2000	Drs. Peter & Patricia Dreyfuss	2015	Amy Tesolin-Gee		
2001	Dr. George W. Eastland, Jr.	2016	Dr. Bob A. Howell		
2002	Joan Sabourin	2017	Diana Deese		
2003	John Blizzard	2018	Dr. Regina Malczewski		

Outstanding Chemical Technician

1997	Connie J. Murphy	2011	Amy Tesolin-Gee	2023	Denise Anaya
1998	David Stickles	2012	Amber Wallace	2024	Jacob Remacle
1999	Ronald L. Good	2013	No Recipient	2025	Benjamin Wendt
2000	Kurt A. Bell	2014	Jeff Seifferly		
2001	Gordon R. Roof	2015	Brian Scherzer		
2002	Cynthia J. Gould	2016	Dana Fuerst		
2003	Robert Krystosek	2017	Stephanie Hughes		
2004	Sherry Allen	2018	Joseph Harris		
2005	Bill Rievert	2019	Weston Tulloch, Matthew Yonkey		
2006	Margo McIvor	2020	Heidi Clements		
2007	Debbie Bailey	2021	Scott Boelter, Nicholas A. Paulik, Matt McLaughlin		
2008	Sue Perz				
2009	Diana Deese	2022	Matt Crimmins, Carl Reinhardt, Ben Schaefer, Duane Vance		
2010	No Recipient				

Team Innovation Awards

2020 Dow Consumer Solutions: Hand Sanitizer for COVID-19 Response
Dow Performance Silicones: SILASTIC™ Moldable Optical Silicone
Impact Analytical: Leachable and Extractable Studies
2021 DuPont Nutrition and BioSciences: Increased Capacity for the Growing Meat-Alternative Vegetarian Market
2022 Dow Chemical: RHOBARR™ 320 Barrier Dispersion
2023 No Recipient
2024 Dow: DOWSIL™ 979 Emulsion
2025 No Recipient

Additional, Special Awards

2016	Corporate Leadership Award	Andrew N. Liveris	Dow Chemical Company
2017	Special Recognition (Kaliapparat)	Steven E. Keinath	Michigan Molecular Institute (retired)
2018	Special Recognition (Through a Different Lens)	Thomas H. Lane	Dow Corning Corporation (retired)
2019	Special Recognition (Chair, 2019 CERM)	Dimi Katsoulis	Dow
2019	Special Recognition (Chair, 100th Anniv. Cmte.)	Gina Malczewski	Dow Corning Corporation (retired)
2019	Special Recognition (Hospitality Star)	Emily Deese	Michigan State University
2019	Special Recognition (Section Centennial Cert.)	David Young	Dow Chemical Company (retired)
2019	MI Governor's Senior Volunteer Service Award	Gina Malczewski	Midland Section ACS
2022	Special Recognition (Redesign of Section Website)	Michael Malczewski	Midland Section ACS (volunteer)
2022	Special Recognition (Redesign of Section Website)	Mark Jones	Dow (retired)
2023	Special Appreciation (Keeper of Time)	Wendell Dilling	Dow & CMU (retired)

Midland Section ACS Salutes to Excellence Awards

2001 Thomas Lane
2005 Water Warriors (Ogemaw Heights High School), Eldon L. Graham, Chris Powley, Debra Green, Anne DeBoer, Richard Anderson, Max Bottomley, Harold Moll, Russel Tree, Jr.
2006 Norman Delisle, John Safranksi, Jr., Richard Anderson, Max Bottomley
2008 Harold Moll, Russel Tree, Jr., Norman Delisle, John Safranski, Jr.
2009 Saginaw Spirit Hockey Club, Bob Moyer, Nancy Vossen, Vicki Behe, Steve Gribble
2010 Linda K. Dielman
2013 David Allan

2015 Sue Perz, Anatoliy Sokolov, Jaime Curtis-Fisk, Aaron Gaertner
2016 Dow Corning Corporation, Cassie Fhaner, Wendy Flory, Gretchen Kohl, Diana Deese
2017 Mike Garlick (Dr. Slime), Michael Tulchinsky, Adrianne Cole, Brian Brutyn, Sean V. Murray
2018 Dorian Phelps, John Blizzard, Tim Drier, Art Ferruzzi
2019 John Metcalf, Jay Martin, Valentina Woodcraft, Clifford Todd, Patrick Smith, Bernadette Harkness A.N. Sreeram, Congressman John Moolenaar (CERM presentations)
2022 John Blizzard (Quadsil/Raven Analytical), Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, Creative 360, MSU St. Andrews, Cyndie Roberts (Dow High Go Green Club)
2023 Midland Area Farmers Market, National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE)

Mid-Michigan Technicians Group (MMTG) Outstanding Chemical Technology Student

1998	Rebecca Hall	2010	No Recipient	2022	Collin Clark
1999	Debbie Beuthin	2011	David Gutowski	2023	No Recipient
2000	Sara Shinavar	2012	Jeremy Marchand	2024	Keaton Anderson
2001	Dana Bitzer	2013	Chadwick Roland	2025	No Recipient
2002	Sarah Bottke	2014	James Nemeth		
2003	No Recipient	2015	Kelly Setula		
2004	Fred Jackson	2016	Dave Starr		
2005	Chris Eicher	2017	No Recipient		
2006	Phillip Jerewski	2018	Calyx Moore		
2007	Laura Jaska	2019	Lindsay Alarie		
2008	Gerald Rupprecht	2020	Elizabeth Bilicki		
2009	Kyle Krauseneck	2021	No Recipient		

ACS National Awards for 2026–2027 Nomination

Allison Abdilla and Kajari Bera, Awards Committee Co-Chairs, Midland Section ACS

Editor's note: Several Midland Section ACS members have received various National ACS awards over the years. Please see their names, as noted, below.

ACS Award for Achievement in Research for the Teaching and Learning of Chemistry
ACS Award for Affordable Green Chemistry
2012 William J. Kruper
ACS Award for Computers in Chemical and Pharmaceutical Research
ACS Award for Creative Advances in Environmental Science and Technology
1986 Eugene E. Kenaga
ACS Award for Creative Invention
1984 Edwin P. Plueddemann
ACS Award for Creative Work in Fluorine Chemistry
ACS Award for Creative Work in Synthetic Organic Chemistry
ACS Award for Distinguished Service in the Advancement of Inorganic Chemistry
ACS Award for Encouraging Underrepresented and Economically Disadvantaged Students into Careers in the Chemical Sciences
2024 Scott T. Wills
ACS Award for Encouraging Women into Careers in the Chemical Sciences
ACS Award for Research at an Undergraduate Institution
ACS Award for Team Innovation
2015 Ryan Gaston, James R. Keenihan, Abhijit A. Namjoshi, Stephen Pisklak, Jason A. Reese
2017 Robert A. DeVries, Philip Garrou, Carol E. Mohler, Theodore M. Stokich, Jr., Eric S. Moyer
ACS Award in Applied Polymer Science
1970 Raymond F. Boyer
ACS Award in Chromatography
1991 Hamish Small
ACS Award in Colloid Chemistry
ACS Award in Industrial Chemistry
2022 Jerzy Klosin
ACS Award in Inorganic Chemistry
ACS Award in Organometallic Chemistry
ACS Award in Polymer Chemistry
1973 Turner Alfrey, Jr.
ACS Award in Pure Chemistry
ACS Award in Separations Science and Technology
ACS Award in Surface Chemistry
ACS Award in the Chemistry of Materials
ACS Award in Theoretical Chemistry
Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society
Roger Adams Award in Organic Chemistry
Alfred Bader Award in Bioinorganic or Bioorganic Chemistry

Earle B. Barnes Award for Leadership in Chemical Research Management

1987 Malcolm E. Pruitt
2009 Gregg A. Zank
2014 William F. Banholzer
2024 David Parrillo

Ronald Breslow Award for Achievement in Biomimetic Chemistry
Herbert C. Brown Award for Creative Research in Synthetic Methods
Alfred Burger Award in Medicinal Chemistry
James Bryant Conant Award in High School Chemistry Teaching
Arthur C. Cope Award
Arthur C. Cope Scholar Awards
Elias J. Corey Award for Outstanding Original Contribution in Organic Synthesis by a Young Investigator
F. Albert Cotton Award in Synthetic Inorganic Chemistry
Peter Debye Award in Physical Chemistry
David A. Evans Award for the Advancement and Education of Organic Synthesis
Frank H. Field and Joe L. Franklin Award for Outstanding Achievement in Mass Spectrometry
Francis P. Garvan - John M. Olin Medal
James T. Grady - James H. Stack Award for Interpreting Chemistry for the Public
Harry Gray Award for Creative Work in Inorganic Chemistry by a Young Investigator
Ernest Guenther Award in the Chemistry of Natural Products
Kathryn C. Hach Award for Entrepreneurial Success
M. Frederick Hawthorne Award in Main Group Inorganic Chemistry
E. B. Hershberg Award for Important Discoveries in Medicinally Active Substances
Joel Henry Hildebrand Award in the Theoretical and Experimental Chemistry of Liquids
Ralph F. Hirschmann Award in Peptide Chemistry
Marks-Ipatieff Award in Catalysis
Frederic Stanley Kipping Award in Silicon Chemistry

1990 John L. Speier, Jr.

Irving Langmuir Award in Chemical Physics
Josef Michl ACS Award in Photochemistry
E. V. Murphree Award in Industrial and Engineering Chemistry
Nakanishi Prize
Nobel Laureate Signature Award for Graduate Education in Chemistry
James Flack Norris Award in Physical Organic Chemistry
George A. Olah Award in Hydrocarbon or Petroleum Chemistry
Charles Lathrop Parsons Award
Thomas H. Parliment Award for Advances in Flavor Chemistry
George C. Pimentel Award in Chemical Education
Priestley Medal
Dong Qin ACS Award in Nanochemistry
Glenn T. Seaborg Award for Nuclear Chemistry
Gabor A. Somorjai Award for Creative Research in Catalysis
Henry H. Storch Award in Energy Chemistry
E. Bright Wilson Award in Spectroscopy
Philip J. Wyatt Award in Analytical Chemistry
Ahmed Zewail Award in Ultrafast Science and Technology

Criteria and deadlines for the National ACS awards, and other grants and considerations, can be found at National Awards - American Chemical Society.

The full list of National ACS awards by title can be found at Awards by Title - American Chemical Society.

Midland Section ACS Recipients of National, Division, and Regional ACS Awards

Allison Abdilla and Kajari Bera, Awards Committee Co-Chairs, Midland Section ACS

National ACS Fellows

2010 Wendell L. Dilling, Michael J. Owen
2011 Bob A. Howell, Thomas H. Lane, Connie J. Murphy
2013 Patrick B. Smith
2014 Janet M. Smith
2015 Gretchen S. Kohl
2016 Joan M. Sabourin
2017 Mark E. Jones
2018 Susan Beda Butts
2019 Jerzy Klosin, Regina Malczewski
2020 Christian T. Goralski
2021 Dimitris Katsoulis
2022 Michelle Cummings
2023 Michelle Rivard

National ACS Heroes of Chemistry

1999 Etcyl Blair, Ray Rigterink, Art Sexton
2000 L.C. Rubens
2015 David Devore, David Neithamer, Peter Nickias, Jasson Patton, James Stevens, David Wilson
2017 James Bohling, Stan Brownell
2024 Mark Barger, Stephane Costeux, Wenyi Huang, Mark Rickard

National ACS Helen M. Free Award for Public Outreach

2015 Regina Malczewski

National ACS Local Section Outreach Volunteer of the Year Award

2014 Regina M. Malczewski
2015 Michelle L. Rivard
2016 Dave Stickles
2017 Diana Deese
2018 Michael Tulchinsky
2019 Lauren McCullough
2020 Dimi Katsoulis
2025 Anne-Catherine Bedard

National ACS Local Section Global Outreach Volunteer of the Year Award

2025 Anne-Catherine Bedard

National ACS Project SEED Outstanding Mentor

2024 Anja Mueller
2025 Tami Sivy

National ACS Women Chemists Committee (WCC) Rising Star Award

2015 Jaime Curtis-Fisk
2017 Beata A. Kilos
2021 Heather Spinney

ACS Division of Business Development and Management Henry F. Whalen, Jr. Award for Excellence in Business Development and Management in the Chemical Enterprise

2018 Thomas Lane
2020 A.N. Sreeram

ACS Division of Chemical Technicians National Chemical Technical Professional Award

2000 David L. Stickles
2001 Susan Youngs
2006 Robert Krystosek
2007 Margo McIver
2008 Janet Smith
2014 Diana Deese
2015 Jeff Seifferly
2018 Michelle Rivard
2021 Nita "Qiuyin" Xu

ACS Division of Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Applied Chemical Technology (ACT) Award

2014 Janet M. Smith
2017 Michelle Cummings

ACS Division of Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Award in Industrial Chemistry

2022 Jerzy Klosin

ACS Division of Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Early Career Fellow Award

2018 Beata Kilos

ACS Division of Industrial & Engineering Chemistry Applied Chemical Technology Fellow Award

2023 Diana Deese

ACS Division of Professional Relations Henry Hill Award

2016 Thomas Lane

Stanley C. Israel Regional Award for Advancing Diversity in the Chemical Sciences

2016 Thomas Lane (CERM, Covington, KY)
2019 Jim Fitterling (CERM, Midland, MI)

E. Ann Nalley Regional Award for Volunteer Service to the American Chemical Society

2013 Bob Howell (CERM, Mount Pleasant, MI)
2014 Patrick B. Smith (CERM, Pittsburgh, PA)

2019 Michelle Rivard (CERM, Midland, MI)
2023 Diana Deese (CERM, Detroit, MI)

Bettye Washington Green Award for Outstanding Science – Midland Local Section Diversity & Inclusion Committee and National Organization for the Professional Advancement of Black Chemists and Chemical Engineers (NOBCChE) Midland Chapter

2023 Siaka Yusuf
2025 Safiyah Muhammad

Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion Award – Midland Local Section Diversity & Inclusion Committee

2020 James Walker

Encouraging Women in the Chemical Sciences Award – Midland Local Section Women Chemists Committee

2019 Beata Kilos-Reaume

Shirley B. Radding Award – Santa Clara Valley Local Section

2015 Connie Murphy

2026 Earth Action Expo, April 25

Gina Malczewski, Outreach Committee, Midland Section ACS

The Earth Action Expo in Midland, MI, the largest Earth Day event in our area, has been taking place at Dow High School on Saginaw Road in Midland every year since 2021, following a tradition of annual Earth Day programs (mostly at the Midland Center for the Arts) since 2006 (except for 2020).

The primary organizers of the event are the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society and the Dow High School Go Green Club. Exhibit tables are free. Commercial vendors are limited and by invitation only. Sponsorships are also available. Attendance is free.

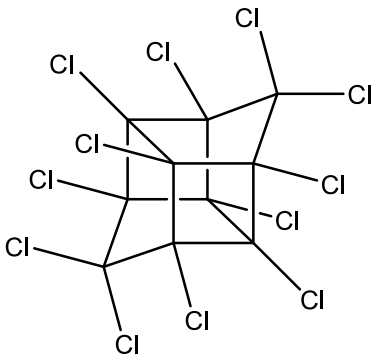
Our objectives are to educate all ages relative to environmental stewardship and the benefits and bounty of nature. We encourage engagement in earth-friendly activities and offer options for re-purposing and recycling of materials from cloth to electronics. We aim for a Zero Waste event and have speakers each year. The yearly theme (from the National American Chemical Society) supplies a suggestion for exhibit and speaker topics. The Earth Action Expo is always held on the last Saturday of April and the 2026 event is slated for Saturday, April 25.

Food trucks, EVs, invited speakers, and over 70 exhibitors are anticipated to be part of this year's community outreach event. For more information, please see https://earthactionexpo.org/. For any questions or to volunteer, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.

From Love Canal to Bishomocubane

Wendell L. Dilling, Past Historian, Midland Section ACS

Mark Jones reported in the most recent issue of *The Midland Chemist* [**2026**, *63*, No. 1 (January), p. 4-5] that many chlorinated organic compounds were buried in Love Canal in Niagara Falls, New York. One of the many compounds that the Hooker Electrochemical Company, a local chemical company, studied during this time was perchloro-1,4-bishomocubane, $C_{10}Cl_{12}$, later known as Mirex, which was developed as an insecticide, mainly against fire ants.



Perchloro-1,4-bishomocubane

Hooker chemists synthesized this perchloro compound by treating hexachlorocyclopentadiene with aluminum chloride.

I was fortunate to receive a fellowship at Purdue University to study the chemistry of this and several related compounds. Among the other derivatives of this perchloro compound we synthesized, was the completely dechlorinated hydrocarbon, 1,4-bishomocubane. This dechlorination was carried out by reacting the chlorocarbon with lithium metal and *t*-butanol in tetrahydrofuran.

We also studied several aspects of this reaction. A significant byproduct was endo-dicyclopentadiene. By limiting the amount of lithium or using water as the proton source we were able to isolate several partially dechlorinated derivatives (Dilling, W. L.; Braendlin, H. P.; McBee, E. T., *Tetrahedron*, **1967**, *23*, 1211-1224).

Most Significant Milestone in Chemistry's History (or Our Own Chemical History)

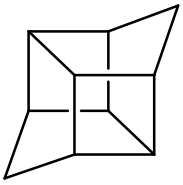
Wendell L. Dilling, Past Historian, Midland Section ACS

Section Chair Judith Espanoza's Chair Column in *The* January *Midland Chemist* was very interesting in that among other topics she discussed the most significant milestone in the history of chemistry.

This is a difficult question when considering the totality of chemistry. Such topics as the development of the periodic table, the structure of DNA, or the Haber process for the synthesis of ammonia, etc., were all significant, but deciding among them is very difficult. Perhaps it is easier to decide which was the most significant of one type of item, like a structure determination or which was the most significant synthetic procedure. Narrowing the question to the most significant compound to you would be even easier.

I would like to suggest that Midland Section members tell us what compound or type of compound is of most significance to them.

As a way to initiate this discussion I will tell you the compound of most significance to me is 1,4-bishomocubane.



1,4-Bishomocubane

I synthesized this compound, $C_{10}H_{12}$, during my graduate school work and thought this was a very interesting structure from several standpoints: its symmetry and probable strain energy, and its relation to other compounds like cubane itself, C_8H_8.

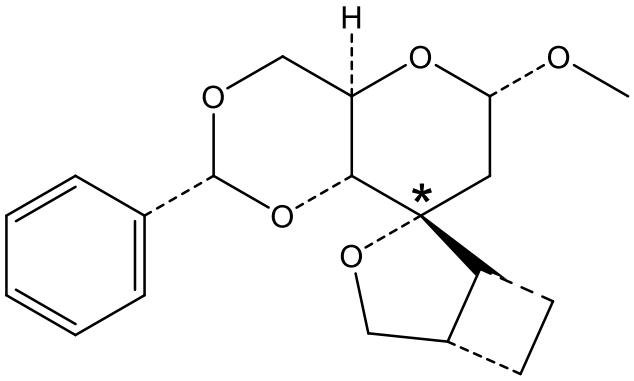
I would like to know what other compounds Midland Section members may have a special interest in. Please send an article or a letter to the editor describing your special compound.

Returning to the original question, if you can tell us what you think is the most significant milestone in the history of chemistry, I'm sure we would like to hear about it.

Sixth R,S-Puzzle

Wendell L. Dilling, Past Historian, Midland Section ACS

Here's the sixth **R,S**-Puzzle.



We're starting the second round of these puzzles [*The Midland Chemist*, **2025**, *62*, No. 12 (December), p 11]. We're using the same molecules, but different asymmetric atoms (*).

The score after the first round is SVSU 3, CMU 1. These puzzles are for everyone, those working or studying at Dow, duPont, Delta, SVSU, Alma, CMU, et al.

Same rules as before, first correct answer, **R** or **S,** wins; send answer to w.dilling@att.net, only one answer per person.

Bourbon-themed Science Cafés and the Bourbon Pull Fundraiser for Project SEED

Mark Jones, Director, Midland Section ACS

Fun was had by all at the Science Cafés associated with the Project SEED Bourbon Pull fundraiser. The events were conceived and driven by Michelle Rivard, the Midland ACS Project SEED coordinator. A Science Café is the ACS name for informal events where scientists and the public come together to discuss scientific topics, commonly held in cafés, libraries, or community centers. Associaton with the Bourbon Pull fundraiser made the chemistry of bourbon the theme for the three events. Holding them in bars was a natural fit. While science was discussed, the events lacked the formality of a lecture or classroom. Three events were held at three different locations.

EverNorth Spirits in Midland on August 27th

In association with the Central Regional Meeting at Hunter's Ale House in Mount Pleasant on October 17th.

Three Bridges Taproom and Distillery in Midland on November 20th.

The Bourbon Pull fundraiser benefits Project SEED, an ACS program that provides paid summer internships to area students. Students are placed in laboratories to gain work experience and improve their chemistry knowledge. Tickets purchased for the fundraiser entitled the bearer to food at the event and guaranteed a bottle of bourbon or whiskey. Attendance at the Science Cafés taught the difference. Many of the bourbons were priced considerably more than the ticket price, some less. 140 bottles were up for grabs across the three events. All proceeds support local high school students. "It's incredible to see how our community rallies behind Project SEED", said Michelle Rivard. "The success of the bourbon pulls directly translates into real opportunities for our students, allowing them to travel, present their research, and take their first steps into the professional world".

The first event, held at Midland's EverNorth Spirits Company featured Sean Paisley describing the bourbon making process and the company. Forty bottles were available in the Bourbon Pull. The EverNorth facility south of Midland proved a popular venue. Some traveled from as far away as Detroit to participate. State law requires winners be present to accept prizes. Paisley and co-founder Dan Shook are the popular "Bourbon Junkies". Their YouTube channel has around 150,000 subscribers and they are now widely quoted bourbon and whisky experts.

Sean Paisley provides insights into the chemistry and chemical processing required to make exceptional bourbon at the first Project SEED Bourbon Fundraiser.

The second event was held as part of the Central Regional Meeting of the ACS. Beth Lorsbach presented a talk on the chemistry of bourbon. Beth dove deeper into the chemistry of flavor creation in whiskey and shared her excitement for a good bourbon. Regan Silvestri spoke about the novel process developed by Cleveland Whiskey.

A lively crowd participated in the Project SEED Bourbon Pull Fundraiser at Hunter's Ale House.

That process uses inventive chemical engineering to dramatically shorten the aging time required to generate a flavorful whiskey. Silvestri, a professor at Lorain Community College, also detailed his journey building a teaching program based on the analytical chemistry associated with bourbon production. The event was split between Central Michigan's University Center and Hunter's Ale House. A bourbon tasting was held during the afternoon poster session. The Bourbon Pull was held at a raucous Hunter's Ale House. It was the largest of the three with a total of 60 bottles up for grabs.

The third and final Science Café and Bourbon Pull Fundraiser for Project SEED was held at Three Bridges Distillery and Taproom, 240 E. Main Street in Midland. The event featured discussions of both technology and business building. Forty bottles of bourbon were available in the bourbon pull, plus one special bottle signed by famous musician John Mellencamp. The bottle, a collaboration of Hard Truth and Mellencamp Whiskey was a special raffle prize. The Three Bridges team provided a great venue and interesting discussion. For the evening, the Molecular Magic Mule was rolled out, a bourbon mixed drink designed for the occasion. Owner John Levy and brewmaster Jamie Daws provided both technical and business insights for an engaged crowd. The challenges of opening the distillery and taproom during the COVID pandemic were described. The thriving business is now expanding and John described the expansion goals.

Three Bridges owner John Levy provided a spirited and frequently humorous accounting of starting Three Bridges at the third and last Science Cafe.

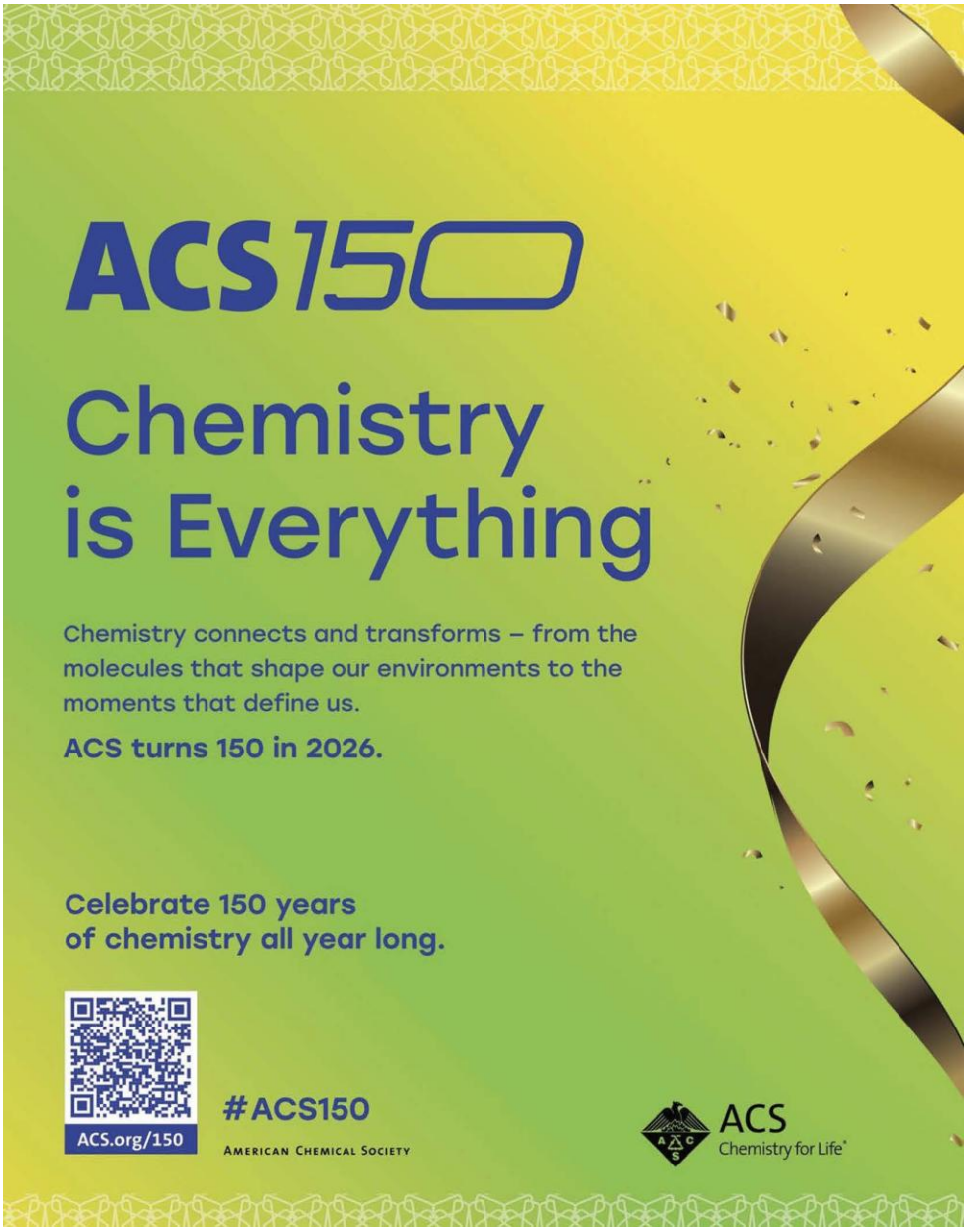
Master of ceremonies Jeff Seifferly entertains the crowd.

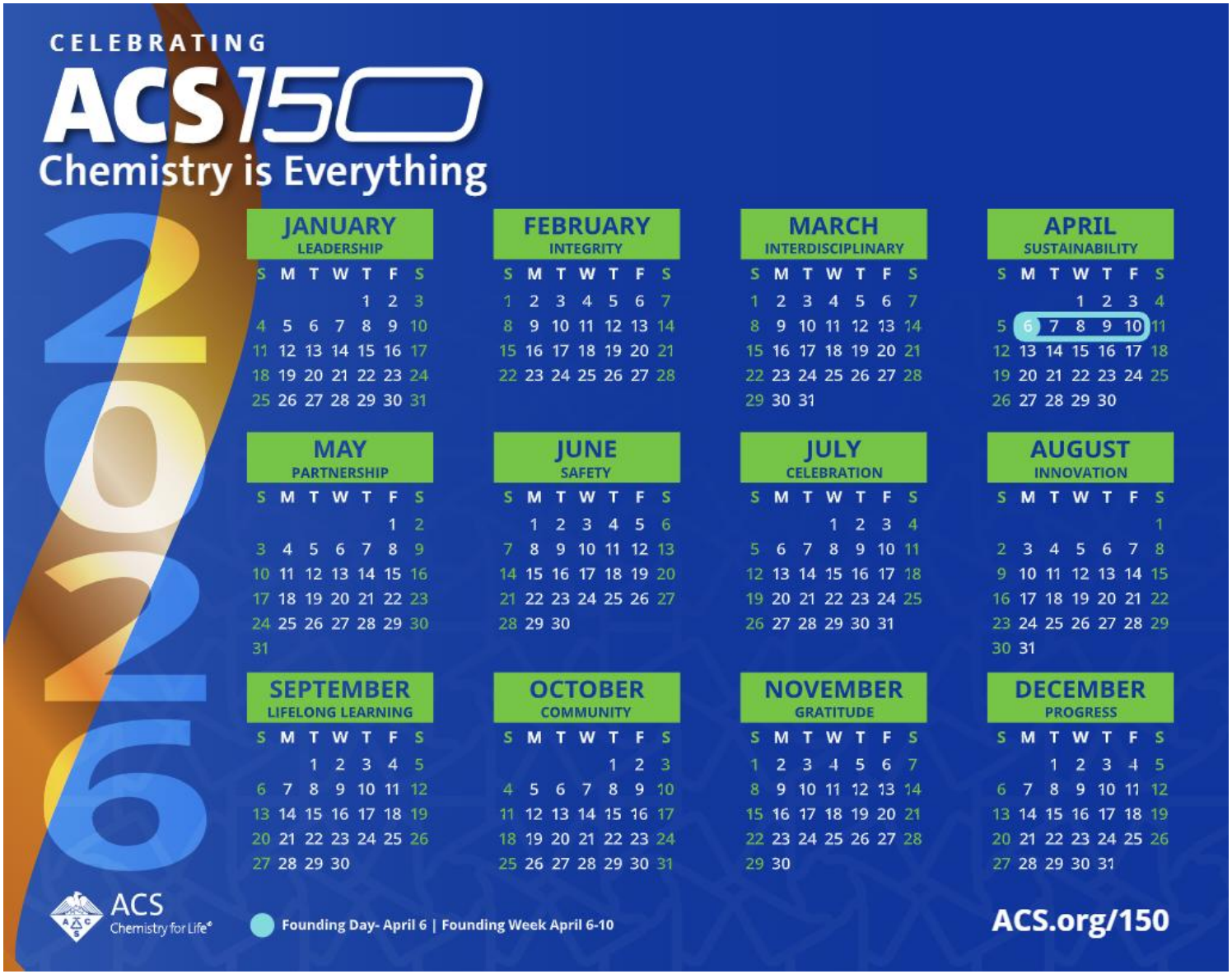
The events and the fundraiser were made possible through sponsorship by the ACS Committee on Corporation Associates, EverNorth Spirits Co., Three Bridges Distillery & Taproom, Cleveland Whiskey and Silver Circle, an ACS Committee of Senior Members. The fundraiser was also made possible by the generous whiskey donations made by Kyle Krauseneck, Hunter Woodward, Matt and Michelle Rivard, Tom Lane, Jacob Crosthwaite, Mark Jones, Top Gun, Alan Saggers, Jeff Seifferly, Kathleen Van Pelt, Dave Stickles, Dave Gorney, John Zieman, Beth Lorsbach and Regan Silvestri. In addition to Michelle Rivard, the organizing team

consisted of Jeff Seifferly, Hunter Woodward, Mark Jones, Amanda Palumbo, Chris Simon and Justin Massing. Matt Rivard also was instrumental in creating successful events. His help is greatly appreciated. Both Hunter and Jeff handled microphones at the events. Their efforts as MCs added greatly to the experience.

The Science Cafes and Project SEED are examples of the work the Midland Local Section does to enrich the local community. Support of the ACS directly improves life in the area, providing tangible benefits for members, students and the community.

ACS150: Chemistry is Everything




CELEBRATING
ACS150
Chemistry is Everything
2012
JANUARY
LEADERSHIP
S M T W T F S
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31
FEBRUARY
INTEGRITY
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
MARCH
INTERDISCIPLINARY
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30 31
APRIL
SUSTAINABILITY
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30
MAY
PARTNERSHIP
S M T W T F S
1 2
3 4 5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12 13 14 15 16
17 18 19 20 21 22 23
24 25 26 27 28 29 30
31
JUNE
SAFETY
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6
7 8 9 10 11 12 13
14 15 16 17 18 19 20
21 22 23 24 25 26 27
28 29 30
JULY
CELEBRATION
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9 10 11
12 13 14 15 16 17 18
19 20 21 22 23 24 25
26 27 28 29 30 31
AUGUST
INNOVATION
S M T W T F S
1
2 3 4 5 6 7 8
9 10 11 12 13 14 15
16 17 18 19 20 21 22
23 24 25 26 27 28 29
30 31
SEPTEMBER
LIFELONG LEARNING
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30
OCTOBER
COMMUNITY
S M T W T F S
1 2 3
4 5 6 7 8 9 10
11 12 13 14 15 16 17
18 19 20 21 22 23 24
25 26 27 28 29 30 31
NOVEMBER
GRATITUDE
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
15 16 17 18 19 20 21
22 23 24 25 26 27 28
29 30
DECEMBER
PROGRESS
S M T W T F S
1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30 31
ACS
Chemistry for Life®
Founding Day- April 6 | Founding Week April 6-10
ACS.org/150

2026 Turner J. Alfrey Visiting Professor Lecture Series, June 9

Robert A. Bubeck, Research Professor, MSU St. Andrews, Midland

MSU St. Andrews is pleased to announce that arrangements are beginning for the 2026 Turner J. Alfrey Visiting Professor Lecture Series. Our guest lecturer this year will be Prof. John M. Torkelson, Walter P. Murphy Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering and Materials Science and Engineering, at Northwestern University.

Tentative arrangements are as follows:

Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2026 Time: 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
Location: MSU St. Andrews, 1910 West St. Andrews Road, Midland
Guest Lecturer: Prof. John M. Torkelson

Prof. John M. Torkelson

About Prof. John M. Torkelson

Background information about Prof. Torkelson can be found on his faculty profile web page at the Northwestern University McCormick School of Engineering website: https://www.mccormick.northwestern.edu/research-faculty/directory/profiles/torkelson-john.html. A link to his extensive professional CV may also be found at that website.

Torkelson Research Group Interests

Sustainable and recyclable/upcyclable polymers and composites, nanoscience and nanotechnology of polymers and soft matter, and novel solid-state processing of polymers

Our research motivation is driven by two main desires: (1) to understand at a fundamental level how molecular-scale behavior of polymers relates to macroscale properties; and (2) and to engineer and optimize polymer properties by tuning molecular-scale responses via dynamic chemistry, nanoscale confinement, chain architecture, and novel solid-state processing, among other methods. For example, our group has recently developed numerous simple dynamic covalent chemistry approaches that allow for spent thermosets or crosslinked polymers to be recycled by melt-state processing into new crosslinked polymer products with full recovery of crosslink density and associated properties. In one case, we employ exactly the polymers and fillers used in the tire industry but substitute sulfur-based crosslinking with a dynamic alkoxyamine-based crosslinking method; the latter method yields robust crosslinks at elevated-temperature-use conditions but decrosslinks at yet higher temperatures like those used in tire molding operations, thus allowing melt-state reprocessing. Other methods have been developed for polyhydroxyurethane, polythiourethane, and non-isocyanate polythiourethane crosslinked polymer networks, with these systems also showing promise for monomer recovery from spent polymers, in one case at 94% small-molecule recovery.

We are also developing a deeper understanding of how nanoscale confinement of polymers in thin films or in nanocomposites can lead to major changes in properties, including glass transition temperature (which can change by 50 deg C or more), physical aging, stiffness or modulus, and diffusion, among others. In support of our research efforts, we have developed simple non-destructive characterization tools that allow us to characterize the gradient in behavior from a free surface or substrate/nanofiller. We also are doing fundamental research to understand how polymer architecture (e.g., cyclic or ring polymers, stars, hyperbranched polymers,

brushes, bottlebrushes, etc.) and copolymer structure can modify the bulk and nanoconfined behaviors of polymers. In turn, we are using that understanding to engineer materials for improved performance. Finally, we have been pursuing novel, industrially scalable solid-state processing approaches to design and produce modified polymers, polymer blends, composites, and nanocomposites that cannot be produced by conventional melt-state processing. Our process is the solid-state analog of twin-screw extrusion and allows for much greater work to be done on the polymeric materials during processing. As a result, our solid-state process achieves dispersion levels as well as chemistries that are not attainable with melt-state processing methods.

Additional Information

Additional information will be coming along with a registration link for the Tuesday, June 9, 2026, program, but please save the date and block your calendars now. For more information or any questions, please contact Dr. Robert Bubeck, Research Professor, MSU St. Andrews, 1910 West St. Andrews Road at 989-374-9912 or bubeck@msu.edu. Also, please watch this newsletter for more information to follow.

Middle School Summer Camp, June 15-19

Gina Malczewski, Outreach Committee, Midland Section ACS

A free Middle School Summer Camp experience is being planned for Monday-Friday, June 15-19, 2026. This science-based summer camp will run each day from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at MSU St. Andrews, 1910 West St. Andrews Road, in Midland.

This year's summer camp theme is *"Clean and Green: Chemistry and the Environment."* For more information, any questions, or to volunteer, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com. Also, please watch this newsletter for more information to follow.

Volunteers Wanted to Support Local Science Teachers

Kevin Shaughnessy, President, Midland Kiwanis Club

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

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

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

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

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

ACS Fall 2026, August 23-27
Steve Keinath, Co-Editor, The Midland Chemist

Editor's note: The information contained in this article is reprinted, in part, from a National ACS email communication to all members, dated Wednesday, January 14, 2026.

Call for Abstracts for ACS Fall 2026 Is Now Open
Deadline for Abstract Submissions is Monday, March 30, 2016

Abstracts are now being accepted for **ACS Fall 2026**. This in-person and digital meeting will be held in Chicago, IL, and globally from August 23-27, 2026. Submissions for virtual, in-person, and poster presentations for open symposia in over 30 program divisions are being accepted.

ACS Fall 2026 offers the chance to share your research with the chemistry community. It brings together chemistry professionals, educators, and students worldwide to discover and share research, network, and advance careers. These meetings are an excellent opportunity for professionals and students to showcase their work and connect with colleagues in all areas of chemistry. Visit the website to learn more about the symposia open for submission.

The deadline to submit abstracts is Monday, March 30, 2026.

Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Updates

- February 2 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at February 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link, Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.
- February 10 (8:30 – 10:00 AM) – IUPAC Global Women's Breakfast hosted by ACS Midland Women Chemists Committee: Many Voices, One Science. Location: Mi Element, 3124 Jefferson Avenue, Midland. For details see the slide on page 4. RSVP at https://forms.gle/xCGww6K7o8uzWNv97.
- February 12 (2:30 – 4:30 PM) – Skydiving into Retirement presented by Bill Carroll and hosted by Mid-Michigan Technician Group. MSU St. Andrews, 1910 W Saint Andrews Rd, Midland. To register, see page 5.

- March 2 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at March 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link, Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.
- March 22-26, 2026 (Save the Date) – ACS Spring 2026 National Meeting & Exposition, Atlanta, GA. This meeting will be a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting. For more information, please see the information on page 6 or click on **ACS Spring 2026**. Please note: The deadline for abstract submissions was September 29, 2025. Registration opened on December 10, 2025.
- March 30 – **Deadline for abstract submissions for ACS Fall 2026 National Meeting & Exposition**, August 23-27, 2026, Chicago, IL. This meeting will be a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting. For more information, please see the information on page 29 or click on **ACS Fall 2026**.

- April 6 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at April 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link, Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.
- April 25 (10:00 AM – 3:00 PM) – Midland Section ACS co-sponsored outreach event, *Earth Action Expo*, Dow High School, Midland. Food trucks, EVs, invited speakers, and over 70 exhibitors are anticipated to be part of this community outreach event. Please see the article on page 20. For more information, please see https://earthactionexpo.org/. For any questions or to volunteer, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com.

- May 4 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at May 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link, Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.

- June 1 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at June 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link, Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.
- June 9 (9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Tentative) – 2026 Turner J. Alfrey Visting Professor program, featuring Prof. John Torkelson of Northwestern University. For more information, please see pages 27 and 28. For any questions, please contact Dr. Robert Bubeck, Research Professor, MSU St. Andrews, at 989-374-9912 or bubeck@msu.edu. Also, please watch this newsletter for more information to follow.
- June 15-19 (9:00 AM – 12:00 PM) – Free Middle School Summer Camp experience sponsored by the Midland Section ACS. The summer camp will be held at MSU St. Andrews, 1910 West St. Andrews Road, in Midland. The theme of this year's science-based summer camp is *"Clean and Green: Chemistry and the Environment."* For more information, any questions, or to volunteer, please contact Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com. Also, please watch this newsletter for more information to follow.

- August 3 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at August 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link, Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.
- August 23-27, 2026 (Save the Date) – ACS Fall 2026 National Meeting & Exposition, Chicago, IL. This meeting will be a hybrid in-person and virtual meeting. For more information, please see the information on page 29 or click on **ACS Fall 2026**. Please note: **The deadline for abstract submissions is March 30, 2026.**

- September 14 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at September 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link, Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.

- October 5 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at October 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link, Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.

- November 2 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at November 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link, Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.
- November 7-11, 2026 (Save the Date) – ACS 2026 Central Regional Meting (CERM 2026), Cincinnati, OH. Watch here for more information to follow.

- December 7 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – Hybrid Midland Section ACS Board meeting, Rotunda Room, MSU St. Andrews, Midland (in person), and via a Microsoft Teams videoconference call connection at December 2026 ACS Board Meeting Teams Link, Meeting ID: 938 247 692 044, Passcode: jJ34ZJ.

The Midland Chemist is published twelve times a year by the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society, P.O. Box 2695, Midland, MI 48641-2695, http://www.midlandacs.org. Current and past issues are available at midlandchemist.org.

Volunteer Staff

Vickie Langer	Editor (vllanger@dow.com)
Steve Keinath	Editor (skeinath54@charter.net)
Mike Malczewski	Webmaster (web@midlandacs.org)

Please submit all articles and photographs to the editor at newseditor@midlandacs.org. Neither *The Midland Chemist*, nor the Midland Section, nor the American Chemical Society assumes any responsibility for the statements and opinions advanced by contributors of or to *The Midland Chemist*.

The Midland Chemist is available online with publication notification through an email alert to its readership. If you have any questions or comments about the content of or submissions to *The Midland Chemist*, please contact the editor at newseditor@midlandacs.org.