

THE MIDLAND CHEMIST

A publication of the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society

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Chair Column

Gina Malczewski, Chair, Midland Section ACS



Opinions and Options

A member survey is going out in the near future; it will take only minutes to complete and will help us determine gaps that may exist in our activity offerings. A special focus is potential increased engagement with seniors -- the experienced (and perhaps retired) segment of our membership that may be under-utilized and under-served. PLEASE RESPOND to this survey (developed by Gretchen Kohl) -- you also get registered for a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift card by doing so!

We have been fortunate to receive a number of ACS grants recently; one to cover a portion of the Strategic Planning workshop this fall, others for interaction with K-12 teachers, sustainability efforts, and international science teaching. The sustainability grant will fund a community garden plot at Creative 360 that will feature two greenhouses, one of which we will build from recycled plastic bottles. Please contact me if you wish to help with the latter.

The variety of grants we have obtained (including \$5000 in support of the Women Chemists Committee, from Dow) says much about the diversity of our programs, so we hope you will consider involvement in these opportunities, and offer your support.

2015 Midland Section ACS Spring Awards Banquet
Diana K. Deese, Awards Committee Chair, Midland Section ACS

The American Chemical Society-Midland Section gathered on the evening of May 6th for the 24th Annual Awards Banquet to honor past, present, and future chemists and those who support them. Over 225 guests were treated to a delicious plated chicken dinner as part of the evening's festivities. As always, the esteemed Dr. Thomas Lane gave an engaging talk entitled "The Future is Yours!!"



through which we all learned, if your major is undeclared, you want to be a chemist. Ultimately, though, our purpose was to recognize the efforts and achievements of the award recipients.

Amongst the banquet attendees, the section acknowledged the following people for awards and honors outside the scope of this program:

<i>Janet Smith</i>	<i>2014 Class of Fellows of the ACS</i>
<i>Michelle Rivard</i>	<i>2015 Midland Section Outreach Volunteer of the Year</i>
<i>Jeff Seifferly</i>	<i>2015 National Chemical Technician Award</i>
<i>Jaime Curtis-Fisk</i>	<i>2015 Rising Star Award</i>
<i>Patrick Smith</i>	<i>E. Ann Nalley Award for Volunteer Service to the ACS</i>

Chemistry Olympiad is a multi-tiered competition that brings together the world's most talented high school students to test their chemistry knowledge and skills. High-scoring Chemistry Olympiad participants were congratulated on their achievement.



<i>Steve Xu</i>	<i>H.H. Dow</i>
<i>Zachary Peterson</i>	<i>H.H. Dow</i>
<i>Jacob Schanck</i>	<i>Pinconning</i>
<i>Joseph Middleton</i>	<i>John Glenn</i>
<i>Jim Shepich</i>	<i>SASA</i>
<i>Tehya Stockman</i>	<i>SASA</i>
<i>Kosuke (Max) Dykhuizen</i>	<i>Midland</i>
<i>Gabriel Negranza</i>	<i>Bay City Western</i>
<i>Nahid Baghdadi</i>	<i>Mount Pleasant</i>

Thirty-five local high school students were honored for being outstanding chemistry students as chosen by the chemistry department at each school. Students were introduced with the answers they had provided to the following questions: what chemistry experiment most intrigued them; where they plan to attend college and in what field; and, what science concept they would like to see come to fruition. The next generation of chemists and engineers would like to cure a multitude of diseases, discover new elements, and find clean energy solutions. They most enjoyed lessons on stoichiometry. As several students were attending Michigan Technological University, special attention was paid to the idiosyncrasies of that institution, including the little known studies of Ice Architecture and Beer Engineering, a few protocols of campus life in the Keweenaw, and the coolest engineering songs and chants - ever. However, in the battle that seems to hold the most attention, Blue vs. Green, UofM had the slight advantage.

<i>Justin Weller</i>	<i>All Saints</i>	<i>Morgan Root</i>	<i>Freeland</i>
<i>Abigail Olen</i>	<i>Alma</i>	<i>Cayetano Wagner</i>	<i>H. H. Dow</i>
<i>Kamilah Freeman</i>	<i>Arthur Hill</i>	<i>Jonathan Kushion</i>	<i>Hemlock</i>
<i>Gabriel Negranza</i>	<i>Bay City Western</i>	<i>Joseph Middleton</i>	<i>John Glenn</i>
<i>Alexis Holmes</i>	<i>Bay-Arenac</i>	<i>Cheyenne Dingler</i>	<i>Merrill</i>
<i>Nicole Gross</i>	<i>Beal City</i>	<i>Brittany Brannam</i>	<i>(The) Midland Academy</i>
<i>Madison Helsel</i>	<i>Birch Run</i>	<i>Luke Mills</i>	<i>Midland</i>
<i>Gavin Marr</i>	<i>Breckenridge</i>	<i>Nahid Baghdadi</i>	<i>Mt. Pleasant</i>
<i>Alexandra Lazarony</i>	<i>Bullock Creek</i>	<i>Nicholas Jeske</i>	<i>Pinconning</i>
<i>Connor Stark</i>	<i>Bullock Creek</i>	<i>John Obeid</i>	<i>Sacred Heart Academy</i>
<i>Elizabeth Fleming</i>	<i>Bullock Creek</i>	<i>Tehya Stockman</i>	<i>SASA</i>
<i>Gabrielle West</i>	<i>Bullock Creek</i>	<i>Hunter O'Brien</i>	<i>Shepherd</i>
<i>Alyssa Ouderkirk</i>	<i>Calvary Baptist</i>	<i>Lucas Orosco</i>	<i>St. Charles</i>
<i>Hannah Furnier</i>	<i>Calvary Baptist</i>	<i>John Sherwood</i>	<i>St. Louis</i>
<i>Eileen Capaldo</i>	<i>Calvary Baptist</i>	<i>Nicole Shattuck</i>	<i>Swan Valley</i>
<i>Chelsea Szilagyi</i>	<i>Calvary Baptist</i>	<i>Noah Stewart</i>	<i>Swan Valley</i>
<i>Grant Devota</i>	<i>Chesaning Union</i>	<i>Lauren Huebner</i>	<i>Swan Valley</i>
<i>Lidia Vesterfelt</i>	<i>Frankenmuth</i>		



Eight Outstanding College Students received plaques recognizing their dedication to their studies. When asked who inspired them the most, they agreed; their parents, professors, and peers. They are eager to make their mark in the field of chemistry as they further their education at various institutions of higher learning.

<i>Allison Fields (Chemistry)</i>	<i>Alma</i>
<i>Aaron Colamarino (Biochemistry)</i>	<i>Alma</i>
<i>Kelsey Charnawskas (Chemistry)</i>	<i>CMU</i>
<i>Amanda Clark (Biochemistry)</i>	<i>CMU</i>
<i>Lacey Jane Brissette (Chemistry)</i>	<i>Delta</i>
<i>Elizabeth Haiderer (Chemistry)</i>	<i>SVSU</i>
<i>April Lukowski (Biochemistry)</i>	<i>SVSU</i>
<i>Erin Campau (Biochemistry)</i>	<i>SVSU</i>



While we honor all of the students, we cannot overlook the importance of the people who have taught them. Our educators spend so much time cultivating the passion our students have for the sciences. They give countless hours of their own time, pay for expenses out of their own pocket, and believe in going the extra distance to create new opportunities for their students. The awards committee continues to be amazed at the innovative ways teachers find to engage our young people. Nominations comprised accolades and achievements documented by peers, parents, supervisors, and students. Four local educators were honored for their Outstanding Achievement in Teaching.

Molly Kelsey.....Science: Hemmeter Elementary – Saginaw
Mark Hackbarth.....Science: Jefferson Middle School – Midland
Jeff Yoder.....Chemistry: Midland High School – Midland
Dr. Estelle Lebeau.....Chemistry: Central Michigan University

(plaque presented by Ronda Grosse)
(plaque presented by Steven Poole)
(plaque presented by Janet Greif)
(plaque presented by Dr. David Ash)





For years I have heard Mr. Yoder's nominations for Outstanding High School Chemistry Student comment on his desire to have an element named for him. Andrew Kim (2014 Midland High Outstanding Chemistry Student) designed element space 119 Yoderium (Yo), and Luke Mills (2015 Midland High Outstanding Chemistry Student) presented Mr. Yoder their revised periodic table, engraved in wood, titled, "I Like to Teach....Periodically". Both students are currently in Mr. Yoder's AP chemistry class.

The awards committee was privileged to award "Salute to Excellence" commendations to our following colleagues:

Sue Perz: In appreciation for outstanding support in multiple Midland Section programs and projects, quietly working behind the scenes for years, without credit or fanfare, to ensure that each event is done well and succeeds, thus, helping the Midland Section excel. And in recognition of exceptional contributions to the appreciation of chemistry and chemistry education.

Anatoliy Sokolov: In appreciation for outstanding oversight and execution of the Midland Section finances in 2014. And in recognition of exceptional contributions to the appreciation of chemistry.

Jaime Curtis-Fisk: In appreciation for executing and managing an exciting and successful launch of the new Women Chemists Committee within the Midland Section in 2014. And in recognition of exceptional contributions to the appreciation of chemistry and chemical education.



Representing the Mid-Michigan Technician Group, Jeff Seifferly presented Kelly Setula, of Delta College, the Outstanding Chemical Technology Student Award. This award comes with a certificate and a copy of *Chemical Technicians' Ready Reference Handbook*.



Brian Scherzer, of The Dow Chemical Company, has earned the title of 2015 Outstanding Chemical Technician. Brian is one of the most accomplished technologists in the industry, with proven leadership in scale-up and management of change, and trusted with the most hazardous and dangerous jobs. In doing the latter, he has established himself as a local expert regarding Dow's rigorous safety standards, waste handling regulations, air permitting, and numerous other safety-related tasks. Because of his expertise, design capability, and value generation, Brian is often called upon as a consultant to assist other research organizations during scale-up and commercialization. With over 30 years with the company, there are many molecules that exist because of Brian's participation. A well-deserved "Salute" to you, Brian!

Recognized as a virtual powerhouse within the local Midland Section, Amy Tesolin-Gee received the Outstanding Service to the American Chemical Society Award. Amy has served as co-editor of *The Midland Chemist*, given her time to volunteer at countless science outreach events, and has been an active member of the Mid-Michigan Technician Group. When not volunteering, Amy is an accomplished chemical technologist with the Global Reactive Chemicals Group within The Dow Chemical Company. Her colleagues describe her as an outstanding team player, flexible, a keen attention to detail, superior work ethic, and always willing to go the extra mile in anything she participates in. Amy is representative of the epitome of selfless volunteerism that helps the Midland Section achieve and maintain its longstanding record as an outstanding local section. Congratulations, Amy!



It was an honor for the Midland Section to present Dr. James Tonge with the Outstanding Achievement in the Promotion of the Chemical Sciences Award. Jim is a highly regarded expert in the field of silicone chemistry and holds the title of Product Development Scientist at Dow Corning. Because of his technical prowess, he is credited with breakthrough technologies that have him named on over 50 patents. He has spent countless hours inspiring and mentoring youth through his captivating demonstrations for the Boy Scouts of America (locally and nationally), and many "science day" activities within Dow Corning and the community. Jim's desire to learn and help others learn speaks to his strong communication skills and contagious enthusiasm. For his outstanding contributions as a scientist,

chemist, inventor, technical champion, and teacher, Jim is, certainly, most deserving of this award. Well done, Dr. Tonge!

Without a doubt, when the community thinks of the Midland Section, a name they readily associate is Dr. Gina Malczewski. We are proud to recognize Gina with the Outstanding Science Education Volunteer of the Year Award. Retiring from Dow Corning after a successful career as a biochemist, Gina is not the type to fade into obscurity. For years she has made significant contributions to advancing science education and chemistry awareness through countless presentations and demonstrations. In the region the Midland Section encompasses, Gina has been involved in science fairs, Sci-Fest, National Chemistry Week, SPARK, and national conferences, just to mention a few. She supports our local educators by developing rubrics and protocols, and going into classrooms as a science mentor. Having held numerous positions within the Midland Section, Gina has developed an intricate network which has allowed her to build an exemplary outreach program that has been recognized nationally. These programs have been developed with many local community members, have been tailored to fit a theme, and have been presented in almost every venue one can imagine. For her dedication, tireless advocacy of science, and endless volunteer efforts, this tribute is certainly well deserved. Accolades to you, Gina!



Each year, the American Chemical Society reveals to the Midland Section the names of those who have shown time-honored service, dedication, and membership in the ACS. Five 50-year and three 60-year members received certificates for paving the way for the rest of us. A brief recap of where each studied, their career history, and what they have been involved in since retirement was recited as each honoree was presented.

<i>George W. Eastland, Jr</i>	<i>50 years</i>	<i>Katherine E. Weissmann</i>	<i>50 years</i>
<i>Ieva Ogrins Hartwell</i>	<i>50 years</i>	<i>John R. Moyer</i>	<i>60 years</i>
<i>Brian C. Murchison</i>	<i>50 years</i>	<i>Robert M. Nowak</i>	<i>60 years</i>
<i>Peter G. Pape</i>	<i>50 years</i>	<i>Carl P. Zupic</i>	<i>60 years</i>

As chair of the ACS Midland Section Awards Committee, I want to give special thanks to the awards team: Janet Smith, Steve Keinath, Patrick Smith, Pamela Slavings, Minghui Chai, and Steve Kaganove for all of their hard work in making this event what it is. I also want to thank Emily Deese for photographing the event on last minute notice.

Beginning in December 2015 and running through March 2016, watch for a "Call for Nominations" in *The Midland Chemist* or via e-mail (if you want to be on my e-mail list, send me an e-mail). Please consider nominating someone in one of the categories that will be listed, or, contact Diana Deese at awards@midlandacs.org for a preview of the awards offered in 2015. It is never too early to submit a nomination!

If you were unable to attend this fun-filled evening, be assured that the 25th Annual Awards Ceremony promises to be just as exciting...and we are planning for either April 28th or May 4th for the 2016 event. Mark your calendars now...you know you want to attend!

Midland Section's Jaime Curtis-Fisk Wins WCC Rising Star Award

Tina Leaym, Councilor, Midland Section ACS



Congratulations to Dr. Jaime Curtis-Fisk, Women Chemists Committee (WCC) 2015 Rising Star Award Winner! She is one of only ten young women nationally to be selected for this honor. As an invited speaker to the 249th ACS National Meeting in Denver this spring, her talk at the WCC Rising Star Symposium was entitled, "Making science and education gel: Building a career in technical research and pursuing a passion for STEM education outreach."

Jamie is an associate research scientist and STEM program manager for The Dow Chemical Company. Through this unique dual role, she leads both technical projects and community outreach initiatives. As a scientist, Jaime's work focuses on formulation development for the delivery of active ingredients. Jaime also leads the Dow STEM Ambassadors program and the company's initiatives to support teacher professional development. Jaime holds a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Grand Valley State University and a Ph.D. in chemistry from Michigan State University.

Jamie's arrival at Dow was not exactly traditional. "I left my teaching position to follow my husband to his dream job, and I ended up with a position that I love more than I could ever have expected. When presented with the opportunity to split my time between traditional R&D and corporate citizenship, I again took a leap of faith and it has paid off. I love my job!" It is apparent that Jamie thrives on being able to maneuver between the two worlds. She says, "Each helps keep the other in perspective and each has helped me to develop a different set of skills that will be to my benefit no matter what the next step is."

And although the dual role is one of the things she appreciates most about her job, this also brings challenges in the area of work-life balance. Jamie says, "I balance work and life by being very intentional about the commitments that I take on and being clear up front about my limitations. Along with that I take on the responsibility of ensuring that I can still deliver on what I've committed to, even if I have to do that in a non-conventional way. My colleagues know that I work a flexible schedule, I start my workday early so that I can pick my kids up from school, and they typically don't request meetings with me after 3:00 PM or send urgent requests at the end of the day, but the trade-off is that I am often catching up on things after my kids are in bed in the evening. Some may say that blurring the line

between work and life in this way is not a good work-life balance, but for me it is the best solution that works for me and my family."

When asked if she had any advice for early-career, women chemists, Jamie had this to say, "Develop a strong network of mentors, and make sure that at least one of those mentors has the potential to develop into a sponsor. Make time for building these relationships. It will often be tempting to cancel these meetings because they never seem as urgent as other work responsibilities. Follow what makes you happy and works best for your personal life. I've taken some risks in this way, done things that didn't seem like the best for the upward trajectory of my career path, but each time that I thought I was sacrificing my career, it has turned out to be the opposite. When I'm comfortable in my role and love what I'm doing, I shine so much brighter and perform so much better at my job, and that has paid off."

Many Participate in Earth-Friendly Events in April

Gina Malczewski, Chair, Midland Section ACS

In April, we hosted an expanded set of events to celebrate "Earth Day", beginning with a wonderful talk by Dr. Rick Foster on urban sustainability, with Detroit as an example. Other programs included our Earth Day Expo at MCFTA on April 11, Girl Scout and Boy Scout-directed activities, a tour of the SVSU greenhouse, and the finale, a seminar on Ocean and Lake gyres with marine debris. We randomly selected winners of various prizes from the attendees at these events, and congratulate the following:

Winner	Prize
Amy Tesolin-Gee	Free golf cart tours of Dow Gardens (up to 5 people)
Rachael Peters	MCFTA gift certificate for \$20
Tony Svetic	Four free passes to Saginaw Zoo
Misty Pelcher	\$25 Lowe's gift card
Sam Pendell	\$25 Lowe's gift card

We are grateful for your support, and the gifts from our vendors -- please be on the lookout for future events!

Dinner Board Meeting, June 1

Gina Malczewski, Chair, Midland Section ACS

We are moving our June Midland Section ACS Board meeting to Harvey's Grill (4000 Wilder Road, Bay City) for a change of pace. Drinks and social time will begin around 5:30 PM, with dinner to follow (ordering off of the menu) around 6:00 PM. The Board meeting will start at 7:00 PM, and the agenda will be announced ahead of time. All are invited, but please RSVP to Gina Malczewski at reginamalczewski@gmail.com to reserve a seat. And, just as a reminder, there will be no Board meeting in the month of July.

Public Health in Crisis? – Seminar, June 4
Gina Malczewski, Chair, Midland Section ACS



Public Health in Crisis?
A Look at Current Issues,
from A (Antibiotic Resistance) to Z (Ebola Zaire)
A seminar presented by the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society
With Eden V. Wells, MD, MPH, FACPM
June 4, 2015, 7-8:30 pm
Creative 360 Gallery
1517 Bayliss St, Midland, MI 48640

FREE and Open to the Public



Outreach Midyear Meeting, June 11
Gina Malczewski, Chair, Midland Section ACS

There will be a meeting for Outreach volunteers on **June 11 at 5:30 PM** to discuss summer and fall activities, at Gina's house: **4210 Linden Dr, Midland, 48640**. Some of the activities we need to plan and staff include video shorts of interviews and experiments, summer camps, River Days at the Tridge, Glow Night in October, Grand Science (grandparents and grandkids), greenhouse building and garden maintenance over the summer, Scientific Wonder and Artful Genius with the Possible Dream Program, and Sci-Fest/Fall Scientific Meeting. **Pizza will be served with some sides, and a small selection of drinks.** Please RSVP for planning purposes (and ask if you need directions): reginamalczewski@gmail.com.

In Past Issues of *The Midland Chemist*

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

50 Years Ago

In *The Chairman's Column*, by R. M. Wheaton, Chairman, Midland Section: "The national meeting of the ACS held last month in Detroit attracted many from the Midland Section. In fact as one wandered about Cobo Hall or the streets between the Hall and the downtown hotels, he may have wondered who was tending shop back in Midland. It was our impression that this was an excellent meeting and Cobo Hall, a superb meeting headquarters. A few more and smaller meeting rooms would have been of value. And, we understand some members had to go to Windsor, Ontario, for housing. The new Hotel Pontchartrain being erected near Cobo Hall should help considerably in this regard for future ACS and other conventions." (No national ACS meeting has been held in Detroit or anywhere in Michigan since the spring 1965 meeting.)

40 Years Ago

In *Council Meeting – Philadelphia, Council Recommends: Move 1977 Meeting from Chicago* by David C. Young, Councillor: "For about ten years there has been a dispute between the Chicago Section and the American Chemical Society about the National Chemical Exposition. Every other local section which has operated an exposition at a national meeting has agreed to abide by a consistent national policy under which the Society and the Section share in the proceeds. Much money is involved, perhaps as much as \$30,000 in the case of Chicago. After several years of fruitless negotiations the Council Committee on Meetings and Expositions recommended that no more national meetings be scheduled for Chicago until an agreement was reached. When this was first proposed last fall the Council, after some inconclusive debate, voted to table the motion. In Philadelphia the result was different. The Council voted to recommend that the 1977 meeting be moved away from Chicago if possible. It also voted to move the 1982 meeting to Kansas City. Thus, if there is no resolution to the problem, the 1975 meeting would be the last one scheduled for Chicago."

30 Years Ago

In *Councillors Report From Miami* by Linneaus C. Dorman: "By now, you know that the petitions to raise the time and age requirements for retired and emeritus members were passed. To some, these changes seem abrupt and unfair, but here are some data that may give a different perspective:

Year	'35*	'70	'84	'90 (est.)
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% Emeritus

Members	0.15	2.6	8.2	13
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*Year emeritus program started.

Members at end of 1984:

119,964 Regular members

3,460 Retired (half dues)

11,025 Emeritus (no dues)

Current cost of emeritus program, ca \$700,000"

20 Years Ago

In *Bay-Arenac Teachers Experiment with Household Chemistry* by Gretchen Kohl: "Teachers in the Bay-Arenac School District were recently invited to participate in a three hour workshop entitled "Bringing Science to Life in the Classroom." The workshop, sponsored by the Midland Section of the American Chemical Society (ACS) and the Bay-Arenac ISD (Intermediate School District), provides teachers 'hands-on' experience with 16 different chemistry demonstrations/activities that they could use in their

classrooms. Over 60 teachers pre-registered for the free workshop held at the Bay-Arenac ISD Board Room on March 30th, which necessitated dividing the group into a morning and an afternoon session. The training sessions were staffed by Midland Section ACS members and American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) volunteers, while the ISD provided substitute teachers for the attendees."

10 Years Ago

In *CMU Student Affiliates Rated "Outstanding"!*, by Sharyl Majorski-Briggs: "The Student Affiliates from Central Michigan University proudly accepted their first-time-ever "Outstanding Rating" award at the National ACS meeting in San Diego on March 13 for the 2003-2004 academic year. Twelve students and their advisor attended the conference. Meghann Vanslager, president of the affiliates, accepted the award on behalf of the group. The CMU Student Affiliates also received a National Travel Grant for presenting a workshop on "How to Recruit Volunteers and Keep Them," which took place during the conference as well."

Upcoming Dates, Events, and Other Updates

- June 1 (5:30 – 8:30 PM) – ACS Dinner/Board meeting, Harvey's Grill, 4000 Wilder Road, Bay City. All are invited, but please RSVP to Gina Malczewski (reginamalczewski@gmail.com) ahead of time to reserve a seat.
- June 4 (7:00 PM – 8:30 PM) – Seminar *Public Health in Crisis?*, presented by Eden V. Wells, MD, MPH, FACPM. Creative 360 Gallery, 1517 Bayliss Street, Midland.
- June 11 (5:30 PM) – Meeting for Outreach volunteers at Gina Malczewski's house at 4210 Linden Drive, Midland. RSVP to reginamalczewski@gmail.com.
- August 3 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.
- August 16–20 – 250th ACS National Meeting & Exposition, Boston, MA. For more information, see <http://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/meetings/fall-2015.html>.
- August 31 (7:00 – 8:30 PM) – ACS Board meeting, MCFTA Board Room (in person), or via conference call at phone number: 866-299-7945, participant code: 9837036#.

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