

THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

A publication of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society

December 2015, Vol. 52, No. 12

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Chair Column

Gina Malczewski, Chair, Midland Section ACS



If you are reading this...

George Bernard Shaw once said, "The single biggest problem in communication is the illusion that it has taken place." Every month Steve and/or Vickie (thank you both!) spend valuable time and effort putting together a great tool--this newsletter. And yet, as has been shown time and again in meetings large and small, not many are staying current by reading it.

So, if you are reading this...wonderful! Keep it up! If you have just happened to catch this issue, please make it a habit. If you know someone who doesn't read this, tell them to START HERE--this is where you can get accurate information about what's happening and what's not. And if you know someone who isn't RECEIVING this due to a bad email or other issue, please have them get in touch with us.

To those non-members who are among our readers, we welcome you and hope you continue to participate in our activities.

...and to all readers of this issue, happy holidays and best wishes for the future. As I leave my post as Chair, I look back at a busy and challenging year, and hope you can remember something that was done that made you proud, something that educated you, or something that encouraged you to participate. I look ahead to lots of work as I continue in Outreach and work on preparations for our centennial in 2019. Thanks also to all the Board and committee chairs/members who have worked hard at the varied and numerous things we do.

Please stay informed--knowledgeable and involved members and partners are our greatest assets.

2016 Officers and Board Election Results

Kshitish A. Patankar, Chair, Nominations and Elections Committee, Midland Section ACS

A summary of the results of the 2016 Officers and Board Members of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society is reported below -

Chair: Jaime Curtis-Fisk

Chair-Elect: Anne Kelly-Rowley

Treasurer: Wendy Flory

Secretary: Kshitish Patankar

Nominations and Elections Chair: Wenyi Huang

Director (3 year term): Michelle Cummings

Director (3 year term): Kevin Wier

Director (3 year term): Patrick Smith

Director (2 year term): Bob Howell

Director (2 year term): Beata Kilos

A total of 140 valid ballots were received, representing about 22% of the eligible voters. This is an increase of 3% from the previous year, demonstrating support by the Midland Section to those who put the effort into running for a position on the board. Congratulations and welcome to the 2016 Officers and board members!

Outreach and Program Successes in 2015

Gina Malczewski, Chair, Midland Section ACS

The program committee, Kids and Chemistry, Science Coaches and Teacher Support volunteers have all worked hard to engage students, teachers and the public at large in science activities in 2015. This year we hosted four Science cafes (three "There's No food Like Foam" events with Chef Aaron, and "Glow Night" on Oct 28). A science club at St. Brigid's offered two hours of hands-on activities weekly for six weeks (Grades 3-5), and the six-week "Scientific Wonder and Artful Genius" program with Creative 360 involved 28 Possible Dream (middle school) students in art activities tied to different scientific principles. There was Sci-Fest, Kids Day at the Mall, and also demos on carbon dioxide at the Fair, student and teacher workshops at Pittcon, and visits to educators who requested specific activities ranging from Diet Coke and Mentos testing to energy conversions, Alka Seltzer reactions, and light-related phenomenology. We built a greenhouse out of recycled bottles and donated nearly 200 lb of produce to a local food pantry.

We hosted speakers on Ocean Gyres, Public Health issues, and Sustainability in Detroit, and had multiple Earth Day related activities. We had the first ever "Sci Pi day" to celebrate Einstein's birthday and Pi day (3/14/15)...and MORE.

It was a great year. Join us in 2016!

Connie Murphy is 2015 Shirley B. Radding Award Recipient

Vickie Langer, Editor, The Midland Chemist



Connie Murphy is the recipient of the 2015 Shirley B. Radding Award, presented annually by the Santa Clara Valley Section of the ACS. The award was established in 1994 to recognize demonstrated, dedicated, unselfish leadership, service, and significant contributions, over a sustained period of time, to industrial or applied chemistry and to the ACS at local, regional, and national levels. It is named for Shirley B. Radding, who was a charter member and long-time supporter of the Santa Clara Valley Section. The award, which currently consists of an engraved plaque and a check for \$1000, was presented by Natalie McClure, a former chair of the Santa Clara Valley Section, at the 2015 Fall Scientific Meeting.

From Connie's bio -- Connie retired in 2008 after working for more than 28 years at The Dow Chemical Company in Midland, MI. She spent the first 25 years of her career in research and development in roles including research technologist, team leader, group leader, and project portfolio manager. She holds five patents in monomer/polymer synthesis and processing. The last three years of her career at Dow she was a supervisor of IT professionals in information systems. Since retirement, Connie and her husband, Karl, have traveled the world.

Connie has been a member of the ACS since 1992. Since joining ACS, she served as a member of the Committee on Committees, the Committee on Membership Affairs, the Committee on Technician Affairs, and the Chemical Technology Program Approval Service. She is currently a member and was the 2011-13 chair of the Committee on Chemistry and Public Affairs. She was the 2013 chair of the Division of Industrial & Engineering Chemistry. She served in the leadership of the Division of Chemical Technicians for several years, serving as chair-elect, chair, past chair, councilor, webmaster, membership chair, and member-at-large. In the Midland Section of the ACS, she served as a director, membership chair, government affairs committee chair, and alternate councilor. She facilitates workshops in both the ACS Leadership Development System and in the ACS Career Pathways series. She is also an ACS career consultant.

Connie was honored by her selection as an ACS Fellow in 2011. She received the K. Michael Shea Award from the ACS Committee on Technician Affairs in 2014, the Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society Award from the Midland Section of the ACS in 2008, Distinguished Service Award from the ACS Division of Chemical Technicians in 2006, Outstanding Chemical Technician Award from the Midland Section of the ACS in 1997, and Outstanding Technologist Achievement Award from the Dow Central R&D Scientists Organization in 1994. She received seven Special Recognition Awards from The Dow Chemical Company between 1988 and 2002 for technical and professional contributions. She was the 2012 commencement speaker for Milwaukee Area Technical College, the first alumna ever invited to give the keynote address at a graduation ceremony there.

Past recipients of the Shirley B. Radding Award include:

| | | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1994 Shirley B. Radding (deceased) | 1995 Dr. Agnes Ann Green (deceased) | 1996 Dr. John C. "Jack" Riley (deceased) |
| 1997 Dr. Howard M. Peters | 1998 Dr. Alan C. Nixon (deceased) | 1999 Valerie J. Kuck |
| 2000 Halley A. Merrell | 2001 Dr. Norman A. LeBel (deceased) | 2002 Dr. Paul H. L. Walter |
| 2003 Jean'ne M. Shreeve | 2004 Maureen Chan | 2005 Glenn Fuller |
| 2006 Janan Hayes | 2007 Merle Eiss | 2008 Dorothy Phillips |
| 2009 Bryan Balazs | 2010 Herb Silber | 2011 Carol A. Duane |
| 2012 Bonnie A. Charpentier | 2013 Mamie W. Moy | 2014 Lee H. Latimer |

Younger Chemists Committee Holiday Social, December 10
Kayla Mikek, Younger Chemists Committee Chair, Midland Section ACS



The Younger Chemist Committee
Cordially Invites You to A

HOLIDAY SOCIAL

Thursday, December 10
6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Whiting Forest
2303 Eastman Ave.
Midland, MI

Dinner Provided by Buffalo Wild Wings

Bring your favorite board game or come to network

Soda and water provided, Alcohol Welcome

Please R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, Dec 8th to
Kayla Mikek at
Kayla.Mikek@dowcorning.com



ACS Members Gather to Contemplate the Silver Circle

Joan Sabourin and Gretchen Kohl, Co-Chairs, Silver Circle Committee, Midland Section ACS

In the first event sponsored by the ACS National's grant to initiate a Silver Circle Committee, thirty members gathered at the Creative 360 Center on November 12, 2015 for lunch, conversation and even some classical guitar music (provided by Angelo Cassar). There were three speakers, chosen from the community, to discuss their activities and possible areas of collaboration.

Gary Skory and Scott Seeburger, from the Midland County Historical Society Heritage Park (at the Herbert H. Dow Historical Museum, in Midland) discussed the logistics of exhibit design for the upcoming 100th anniversary of the Midland Section of the ACS (which will be in 2019). They maintain the possible display space and they have the expertise in designing exhibits for the public. What they are lacking is the chemistry background needed to determine content and the specific artifacts that might go into the actual display.

Daniel Segura, Delta College Associate Director of Counseling/Advising and Career Services and International Advising, gave a short presentation on STEM careers promotion and opportunities for collaboration at Delta College. Discussion followed on how the ACS could interact with K-12 students, through hands-on activities, mentoring, tutoring and/or career counseling.

Leslie Myles-Sanders, Chair of the Membership Committee of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Saginaw Valley State University, explained their program and how it could be utilized and expanded by Midland Section ACS or by individual members, through their expertise. OLLI has chapters in many institutions across the country and the SVSU OLLI organization currently has interest groups in many areas such as gardening and technology, but none currently in chemical sciences.

Following these discussions, the event participants generated a list of three interest areas by table. The collective top three activities, listed in order of popularity were:

- Field trips (or 'behind-the-scene' tours)
- Luncheon meetings with technical or non-technical speakers or programs
- Chemical historical projects for the community (i.e., displays or landmarks)

This event was preceded by an electronic survey (on SurveyMonkey) that went to all Midland Section ACS members to assess their interest in the Section's current activities. Silver Circle is a program promoted by the National ACS to address the interests, skills and potential activities of ACS members who have reached a certain age and level of expertise in chemistry, the chemical sciences, engineering and other related fields. The Section committee members initiating the survey were Joan Sabourin, Gina Malczewski, Angelo Cassar and Gretchen Kohl.

Based on the interest generated, the committee will be considering future activities for 2016. If you have any specific activities that the committee should consider, please contact us (jmsabour2@gmail.com or Gretchen.kohl@att.net).

Upcoming Events Sponsored by the Mid-Michigan Section of AIChE

Defne Kayrak-Talay, Program Chair, Mid-Michigan AIChE

All Midland Section ACS members are cordially invited to attend any of several invited-speaker events hosted by the Mid-Michigan Section of the AIChE. These meetings are held at the Grand Traverse Pie Company, 2600 North Saginaw Road, in Midland. Admission is free and may be accompanied by a limited supply of free sandwiches or pizza with other food available for purchase on site. Meeting times and locations are subject to change, so be sure to check out the [Mid-Michigan AIChE](#) website for any updates to the schedule.

Some of the following events may be of interest to Midland Section ACS members. More information on each of these events, including presentation abstracts and short bio sketches of the presenters, is available or will be updated periodically in upcoming issues of the [MMAIChE Newsletter](#). You may also contact Bruce Holden (Secretary, Mid-Michigan AIChE) at bsholden@dow.com or 989-636-5225 for more information.

- **Kevin Shaughnessy**, Associate Process Safety Director, The Dow Chemical Company
Inherent Safety Design in Risk Management
Wednesday, December 9, 2015, 6:00 PM dinner (optional), 7:00 PM presentation
- **Rich Helling**, Director of Sustainable Chemistry, The Dow Chemical Company (recipient of 2015 Chemical Engineer of the Year award)
Food: Footprints and Handprints
Wednesday, January 20, 2016, 6:00 PM dinner (optional), 7:00 PM presentation
- **Adam Peterson**, Project Leader, Dow Corning Corporation
The Pervasive and Surprising Uses of Silicones
Tuesday, February 23, 2016, 6:00 PM dinner (optional), 7:00 PM presentation
- **John Bissell**, Co-founder, Micromidas, Inc.
Evolution of a Start-up
March TBD, 2016, 6:00 PM dinner (optional), 7:00 PM presentation
- **Jeff Zawisza**, Fellow, The Dow Chemical Company
Advanced Manufacturing
April TBD, 2016, 6:00 PM dinner (optional), 7:00 PM presentation

Midland Chemist Co-Editors Present Poster at Fall Scientific Meeting

Steve Keinath and Vickie Langer, Co-Editors, The Midland Chemist

Some months ago, Midland Section ACS Chair Gina Malczewski challenged her team of committee chairs and leaders of other functional entities within the local section governance to consider putting a poster together for the 2015 Fall Scientific Meeting. The idea was to showcase the range and depth of the various activities within the local section. We took this challenge to heart and did just that.

For the benefit of the local section *Midland Chemist* readership who were unable to visit us at the Fall Scientific Meeting, we are appending the abstract of our poster below. You may also request a copy of the PowerPoint file of the poster slides by sending an e-mail to newseditor@midlandacs.org.

***The Midland Chemist*, a Publication of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society**

The Midland Chemist is published twelve times a year by the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society, which serves the five Michigan counties of Midland, Bay, Saginaw, Gratiot, and Isabella. Members of the Midland local section include students, educators, and researchers from academia and industry, including local high schools, Delta College, Alma College, SVSU, CMU, Dow Corning, Dow Chemical, and more. *The Midland Chemist* has been published continuously since 1964. Now in its 52nd year of issue, it still serves as a primary means of communication with Midland Section members. In recent years, its distribution has been extended to interested non-members as well, including the membership of the Mid-Michigan Technician Group, an affiliate organization, and others.

The objective of *The Midland Chemist* is to inform its readership of local meetings and seminars, awards and recognition received by the local section or by individuals or sub-groups within the local section, the annual election of Midland Section officers and directors, the work of local section committees, Councilors' activities and reports, and other items concerning chemists and the chemical profession, including science education and science-related community activities. The publication also acts as a sounding board for members' opinions about matters concerning the National ACS, the Midland local section, and other scientific affairs in general.

In addition, *The Midland Chemist* also serves as a historical, archival resource, documenting the governance and activities of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society over time. A complete electronic archive of *The Midland Chemist* going back to the year 2000 is available online at <http://midlandacs.org/index.php?page=newsletter>. In addition, a complete set of earlier, hardcopy-only issues of *The Midland Chemist* going all of the way back to 1964 may be accessed as a part of the Midland Section's much larger historical archives collection housed within the Clarke Historical Library on the campus of Central Michigan University.

The Midland Chemist local section newsletter is primarily available online to its readership today with publication notification by e-mail. Subscriptions are free and the total distribution at present is approximately 750.



2015 *Midland Chemist* Co-Editors Vickie Langer (left) and Steve Keinath (right).
Photo courtesy of Gavan Lienhart.

In Past Issues of *The Midland Chemist*

Wendell L. Dilling, Director and Historian, Midland Section ACS

50 Years Ago

In *266 INTERESTED MEMBERS* by J. E. Dunbar, Editor, *The Midland Chemist*: "In the recent election 24 percent of the membership selected the winning candidates, two percent invalidated their ballots and the other 74 percent could care less.

The perplexing question is why non-voting members, representing 74 percent of the Section, go on paying \$16 each for annual membership in the American Chemical Society. Perhaps in this age of status symbols they consider it a fair price to pay to list ACS membership in their biographical sketches. Perhaps these people are not really practicing chemists but do qualify for membership and believe that "it just doesn't hurt" their chemically-related careers to maintain membership."

40 Years Ago

In *Selections From Minutes of October 6 Midland Section ACS* by B. P. Thill, Secretary: "Councilors' Report, D. C. Young and L. C. Dorman. Dave Young outlined the plans for the national ACS observance of its Centennial which will coincide with the 1976 New York National Meeting. He also requested membership feedback on the A. D. Little report for modifying the governance of the ACS. Information on these proposals can be obtained from past C&EN articles or from the councilors.

Councilor Dorman indicated that an effort is being mounted by the ACS to implement the licensing of chemists, primarily those who work in the public domain, by the various states, thus removing the necessity, for instance, of having a clinical chemist's determinations certified by a physician who likely knows much less about the tests than the chemist."

30 Years Ago

In *Stowe Honored By ACS* by On Stream, The Dow Chemical Company: "Dr. Robert A. Stowe, associate scientist in the Michigan Division Applied Science & Technology Labs, Dow Chemical, was honored at a recent National Meeting of the ACS, in Chicago.

Stowe received his plaque of appreciation at a luncheon sponsored by the Division of Industrial and Engineering Chemistry (I&EC). The luncheon recognized past Chairmen from 1970-1984 for their service to the I&EC Division."

20 Years Ago

In *TECH TALK, NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE MID-MICHIGAN TECHNICIAN GROUP* by Janel Davidson: "Our showing at the 1995 ACS Fall Scientific Meeting went well although attendance of technicians was low. As usual though, there was standing room only for our "Kitchen Chemistry" Sci-Fest booth. We also made our first TV debut! News 5 broadcast our very own Dave Stickles doing a live "Kitchen Chemistry" demonstration the morning of the meeting! Thanks Dave, great job!"

10 Years Ago

In *Editor's Note*, by Ann Birch, Editor, *The Midland Chemist*: "We try very hard to get *The Midland Chemist* in members' hands by the end of the month before it is due, but this time we didn't make it. By the time Thanksgiving week came along and I was still putting stories together I knew it was hopeless. I apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. However, it does give me the opportunity to address a problem that several people have mentioned in the surveys they have returned. There are several institutions where members have received their newsletter up to a week or two late even though the newsletter was received by

other members on time. So there are some problems with the way some organizations handle third-class mail.

If you are having consistent problems with the newsletter being late, I suggest that you change your mailing address for the newsletter to your home address. Just contact me at ann.birch@editech-mi.com and I'll take care of it. Also, you can always check out *The Midland Chemist* page on the web site <http://membership.acs.org/m/midl>. The pdf of the issue is always there by the due date. Thank you!"

Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Updates

- December 7 (6:00 – 9:00 PM) – ACS Dinner/Board meeting, Creative 360, 1517 Bayliss Street, Midland. All are invited, but please RSVP to Gina Malczewski (reginamalczewski@gmail.com) ahead of time so enough food can be planned for this end-of-the-year wrap-up dinner meeting event.
- December 9 (6:00 – 8:00 PM) – MMAICChE sponsored lecture, *Inherent Safety Design in Risk Management*, presented by Kevin Shaughnessy, Associate Process Safety Director, The Dow Chemical Company. Location and time: Grand Traverse Pie Company, 2600 North Saginaw Road, Midland, 6:00 PM dinner (optional), 7:00 PM presentation. More information, including presentation abstract and short bio sketch of the presenter, is available or will be updated periodically in upcoming issues of the [MMAICChE Newsletter](#). You may also contact Bruce Holden (Secretary, Mid-Michigan AICChE) at bsholden@dow.com.
- December 10 (6:00 – 10:00 PM) – Younger Chemists Committee Holiday Social, Whiting Forest, 2303 Eastman Avenue, Midland. Additional details are shown in the flyer on page 3. RSVP by Tuesday December 8 to Kayla Mikek at Kayla.Mikek@dowcorning.com.
- January 4 (tentative date) (7:00 – 9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at [Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting](#), phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- January 20 (6:00 – 8:00 PM) – MMAICChE sponsored lecture, *Food: Footprints and Handprints*, presented by Rich Helling, Director of Sustainable Chemistry, The Dow Chemical Company (recipient of 2015 Chemical Engineer of the Year award). Location and time: Grand Traverse Pie Company, 2600 North Saginaw Road, Midland, 6:00 PM dinner (optional), 7:00 PM presentation. More information, including presentation abstract and short bio sketch of the presenter, is available or will be updated periodically in upcoming issues of the [MMAICChE Newsletter](#). You may also contact Bruce Holden (Secretary, Mid-Michigan AICChE) at bsholden@dow.com.
- February 1 (tentative date) (7:00 – 9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at [Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting](#), phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- February 23 (6:00 – 8:00 PM) – MMAICChE sponsored lecture, *The Pervasive and Surprising Uses of Silicones*, presented by Adam Peterson, Project Leader, Dow Corning Corporation. Location and time: Grand Traverse Pie Company, 2600 North Saginaw Road, Midland, 6:00 PM dinner (optional), 7:00 PM presentation. More information, including presentation abstract and short bio sketch of the presenter, is available or will be updated periodically in upcoming issues of the [MMAICChE Newsletter](#). You may also contact Bruce Holden (Secretary, Mid-Michigan AICChE) at bsholden@dow.com.
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- March 7 (tentative date) (7:00 – 9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at [Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting](#), phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- March 13–17, 251st ACS National Meeting & Exposition, San Diego, CA. For more information, see <http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/spring-2016.html>.
- April TBD (6:00 – 8:00 PM) – MMAIChE sponsored lecture, *Advanced Manufacturing*, presented by Jeff Zawisza, Fellow, The Dow Chemical Company. Location and time: Grand Traverse Pie Company, 2600 North Saginaw Road, Midland, 6:00 PM dinner (optional), 7:00 PM presentation. More information, including presentation abstract and short bio sketch of the presenter, is available or will be updated periodically in upcoming issues of the [MMAIChE Newsletter](#). You may also contact Bruce Holden (Secretary, Mid-Michigan AIChE) at bsholden@dow.com.
- April 4 (tentative date) (7:00 – 9:00 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via a WebEx conference call connection at [Midland Section WebEx Board Meeting](#), phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- April 12, 2016 (save the date) – Evening dinner meeting with Jacqueline K. Barton, 2015 National ACS Priestley Medal recipient; Chair, Division of Chemistry & Chemical Engineering and Arthur & Marian Hanisch Memorial Professor, California Institute of Technology; and Board member of The Dow Chemical Company. For more information, contact Michelle Cummings at michelle.cummings@dowcorning.com.
- May 18–21 – 47th ACS Central Regional Meeting, Covington, KY. For more information, see <http://www.acscerm2016.org/main/>.
- August 21–25 – 252nd ACS National Meeting & Exposition, Philadelphia, PA. For more information, see <http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/nationalmeetings/meetings.html>.

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