

Newsletter for the Kalamazoo Local Section of the American Chemical Society

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Chair's Comments

By Brian Eklov

First and foremost, please look below for an invitation to join us on Thursday, February 23rd from 6-9:30 at the Air Zoo in Portage to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the KACS. We will have the Air Zoo to ourselves, four of the attractions will be running, we will have a talk on the SR-71 Blackbird, and plenty of social time and a nice dinner. Tickets are \$10 for age 12 and over and free to children 11 and under. Please see page 3 and 4 for more details and registration information.

I would also like to take a moment and thank all of you for participating in our events over the last few years, and especially for volunteering your time to help further our common goals. Every volunteer organization runs on the energy and commitment of its members, and I am thankful for all of the hours KACS members contributed to making the events of the last few years successful. I have enjoyed every event I attended as chair - from the Joint Great Lakes / Central Regional Meeting last spring to our Recycle-A-Poster event this past month and everything in between. Even though my time as chair comes to a close at the end of the month, I cannot wait to see what the next 75 years has in store for the KACS. Knowing this community, we can all expect great things!



Join us for our Section's 75th Anniversary Celebration!

by Lydia E. M. Hines

**75th Anniversary Celebration
Air Zoo
6151 Portage Road
Thursday February 23, 2017
6:00 – 9:30 pm**

Our Kalamazoo Section of the American Chemical Society (KACS) will be celebrating its 75th anniversary with a dinner event on the main floor of the Air Zoo on the evening of Thursday, February 23, 2017, from 6-9:30 pm.

We will have time to socialize, reminisce, celebrate our accomplishments, enjoy dinner, and be treated to a presentation on the SR-71. The Executive Director of the ACS will join our celebration, and we will have access to four of the Air Zoo's event experiences (including the simulators and the 4-D theater) for those who would like to take advantage of them!

We hope you will join us at this family-friendly event. The cost for dinner for each attendee age 12 years and older will be \$10.00 (young people under 12 may come at no cost) so please plan to join fellow KACS members that evening for this special party! If you plan on attending please register by completing the form on the next page. See you there!



75th Anniversary Celebration REGISTRATION FORM

In order to help make appropriate dinner arrangements for the Thursday Feb 23rd event we will need to know how many will be attending. Please make checks payable to [Kalamazoo ACS](#).

Mail payment and completed form to:

Dr. Andre Venter, KACS Treasurer

Department of Chemistry

Western Michigan University

Kalamazoo, MI 49008-5413

Your Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone number: _____

Number of attendees age 12 and over (\$10 each) = \$ _____

Number of attendees under age 12 (free) _____

Climate Change Symposium

By Elke Schoffers (KACS Publicity and ACS Symposium Organizer)

KACS' commitment to supporting 'Climate Change' began last year by including a half-day session "Climate Science Symposium" at the American Chemical Society Joint Great Lakes / Central Regional Meeting (ACS JGLCRM), on May 27th, 2015, in Grand Rapids, MI. The symposium brought together climate change researchers, from the field of Environmental Science and Climatology with policy makers, to discuss problems and share solutions related to regional and global climate change. The conference also included societal topics on climate change.



KACS continued its support for climate change education this year by co-sponsoring a half-day symposium at the 251st ACS National Meeting in San Diego, CA, on March 15, 2016, titled "The Science and Perception of Climate Change". The goal was to disseminate the latest research updates and to identify ways that help engage a more scientifically literate public that in turn would be more supportive of the sciences and its practitioners.

The symposium featured scientists from a broad background to discuss the risks, responsibilities, politics and policies of climate change. The symposium was well

attended with up to 70 attendees and concluded with a panel discussion titled "When Facts Don't Matter". Among others, the lineup included Bassam Shkhashiri (past ACS President), Jerry Bell (U. of Wisconsin, ACS Climate Science Toolkit developer) and Andrew Hoffman (University of Michigan), who is the author of "How Culture Shapes the Climate Change Debate". Presentations by the invited speakers, along with their affiliations and their presentation titles, are listed below.

"How culture shapes the climate change debate"

By Andrew J. Hoffman
Graham Sustainability Institute, University of Michigan,
Ann Arbor, MI

"The ACS climate science toolkit: What's next?"

By Jerry Bell
Chemistry, Wisconsin Initiative for Science Literacy,
Madison, WI

"Evaluating 10 ways to communicate climate change issues"

By Robert Landolt
Chemistry, Texas Wesleyan University
Arlington, TX

"Climate change, extreme events, are regional impacts"

By Nathan Moore
Geography, Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI

"Metal-organic framework as single site catalyst and catalyst support"

By Omar Farha
Chemistry, Northwestern University
Evanston, IL

"Getting people excited about the science of climate change"

By Angela Hoffman
Chemistry, University of Portland
Portland, OR

"Lost in translation: A scientist's perspective on how the media portrays climate change"

By Elke Schoffers
Chemistry, Western Michigan University,
Kalamazoo, MI

"Global warming is unequivocal: ACS and its members can help point the way for meaningful action"

By Bassam Shkhashiri
Department of Chemistry,
University of Wisconsin-Madison, Madison, WI



Andrew J. Hoffman - Whistleblower of climate change rhetoric and author of "How Culture Shapes The Climate Change Debate"



Bassam Shakhshiri
ACS Past President

Acknowledgements

The symposium organizers, Elke Schoffers and Sherine Obare, are grateful to KACS, the ACS Division of Environmental Chemistry and other sponsors for their support. Additional symposia have been scheduled for the 253rd and 254th ACS meetings in 2017. Please continue to read the KACS newsletters for updates on climate change.

Cosponsors:

Committee on Environmental Improvement (CEI)
CAS, Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo ACS Local Section (KACS)
Upper Peninsula Local Section of the ACS



REPORT:

Sci-Mix Poster Session

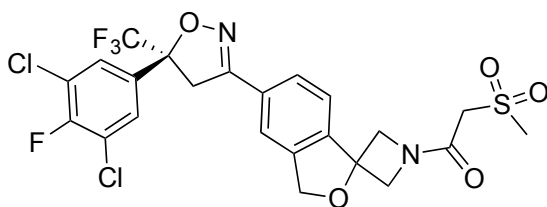
Keynote Speaker Dr. Tom McTier

By Elke Schoffers (KACS Publicity) with Photos by Denis Billen (DB Family Photography)



Dr. T. McTier of Zoetis was the keynote speaker

KACS hosted its annual poster session titled "Sustainable Science - Recycle a Poster" at Bell's Eccentric Café in downtown Kalamazoo on Nov. 15, 2016. For the 6th year in a row, KACS organized this public event, which was made possible through a generous grant from Zoetis. As before, there were many research posters in addition to a keynote speaker. Over 110 people attended this social gathering; 49% of the attendees were ACS members.



Dr. McTier discussed the discovery and development of sarolaner (Simparica®) in Zoetis' labs here in Kalamazoo in his talk "Discovery and Development of Simparica® - A Novel Companion Animal Isoxazoline Parasiticide." He is Therapeutic Area Head for Companion Animal Parasitology and Research Director in Global Therapeutics Research, Veterinary Medicine Research and Development at Zoetis in Kalamazoo, MI. This drug is a novel isoxazoline derivative and has unique structural features important for its potency and pharmacokinetic (PK) properties.



Dr. McTier presented the research results obtained at Zoetis in Kalamazoo



KACS rented "The Back Room" at Bell's Eccentric Café for this event.

Event visitors had a chance to enjoy hot appetizers and beer from 5 to 9 PM while listening to the keynote speech, mingling and reviewing the posters that were given. There were 28 new or "recycled" (from a previous conference) posters highlighting scientific results from Zoetis, Kalamazoo College and Western Michigan University (WMU), among others. Some work was done in collaboration with other institutions. There were 15 student presenters from WMU; 8 from Kalamazoo College and one student from Portage High School. The local section also gave out three \$50 cash prizes, which were drawn from the pool of poster presenters who submitted an abstract early. KACS Treasurer Andre R. Venter delivered the prizes to the winners: Lainey R. Barber, Nicole L. Burke and Haider Faraj.

The prize winners presented these posters:

A Spectroscopic Investigation of the Gas-Phase Folding of Leucine Enkephalin and its Analogues

Nicole L. Burke, Timothy S. Zwier* and Scott A. McLuckey* (collaborative project, joint PIs)
Department of Chemistry, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN

Sorption of Noble Metal Nanoparticles from the Water Column by Periphytic Algal Turf Communities

Haider Faraj and John B. Miller*

Department of Chemistry, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI

Crossed-Benzoin Condensations Utilizing *N*-Heterocyclic Carbenes in Green Solvents

Lainey R. Barber and James J. Kiddle*

Department of Chemistry, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI



Organizers and prize winners: Brian Eklov (KACS Chair); Elke Schoffers (KACS Publicity); winner Lainey R. Barber; Andre R. Venter (KACS Treasurer) and prize winners Nicole L. Burke and Haider Faraj (left to right)



KACS Chair Brian Eklov gave a brief power point presentation to highlight past and planned Local Section activities, also announcing current volunteer opportunities.

The Kalamazoo Local Section also used this popular event as an opportunity to get feedback from all visitors by distributing a paper survey. The Executive Committee thanks all the participants for filling out the questionnaires, and the data is currently being reviewed. Last but not least, the KACS Board is grateful for the financial support that Zoetis has provided to help defer the expenses associated with this event.



ACS members and non-members enjoyed the atmosphere.
Joel Huber, Tom Runge, Steve McWethy, Gabe Kornis, Lydia Hines (KACS Councilor), Fred Antosz



Scientists from academia and industry, with various expertise and background, mingled for hours over food and drinks.



Discussion of science posters.



Poster presenters from industry and academia participated.



WMU students and faculty members presented posters.



A group photo of Kalamazoo College students and faculty members, posing at the end of the poster session.



Scientists enjoyed a relaxing atmosphere.



Attendees listened to the keynote speech upstairs and downstairs in The Back Room.

KACS **Bells Poster Session, Nov. 15, 2016**

Kalamazoo American Chemical Society Local Section



Closing Notes

Looking for a good read?

by Lydia Hines

As part of our National Chemistry Week celebration in 1994 our Local Section invited Dr. Joseph Nagyvary, a chemistry professor from Texas A&M, to speak on his research on the chemistry of the wood used in Stradivarius violins. He gave his presentation at the Dalton Recital Hall at WMU where we had invited violinists from the Kalamazoo Symphony with their “name violins”, as well as Edith Hines, a young aspiring violinist at the time who used one of Dr. Nagyvary’s violins, for a recital - this would offer “comparisons” of the various violins. Our Section received a Phoenix Award (now called ChemLuminary Award) for that unique event. Dr. Nagyvary is from Hungary; he is now retired and has written a memoir describing his experiences as a young student in Eastern Europe under adverse political circumstances.

Learn more about Joseph Nagyvary’s books “Violence and Violins: The Making of a Hungarian Refugee” at <http://violenceandviolins.com/>

Great Lakes Regional Meeting

Theme: Sustainability and Energy

Location: Holiday Inn, Fargo ND

Date: June 27 – 30, 2017

glrm2017.com

Please consider supporting this event by presenting and attending!

Do you have questions, comments, or would like to contribute to this newsletter?
Send an email to Christine Pruis, Communication Chair at ACSkzoo@gmail.com