

Midland Section Dinner Meeting Features Several Dow Executives, *page 4*



At a dinner meeting in December 2000, Dow Chemical executives Rick Gross (in picture at left), Pat Andreozzi, and Charlie Kresge discussed how Dow can work with ACS Midland Section to provide meaningful programs for ACS members.

THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

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In this issue...

Chair Column: Section Benefits from Member Involvement	1
New Midland Section Members!	3
Dow Executives Discuss Midland Section Issues	4
Additional Points Raised During the Discussion	6
U.S. Stamps 2001: An Elemental Idea	7
Sci-Fest 2000 Big Hit with Students	8
Dinner Meeting with U.S. Rep. Dave Camp	10
Call for Nominations: Salutes to Excellence Program Recognizes Positive Impacts of Chemistry	11
Midland Section Board of Directors Meetings—Schedule	11
MMTG “Adopts” Family for Christmas Season	12
CMU Hosts Spring 2001 ACS Tour Speaker	13
ACS Midland Section Board of Directors	14
Voting Members for 2001	14
Committee Chairs for 2001	14
Mid-Michigan Technicians Group Contacts for 2001	16
Call for Nominations: 2001 Science Education Volunteer Awards	17
Report from ACS Midland Section Councilor	18
Midland Section Establishes Financial Policy	20
MMTG Looks Ahead to 2001	21
Important Dates on the ACS Midland Section Calendar	22

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Midland Section

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Please submit all articles and photographs to the editor, Ann Birch. Instructions for article submission are on the Midland Section web site, as is contact information for other staff members. Authors can also contact Ann directly with any questions.

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Cover photography by Kermit Kwan.

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*Chair Column***Section Benefits from Member Involvement**

Our section greatly benefitted this last year by the efforts of a number of people, and I think that is only appropriate that we begin this year by acknowledging their efforts. If we can build on what they did, this year ought to be very successful, indeed.

The past chair, Wendell Dilling, brought to the section a degree of commitment and organization that will be difficult to approach, and just about impossible to equal.

One of our section members, John Blizzard, was selected to serve on the National Chemistry Week Task Force. John has been a major force in our efforts to interact with the local schools for a number of years now, and this is a recognition of his efforts in that respect. Thanks in large part to John's efforts, the section received a grant from the ACS last year of almost \$15,000. Gretchen Kohl was invited to participate in a workshop on green chemistry activities sponsored by both the ACS and the EPA. Gretchen has been a tireless worker in supporting local teachers in the area of chemistry. She and Angelo Cassar are heading up our National Chemistry Week efforts this year.

Last year saw dramatic improvements in both *The Midland Chemist* and our web site. Ann Birch devoted many hours to *The Midland Chemist* and took it upon herself to accomplish the upgrade. The web site underwent a couple of changes in webmasters last year, and it is now in the capable hands of Tom Styranec. In addition, the site was switched over to the National ACS server. I really encourage you to have a look at it—you can find it at: <http://membership.acs.org/m/midl>.

Our program committee sponsored, or co-sponsored, several events designed to interest a range of people. This year the program committee is headed by the chair-elect, Pat Cannady. If you have any ideas for programs, he'd love to hear from you: pat.cannady@dowcorning.com. The Section's awards committee, headed by Phil Squatrito, was again very active in honoring 50-year members of the ACS, as well as outstanding efforts in the areas of teaching, research, and service.

The Science Promotions program has continued to grow under Marvin Tegen's stewardship. Last year, for the first time, we provided funding for a local high school teacher to attend a workshop. Ed Benson is heading up the Chemistry Olympiad, an important program for talented high school



George Eastland, Chair
ACS Midland Section

chemistry students. Another very valuable program for high school students is Project SEED, which is again this year in the very capable hands of Margaret Hill. This program, which has been going on for some time now, provides an opportunity for disadvantaged high school students to get some hands-on experience in chemistry during the summer that they would otherwise never have a chance to do.

Fred Vance organized an excellent Fall Scientific Meeting, featuring Attila Pavlath, ACS president-elect, as the keynote speaker. As part of that meeting, Don Miller and Sarah Snow put together an interesting panel discussion. They have been very active in our Careers and Professional Relations Committee. We are very fortunate to have both Fred and Don back to head their committees this year. I'm sure that the programs will be even better. Thanks to Brian Murdoch and his committee, the County Fair program went over very well. Pat and Pete Dreyfuss revived the Kids & Chemistry program, and brought the program to 862 children—quite a remarkable achievement! Dave Stickles has played a major role in making Sci-Fest a super event for a large number of children (and their parents!). Lin Dorman has brought his energy and talents to bear in organizing the Minority Affairs committee—a new committee last year.

On the national level, we received *three* ChemLuminary Awards for our activities the previous year. These are awards given by the National ACS and were: Outstanding (Medium Large) Section Award, Best Overall Technician Group, and Best Section Publicity. One of the members of the section, Dave Stickles, was named the outstanding technician of the year. In order to try to ensure that our section remains on good financial footing, the section formed an *ad hoc* committee on Midland Section finances. The committee was chaired by Jack Arrington and met, mostly via e-mail, on a number of occasions. They produced a report that was received and approved by the Board of Directors. Many thanks to Jack, Bobby Howell, Wendell, Peter Qian, Mike Owen, and Ted Tabor. They produced a policy statement that should serve our Section well.

I think that it is important to specifically acknowledge the people who have given so much time and effort as those noted have done, but I do it with some trepidation. There is always the risk of leaving out some worthy individual in such a compilation and if I have, I sincerely apologize. Let me know, and I will make mention of your efforts in a future column.

Finally, I would like to encourage anyone else out there to examine the various types of activities that the Section engages in—you may do so by looking at our web site—and seeing if there is something there that you might enjoy doing. We'd love to have you as part of our efforts.

George Eastland

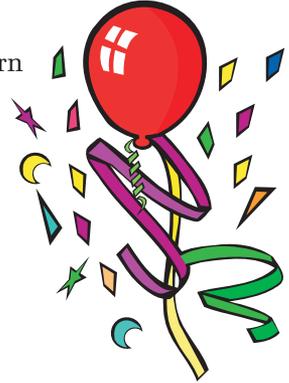
New Midland Section Members!

By Connie Murphy

Welcome! to the following people who have either joined the American Chemical Society or transferred into the Midland Section over the past several months:

Dean Abrassart
Douglas Beyer
Eric Ekern
James Hageman
Gary Kozerski
Wendy Mallory
Christopher Marsh
Barkley Sive
Eric Stangland
Thomas Styranec
Chunming Zhang

Kiran Baikerikar
Pamela Bourns Stirn
Paul Geisthardt
Deborah Huntley
Choon Young Lee
Peter Margl
James Ray
Kevin Snowden
Joey Storer
Gregg Zank



FOR HOW MANY MINUTES . . .

...would you feel comfortable discussing with your neighbor or friends the global chemical industry initiative known as *Responsible Care*?

If you are a member of the chemical industry, we urge you to learn about this initiative, which calls on chemical companies to demonstrate their commitment to improve all aspects of performance that relate to the protection of health, safety, and the environment.



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A Public Commitment

DOW CORNING

Dow Executives Discuss Midland Section Issues

By Ann Birch

Three Dow Chemical executives, Rick Gross, Pat Andreozzi, and Charlie Kresge, joined Midland Section officers and other Section leaders at what has become the annual Section leadership dinner on December 12, 2000. Rick is corporate vice-president and director of R&D; he led the informal discussion on Midland Section issues and how they affect and are affected by issues and attitudes within Dow. Pat Andreozzi is Dow's global R&D director, engineering sciences; Charlie Kresge is global R&D director, chemical sciences.

Rick began the discussion with a simple statement "ACS is a priority for Dow and Dow employees." However, he went on to acknowledge that Dow employee participation in the local Section has diminished significantly in the last 15 to 20 years. Rick gave the keynote address at the 1999 Fall Scientific Meeting and was surprised to discover that few Dow employees attended or participated in the meeting. Attendees and participants were mostly from Dow Corning and academia. The 2000 Fall Scientific Meeting was held at the Dow Employee Development Center, and the meeting was communicated thoroughly within the company. Again, however, participation was disappointing.

Rick suggested two main questions as the basis for the discussion:

- How can the Midland Section become more relevant to members' current needs and situations?
- What does Dow need to do to show employees the importance and benefits of being active members and leaders in the Midland Section?

Several points were made by attendees on the first topic. One is that the chemistry profession has changed considerably. Fewer chemists are "generalists" who have an interest in and can benefit from a general program on polymers, for example.

Many fields are so specialized that chemists tend to participate only in



Left to right: Pat Andreozzi, Marvin Tegen, and Rick Gross. Marvin is very active in Project Science Literacy and recently took on the responsibility for Science Promotions.

Photo: Kermit Kwan



Left to right: Charlie Kresge, Philip Squattrito, Connie Murphy, Ted Tabor, and Jerry DeVrieze. Phil is chair of the Awards committee; Connie oversees the Membership committee and is very active in MMTG and National ACS. Ted and Jerry have been active ACS members for many years.

Photo: Kermit Kwan

those few programs that deal specifically with their discipline.

The other major point was the simple lack of available time to participate in or attend events or take leadership or volunteer positions. Many chemists work intensively, finding it difficult to spend enough time with their families, let alone commit to community or technical society projects. Many feel that, although they have an

interest in technical programs, they cannot afford the time to attend.

Charlie Kresge suggested that today's technical climate will probably require technical societies, even on the local level, to offer both general and very specific programs. General programs are a benefit simply because of the chance for chemists to mingle and garner ideas from different people. More specific programs may have a small audience, but the benefits can be directly applied to the chemist's job. One way to accomplish both is to bring in more external speakers and coordinate more with other technical societies such as SPE and AIChE.

Pat Andrezzi offered some suggestions on the question of volunteerism. Her experience with technical societies has shown the value of moving away from the concept of standing committees and targeting areas where people have a passion. Interestingly, she gave as an example "enhancing good education," which is directly in line with one of the Midland Section's most successful programs, Project Science Literacy.



The H.H. Dow High string ensemble provided entertainment prior to the dinner.

Photo: Kermit Kwan

Most attending the dinner seemed to feel that a major factor in diminished participation by Dow employees is the lack of encouragement from Dow leadership, addressing Rick's second point above.

Twenty years ago technical employees were strongly encouraged to volunteer their time both in community

projects and in technical society programs, even to the use of company time to do so. Most employees now feel that such participation, especially on company time, is actively discouraged. According to Rick, several people have expressed their concerns to him on the direction the company has taken in this respect. Rick also raised another area of concern within the company—the lack of encouragement for technical employees to publish in the open literature and present technical projects at technical society meetings.

According to Rick, Dow is addressing both concerns. "It is a priority of mine and of all senior leaders in R&D for employees to see the advantage, both professionally and as a public outreach, of participation in technical society programs and leadership." However, Rick did point out that there would be no edicts to that effect. "We intend to work with technical societies to be sure scientists can do the things they need to do for professional development." In a similar light, Dow leadership has also initiated a strong drive to encourage publication in the open literature.

At the conclusion of the discussion, Rick praised the Midland Section for its professional and public



Midland Section leadership enjoyed the chance to relax together and share ideas. Photo: Kermit Kwan

Additional Points Raised During the Discussion

- The need within National ACS for increased participation of industrial chemists
- The benefit of increasing public knowledge about science to companies like Dow
- When the individual benefits, their employer benefits
- More Dow retirees attend technical programs than currently employed Dow professionals
- Attendance at national and local meetings results in new ideas
- Corporation Associates (companies affiliated with ACS) can be of help in developing programs and working with local

outreach and pledged his support and that of other senior leaders at Dow to help the Section take its service to members and the community to an even higher level. Charlie Kresge offered to work directly with the Section on developing programs to reach an increasing number of ACS members.

U.S. Stamps 2001: An *Elemental* Idea

By Tina Leaym

How does a chemist spell “chocolate”? Well, if you’re from the Midland Section, it’s “CHOC_oLaTe.” That’s Carbon + Hydrogen + Oxygen + Cobalt + Lanthanum + Tellurium. And the best part is, this unusual concoction is not synthetically challenging. No expensive chemicals or apparatus required, just some U.S. postage stamps. If “CHOC_oLaTe” doesn’t do it for you, try “Mo’ MoNeY” or “FUN WITH BeEr.”

This elemental idea is being proposed to the Citizen’s Stamp Advisory Committee by our Project Science Literacy committee, together with the Midland Sections of AIChE (American Institute of Chemical Engineers) and SPE (Society of Plastics Engineers). The Stamp Advisory Committee is responsible for recommending new stamps to the U.S. Postal Service.

The proposal involves using an entire plate (six sheets) of stamps to print the periodic table of elements, one element per stamp. We’re also proposing that a teacher’s guide be published, including the discoverer, background, uses, etc., for each element. The entire plate of stamps, purchased as a poster, would provide a unique way for teachers to introduce the periodic table to students. Stamps reach a huge cross-section of the public, crossing geographic and cultural boundaries, just as chemistry always has. This concept would enable public outreach on the grandest scale, providing “an entertaining way to help educate young people, society, and collectors,” says Joseph Rivet, Michigan’s state representative from the 97th District.

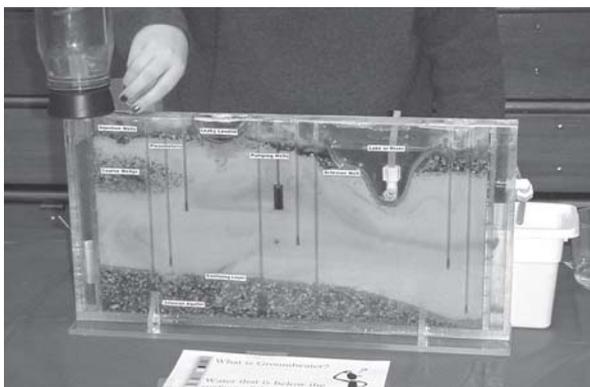
Other ACS sections have been asked to help us make this happen. An article very similar to this one has been submitted to *Chemistry*, a national ACS tabloid publication that is sent to all members and affiliates. We’ve asked for letters of support to be sent to the Citizen’s Stamp Advisory Board by other Sections and the government officials who represent them. For more information, contact John Blizzard at 517-496-5478 or john.blizzard@dowcorning.com.

Sci-Fest 2000 Big Hit with Students

By Dave Stickles

Sci-Fest 2000 was held at Delta College on November 4, 2000. This year we tried several different methods to advertise Sci-Fest in lieu of the 57,000 fliers we delivered last year to area schools. This year 200 large 11 by 17 color posters were made by Wendy Matthews and placed at a number of sites in Bay City, Midland, Mt. Pleasant, and Saginaw. There were 4000 smaller 4.25 by 5.5 handbills handed out at haunted houses in Midland and Saginaw Counties, and individual MMTG members passed them out at Halloween. An additional 2000 8.5 x 11 fliers were distributed to many science teachers in Clare, Bay City, Midland, Mt. Pleasant, and Saginaw by having different people send the fliers to science teachers through their children. We had notices in the *Bay City Times*, *Midland Daily News*, *Saginaw News*, and the cable local access channels for Bay City, Midland, and Saginaw. We had a live 4-minute segment that aired on "CNN Headline Hometown News" in Bay City and Midland. Dow Corning paid for 4 days of radio advertisements on WSGW radio.

Exhibitors this year included AIChE, Alma College Science Club, Alpha Omega Telescopes, BaySail, Chemistry of Brewing, ACS/MMTG Colors of Chemistry, Delta College Biology Division/Greenhouse, Delta College Computer Lab, Delta College Science Division, Delta Digital Photography, Dr. Slime's Magic of Chemistry Show, Glass Blowing, Gougeon Brothers, MCFTA Hall of Ideas, Mid-Michigan Section of the SPE, Midland Volunteers for Recycling, National Chemistry Week, Partnership for the Saginaw Bay Watershed, Saginaw Soil Conservation District, Saginaw Zoo, Saginaw Valley State University Science Club, Saginaw Valley Blood Program, and the Sunset Astronomical Society. We also hired six clowns to come in and make items out of balloons. Alma College Science Club, Delta College Computer Lab, Gougeon Brothers, Midland Volunteers for Recycling, and Saginaw Soil Conservation District were new attractions



Representatives from the Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program demonstrated how contaminants from a leaky landfill move through groundwater.

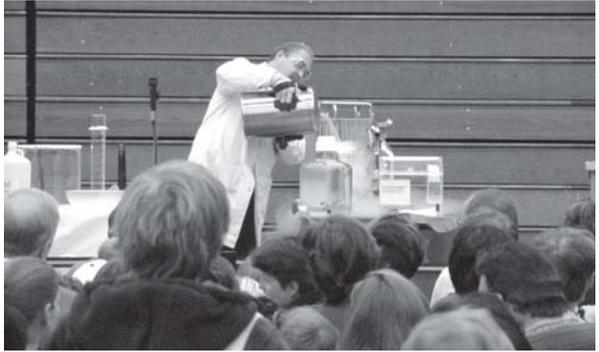
Photo: Kenn Bouchard

this year. Missing from last year were Delta College/Bangor Middle School Solar Electric Vehicles.

This year we were located in the gym with 300 seats set up for Dr. Slime's Magic of Chemistry (two shows). The exhibits continually had good-sized crowds of about ten people around each booth. The exhibits were all well done: just about all had some hands-on activities in which the kids could participate. Attendance was roughly 700-750 people, down from last year. But the smaller crowd gave more time for the exhibitors to talk with people, and I think those attending Sci-Fest enjoyed the exhibits much more because they did not have to wait as long to do some of the hands-on experiments. They asked a lot more questions! We served free cider and donuts, which was a big hit, as were the clowns. We also provided lunch for all the presenters.



A little goes a long ways...a Delta College physics experiment showed how a child's breath has the power to lift weights.
Photo: Kenn Bouchard



Dr. Slime (Mike Garlick) wowed the crowd with his amazing feats of chemistry magic.

Photo: Kenn Bouchard



Midland Volunteers for Recycling gave examples and information on recycling waste. Photo: Kenn Bouchard

Dinner Meeting with U.S. Rep. Dave Camp

Wednesday, February 21, 2001
Ensign Room, Valley Plaza Convention Center
5221 Bay City Rd., Midland

Program:	6:30-7:15	Social Gathering (cash bar open)
	7:15-8:30	Dinner
	8:30-9:15	“The New Administration’s Impact on Science Affairs,” U.S. Rep. Dave Camp

This meeting is sponsored by the Midland Section ACS and is open to the public.

Dave Camp represents the people of the 4th Congressional District of Michigan. First elected to Congress in 1990, Camp is a native of Midland, the largest city in the district.

Camp sits on the House Ways and Means Committee and is a member of its health, trade, and human resources subcommittees. The committee is considered one of the most powerful in the House, with jurisdiction over tax, tariff and trade laws, plus health care and Social Security.

This year Camp was appointed to the House Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, also known as the House Ethics Committee.

The cost for the dinner meeting is \$19 per person, which covers the buffet (including tip and tax). Cash bar is extra. For reservations, send a check for \$19 payable to Midland Section ACS and the form below to:

Pat Cannady
Dow Corning Corporation
Mail 128, PO Box 994
Midland, MI 48686-0994
Phone: (517) 496-6471; Fax: (517) 496-6243
pat.cannady@dowcorning.com

Please reserve your place as soon as possible.

Name: _____

Affiliation: _____

Address: _____

Phone/e-mail _____

ACS member? Y N

*Call for Nominations***Salutes to Excellence Program Recognizes Positive Impacts of Chemistry***By Karol Childs*

The Salutes to Excellence program is sponsored by the American Chemical Society. It provides an opportunity to recognize the contribution of Places of Chemistry, People of Chemistry, and Products of Chemistry within the five-county area of the Midland Section (Isabella, Midland, Bay, Saginaw, and Gratiot).

There will be three events to honor the recipients of the Salutes awards:

- Places of Chemistry will be recognized during SciTech Week on Wednesday, April 25, sharing the evening with the ACS Awards Banquet. Co-sponsor: SPE
- People of Chemistry will be recognized during Chemistry Professional Day at the Midland County Fair, August 17.
- Products of Chemistry will be recognized during the Fall Scientific Meeting in October.

We invite you to nominate places, people, and products for this recognition. Please include in your nomination:

- Your name, phone number, e-mail, and postal addresses
- Place/Person/Product's address and phone number
- Particular achievement being recognized

The deadlines for nominations are as follows:

- Places of Chemistry March 1
- Practitioners of Chemistry June 1
- Products of Chemistry September 1

Send nominations to Karol Childs at childs@mcfta.org, 517-631-5930 X1215, or Gretchen Kohl at gretchen.kohl@dowcorning.com, 517-496-8200.

Midland Section Board of Directors Meetings—Schedule for First Half of 2001

January 15	Midland, Delta College Midland Center, Room 12
February 5	Midland, Delta College Midland Center, Room 12
March 5	Midland, Delta College Midland Center, Room 12
April 9	Midland, Delta College Midland Center, Room 12
May 7	Delta College, Room D, 135
June 4	CMU, 264 Dow Science Building
August 6	SVSU, TBA

MMTG “Adopts” Family for Christmas Season

By Amy Betz

Thanks to the generosity of MMTG members, \$227 was contributed to sponsor a family through the Salvation Army Adopt-A-Family program. This amount was enough to enable MMTG to spend the Salvation Army imposed limit (or very near the limit) of \$50 per family member on gifts, and provide enough food for a large holiday meal (complete right down to the rolls and butter, beverages, side dishes, and dessert), and some extras to complement the leftovers the next day. Thanks to the savvy shopping of several MMTG members, the \$50/person limit was stretched to provide some very nice gifts for the adopted family.

The adopted family consisted of one parent (a mother currently going through a divorce) and three teenage children. The mother provided MMTG with a wish list for each member of the family. Thankfully, she was very specific, making it possible for MMTG to get exactly what each person wanted.

Until they found out that they had been adopted, this family had prepared themselves for the fact that they would have no Christmas gifts this year. The children had already been warned that they would not receive any new things, and this was coupled with the divorce that their parents were going through. Thanks to the generosity of our members, MMTG was able to reach out to a family in need in our community and brighten their Christmas.

The Adopt-A-Family program, organized by the Salvation Army, provides an opportunity for those of us who wish to share our blessings and good fortune with families in need right in our own community. The “families” that are in need of sponsors can be very large or be a single person, such as a senior citizen living alone. Sponsors can be groups, organizations, families, or individuals. If you, or an organization that you belong to, would like to participate in the Adopt-A-Family program next Christmas, I would encourage you to contact the Salvation Army in early November for more information. Adopting a family means you provide gift(s) for each family member (not to exceed a \$50/person budget) and provide the holiday meal. With this in mind, you could select a family to sponsor that would allow you to stay within your own budget. For example, an individual wishing to sponsor a family might want to select a smaller family to adopt, while a large group or organization may want to select a larger family to adopt. The Salvation Army screens applicants to make sure they meet specific criteria before they are put up for “adoption”. For example, they must meet certain low income requirements, and a family cannot apply for adoption two years in a row.

CMU Hosts Spring 2001 ACS Tour Speaker

By Anton Jensen

Toxigenic Molds in Indoor Air: An Increasing Health Risk?

Prof. Bruce B. Jarvis, University of Maryland

Monday, February 19 at 4:00 p.m.

Central Michigan University, Dow Science Building, Room 175

(reception at 3:30 p.m. in room 264)

Abstract: There are increasing health risks associated with damp buildings and homes in which high levels of microbes are found. Although traditionally concerns have centered on microbial pathogens and allergenic effects, recent work has suggested that fungi pose the more serious risk. Evidence is accumulating that certain toxigenic molds are particularly a risk for human health through inhalation of fungal spores. Many of these fungi produce toxins (mycotoxins), some of which have been shown to cause animal and human intoxications, usually in agricultural settings. The history, chemistry, and biology of mycotoxin-producing fungi will be presented, with special emphasis on those believed to be most threatening to people living and working in water-damaged buildings. Of particular concern is *Stachybotrys atra* (*S. chartarum*), which has a long history of being responsible for animal toxicoses, and in recent years, has been associated with pulmonary hemosiderosis (bleeding in the lungs) of infants exposed to spores of this fungus in their homes. *S. atra* produces a variety of potent toxins and immunosuppressant agents. This mold also produces a novel class of diterpenes of unusual structure and biological activity.

Biographical sketch: Bruce B. Jarvis received a B.A. from Ohio Wesleyan University in 1963 and a Ph.D. from the University of Colorado in 1966. He was a postdoctoral research associate at Northwestern University in 1966–67, joined the faculty of the University of Maryland at College Park in 1967, and is now professor and past chair (1993–98), Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry. He has been a Scholar in Residence at the University of Virginia (1975–76) and program director in organic synthesis at the National Science Foundation (1987–88). He is a member of the American Chemical Society, the American Association of the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Sigma Xi, and the American Society of Pharmacognosy. He has published over 140 research papers.

Those wishing to have dinner with the speaker at The Embers in Mt. Pleasant should contact Dr. Anton Jensen at anton.w.jensen@cmich.edu or 517-774-3125. RSVP by February 16. Dinner will begin at 6:00 p.m. Meals will be ordered from the menu at your own expense.

ACS Midland Section Board of Directors

Voting Members for 2001

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Estelle Lebeau estelle.l.lebeau@cmich.edu CMU 774-3116

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Chair, Nominations & Elections Committee

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Bob Howell (02) bob.a.howell@cmich.edu CMU 774-3582

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Deb Bergstrom* (03) d.f.bergstrom@dowcorning.com Dow Corning 496-6951

Karol Childs (03) childs@mcfta.org MCFTA 631-5930, X1215

Dave Stickles (03) d.stickles@dowcorning.com Dow Corning 496-5626

*Member of Executive Committee

Committee Chairs for 2001

Committees on Communications

Publicity/Public Relations

position open

The Midland Chemist

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Government Affairs

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Environmental Affairs

John Oleson johnoleson@delinet.com Retired 631-1442

Technical Society Interface

Eldon Graham graham@svsu.edu SVSU 790-4127

Midland Section Annual Report

Tom Delia thomas.j.delia@cmich.edu CMU 774-4098

Web Site				
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Executive

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Membership Growth and Retention

Connie Murphy	cjmurphy@dow.com	Dow Chemical	636-2961	
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Long Range Planning

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Historian

Wendell Dilling	dilli1wl@mail.cmich.edu	CMU	631-1621	
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Corporate Agent

Pat Dreyfuss	p2drey@aol.com	Retired	832-7651	
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Committees on Member Programs and Activities

Program

Pat Cannady	pat.cannady@dowcorning.com	Dow Corning	496-6471	
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Fall Scientific Meeting

Fred Vance	fwvance@dow.com	Dow Chemical	636-0390	
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Committees on Member Assistance and Recognition

Careers and Professional Relations

Don Miller	donmiller@tm.net	Retired	832-8270	
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Awards

Phil Squatrito	p.squatrito@cmich.edu	CMU	774-4407	
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Committees on Public Education and Student Programs

National Chemistry Week

Gretchen Kohl	gretchen.kohl@dowcorning.com	Dow Corning	496-8200	
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Angelo Cassar	angelo.cassar@dowcorning.com	Dow Corning	496-6196	
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Project Science Literacy

John Blizzard	john.blizzard@dowcorning.com	Dow Corning	496-5478	
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Project SEED

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Chemistry Olympiad

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County Fair Program

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Sci-Fest

Dave Stickles	d.stickles@dowcorning.com	Dow Corning	496-5626	
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Joan Sabourin	jmsabour@alpha.delta.edu	Delta College	686-9249	
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Minority Affairs

Lin Dorman	lcdorman@aol.com	Retired	631-0213	
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Kids and Chemistry

Pat & Pete Dreyfuss	p2drey@aol.com	Retired	832-7651	
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Science Promotions

Marvin Tegen	mtegen@dow.com	Dow Chemical	636-9780	
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Call for Nominations: 2001 Science Teaching and Education Volunteer Awards

By Philip Squatrito

Each year the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society presents awards to recognize outstanding achievement in the teaching of the chemical sciences. Nominations for the 2001 awards are invited. Awards are presented for Outstanding Achievement in the following areas:

- Elementary Level Science Education
- Middle Level Science Education
- High School Chemistry Teaching
- College Chemistry Teaching

Candidates for these awards must be educators at schools in the five-county geographical area of the Midland Section: Bay, Gratiot, Isabella, Midland, and Saginaw Counties.

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

Recipients of all awards will be selected by the Awards Committee. Nominators should write a letter indicating the award and describing the attributes of the candidate. Supporting letters from students, colleagues, supervisors, and community leaders are strongly encouraged. The deadline for nominations is March 23, 2001. Electronic or fax submissions are acceptable. All submissions must be accompanied by the name, position, address, and phone number of the nominator. Award recipients as well as high school and college student award recipients and Chemistry Olympiad winners will be honored at the 2001 Science Education Recognition Dinner on April 25, 2001, in Midland.

The Awards Committee greatly appreciates the efforts involved in nominating someone and thanks you for helping to recognize deserving educators in our section. Parents: Does your child have a great science teacher? If so, consider nominating him/her and pass this flier along to that teacher's principal or section head. Please submit nominations to:

Philip J. Squatrito
Chair, ACS Awards Committee
Department of Chemistry
Central Michigan University
Mt. Pleasant MI 48859
Phone: 517-774-4407; Fax: 517-774-3883
Email: p.squatrito@cmich.edu

Report from ACS Midland Section Councilor

By Gretchen Kohl

Here is a report on my activities as councilor during 2000:

1) Participated in both the spring and fall ACS Council Meetings, held during the 2000 National Meetings, in San Francisco (March) and in Washington, D.C. (August), respectively. With our other Section councilor, Dr. Bob Howell, we presented the significant issues upcoming to ACS Council at the Midland Section Board meetings prior to both National ACS Meetings so that we could get a consensus of how we should vote to better represent our Section Board. Upon our return from both meetings, Bob and I again presented the Council meeting outcome and any other significant issues that impact our Section, both at the board meeting and then in written form, published in *The Midland Chemist* (Vol. 37, No. 8, Dec. 2000, pp 18–19) for the fall meeting (lead authored by Kohl) and on our Section's website. We presented a Midland Section poster during the ChemLuminary Award event, at which ceremony the Section and its members won three awards for excellence. Also during the meeting, I attended the Grassroots Achievement Awards reception for Legislative Outreach, and the 50th Anniversary reception for NSF.

2) Continued as a full member of the Joint Board-Council Committee on Environmental Improvement (CEI), which met at both National ACS Meetings. I am still on two subcommittees, but as we have restructured, the names are now Global Environmental Issues and Sustainability. On the latter, I hold the position of education/outreach specialist. The CEI was originally established by the ACS in 1965, and it is chartered to be a technical committee providing policy advice on issues selected yearly and published in the *Federal Policy Agenda*. The committee also acts as an advisory board for the information pamphlets written by the staff of the Office of Legislative and Government Affairs (OLGA—formerly GRASP for Government Relations and Science Policy). The CEI also sponsors neutral technical forums for the discussion of emerging environmental issues for government policy makers and their staffs. With CEI staff member Ray Garant, I visited staff members in the offices of US Congressman Camp and Senators Levin and Abraham to drop off ACS white papers and discuss items of interest, as one of their constituents from Michigan.

3) Participated in the weekend workshop in Washington, D.C., on the ACS/EPA 'Green Chemistry' Education Grant, February 4–6, 2000. This project is funded to develop videos and resource material, initially aimed at secondary education and college curricula.

4) Continued as a member of the Green Chemistry and Engineering

(GC & E) subdivision of the Industrial Engineering and Chemistry (I&EC) Division. This subdivision offers programming in the applied areas of benign chemical synthesis and processing. This year, the subdivision co-sponsored the fourth Green Chemistry and Engineering Conference, "Sustainable Technologies: From Research to Industrial Implementation," hosted at the National Academy of Sciences, in Washington D.C., on June 27–29, 2000. The EPA underwrote the conference with a grant secured by the request of the CEI, and it was the event selected for the presentation of the fifth annual Presidential Green Chemistry Challenge Awards. I am also the publications chair for I&EC Division.

5) Served as a member of Project Science Literacy Grant Program, which is currently part of the National Chemistry Week Committee. The work on this program has been quite extensive and will not be covered here. In summary, we continued conducting and expanding the workshops for teaching K–12 teachers how to do and incorporate "hands-on" science into their classroom curricula. I worked the ACS booth at Vision for Education in the Bay City Mall, April 2, 2000.

6) Served as chair of National Chemistry Week Committee. I presented an activity on "Partnering" (for John Blizzard) at the NCW & Student Affiliate Joining Forces Workshop at the ACS National Meeting in Washington, D.C., and attended the NCW Coordinators' Workshop.

7) Served a fourth year as secretary for the Region (now called District) II Caucus, since being so appointed by the District II director, Helen Free. The secretarial duties entail keeping minutes and attendance. The purpose of the caucus meeting is to allow the ACS councilors from the district to discuss the events coming up for vote in the meeting, and also to allow the councilors to network and discuss issues of importance within their local sections.

8) Assisted the chair-elect, George Eastland, by making dinner and meeting arrangements for two speakers, Dr. Thomas Tilden (ACS tour speaker) and Dr. Attila Pavlath (ACS 2000 president-elect). With Angelo Cassar, we hosted Dr. Pavlath for the rest of his visit to Midland, which was the topic of another article in *The Midland Chemist* (Vol. 37, No. 8, Dec. 2000, pp 22–24).

9) Served as a member of the 2000 Nominations and Elections Committee.

10) With Deb Bergstrom, put together Midland Section poster for the ACS National Meeting in Washington, D.C. Staffed the Midland Section table and poster display at the Fall Scientific Meeting, October 28, 2000, at The Dow Chemical Company Employee Development Center.

Midland Section Establishes Financial Policy

By Jack Arrington

An ad hoc Finance Committee was chartered by the Midland Section Board to draft a policy statement on the appropriate level of financial reserves for the Midland Section to maintain. The purpose was to provide a guidance document for current and future situations. This resulted from continued discussions on this subject, typically as each new budget was put together and approval was discussed.

The committee was composed of George Eastland, Bob Howell, Peter Qian, Michael Owen, and Ted Tabor, with Jack Arrington as chair. ACS guidelines were explored and found *not* to be particularly helpful, since they were designed to protect small sections from financial hardship and didn't seem to apply to a section of our size. We reached consensus rather quickly and made an oral report to the Midland Section Board of Directors on November 6, 2000.

The recommended policy statement was accepted after discussion and minor revision by the board.

Midland Section Financial Policy Statement

The Reserves for the Midland Section of the ACS at the beginning of each year should be 2X the annual budget. (This should be both a minimum and a target.) Stated another way, the annual budget should be set at no more than half of the then-current Reserve. The Reserve should be used to cover emergency situations (sudden loss of income, etc.) and/or one-time-only projects, with the proviso that such expenditures be accompanied by contingency plans for subsequent years to return to the 2X target, by reducing spending and/or by increasing the revenue stream.

Clarification/expansion of this proposal:

Budget and spending by the Section for any given year should not be more than 50% of the reserves on hand on 12/31 of the year just ended. This assumes 1) income for the year will equal spending and 2) plans to increase *recurring* spending will be matched by both a corresponding increase in income *and* a plan to increase reserves. (That is, if your budget goes up, so too must the reserve.)

This policy is not meant to support building or maintaining a reserve substantially above two times spending—the objective is to be financially secure, but to use any additional money for worthy Section programs.

MMTG Looks Ahead to 2001

By Phyllis Anderson

This is the first of my communications as chair of the Mid-Michigan Technician Group. I am looking forward to the upcoming year and will continue the direction given to the group by our past-chair, Janet Smith. Under her guidance our tech group increased our membership from 19 to 38. In addition, we had an excellent year promoting science and expanding our own interests beyond the local level.

In 2001, the MMTG will again focus on increasing membership. To do this, we will continue to host lunch seminars, plan interesting evening social events, and lead a membership drive. Last year, two lunch seminars were well attended by techs from both The Dow Chemical Company and Dow Corning Corporation, and we are planning to do the same this year. The seminars—free of charge to attending techs—provide information on subjects of interest while giving positive exposure to MMTG. This year we will have brochures describing MMTG's program, MMTG memorabilia for distribution, as well as application forms for joining.

In conjunction with the Midland Section of ACS, we will continue our excellent outreach programs by chairing the Sci-Fest at Delta College and presentation at the Midland County Fair. We were fortunate this year to have not only youngsters of MMTG members but a group from a local Girl Scout troop help at Sci-Fest and/or the Midland County Fair. This was viewed as a positive reflection on our outreach programs, and one that we will be able to continue next year. Our members will continue to be active at the secondary school level as well as at national ACS meetings.

Our number one goal of increasing active participation in MMTG can easily be achieved if we continue to expand the programs already in place while offering new opportunities of growth for our members. New members bring with them new ideas that can be used to positively impact science awareness in our community.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Failure Analysis• Competitive Product Analysis• Additive Analysis• Color Body Identification• Taste & Odor Analysis• Consulting Services <p>1910 W. St. Andrews Rd., Midland MI 48640 Phone: 517-832-5555 Fax: 517-832-5560 info@impactanalytical.com www.impactanalytical.com</p>
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Important Dates on the ACS Midland Section Calendar

- February 5 Midland Section board meeting, Delta College Midland Center, Room 12, 7:00 p.m.
- February 5 Deadline for March issue of *The Midland Chemist*
- February 19 Professor Bruce B. Jarvis, "Toxigenic Molds in Indoor Air: An Increasing Health Risk?" CMU Seminar Series, Dow 175, 4:00 p.m., reception preceding in Dow 264 (Anton Jensen, 517-774-3125)
- February 21 Dinner Meeting with U.S. Rep. Dave Camp, Ensign Room, Valley Plaza Convention Center, 6:30 p.m. (Pat Cannady, 517-496-6471)
- February 22 Gary Strandburg, Dow Chemical, "Fundamentals and Applications of Microemulsions," CMU Seminar Series, Dow 175, 4:00 p.m., reception preceding in Dow 264 (Bob Howell, 517-774-3582)
- March 5 Midland Section board meeting, Delta College Midland Center, Room 12, 7:00 p.m.
- March 5 Deadline for April issue of *The Midland Chemist*
- March 12 Professor Donald Blake, "Urban Emissions and their Impact on the Global Atmosphere," CMU Seminar Series, Dow 175, 4:00 p.m., reception preceding in Dow 264 (Barkley Sive, 517-774-3441)
- March 19 Professor Brian Pfennig, "Electronic Coupling in Multinuclear Mixed-Valence Compounds," CMU Seminar Series, Dow 175, 4:00 p.m., reception preceding in Dow 264 (SAACS, Estelle Lebeau, 517-774-3116)
- March 26 Professor Charles Yocum, "Structure and Reactivity of the Photosystem II Manganese Cluster," CMU Seminar Series, Dow 175, 4:00 p.m., reception preceding in Dow 264 (Phil Squattrito, 517-774-4407)

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

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