Newsletter for the Kalamazoo Local Section of the American Chemical Society

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PLAN AHEAD
CHEMISTS CELEBRATRE EARTH WEEK

https://www.acs.org/content/acs/en/education/outreach/ccew.html

An **early announcement** about our section's participation in Chemists Celebrate Earth Day; we once again hope to have outreach events at the Celery Flats in Portage and at the Kalamazoo Nature Center, and at any other venues where we can have interested volunteers. **Note** that this outreach **event is in its 15th year** and has been re-labeled **Chemists Celebrate Earth Week** (CCEW); it will be celebrated **April 22-28, 2018**, the topic is **"Oceans**" and the theme of the publication from the ACS Outreach office will be **"Dive into Marine Chemistry",** which will discuss the chemistry of water from the ocean. The common goal for CCEW, as well as any other activity of our ACS, is to communicate the positive role that chemistry plays in the world.

Are you passionate about educating your community about the environment?
If so, then we have the perfect opportunity for you!

KACS is looking for a CCEW Coordinator.

If this is something that interests you, then please contact
Lydia Hines (lemhwgh@gmail.com) for more information!

ARE YOU INTERESTED?
CHEMISTRY & ART

KACS is considering hosting an evening of Chemistry & Art – specifically ***chemists painting***!

The proposed three hour event would be help at the local family-owned business, Happy Our Art (https://happyourart.com/), where one of their trained artists would guide our group in painting the same chemistry-themed image on a 16" x 20" canvass. No art training is required! Only the desire to have fun and learn something new!

This establishment can hold up to 50 people with a minimum of 15 attendees. ACS would provide light refreshments, but the venue is BYOB so participants are also able bring their preferred food and beverage. Typical cost of $35 per person, but the cost may vary depending upon the number of individuals who attend. We are thinking to do this a weeknight in late March or early April. Depending on the interest, we may also have a short speaker.

Are you interested in participating in an evening of Chemistry & Art?

If so, then please contact Christine Pruis (**ACSkzoo@gmail.com)** with the number of people in your party!

K COLLEGE ACS CHAPTER BATTLE of the CHEM CLUB VICTORS!

The Kalamazoo College ACS chapter is happy to report that they won the "Battle of the Chem Clubs 2018!" As the winners, they took home the Separatory Funnel Trophy (image shown of entire team). They also earned the much-coveted "Grenade Award" for the best performance during the speed titration semi-final (image of award winning titration team also shown). The Battle of the Chem Clubs started in 2007 and is hosted at Michigan State University. There were approximately 80 ACS student participants from 12 Michigan colleges and universities. Exciting events include periodic table darts, a spectroscopy interpretation challenge, dry ice curling, and jeopardy-style questions with buzzers. This is a an exciting day and a great networking opportunity for young chemists.

Way to go Kalamazoo College on your victory!

Chris Vennard, Sabrina Leddy, Audrey Thomas, Elizabeth Knox, Adam Decker, Maria Fujii, Jake Sypniewski.

REPORT
ACS LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

By Lydia E. M. Hines

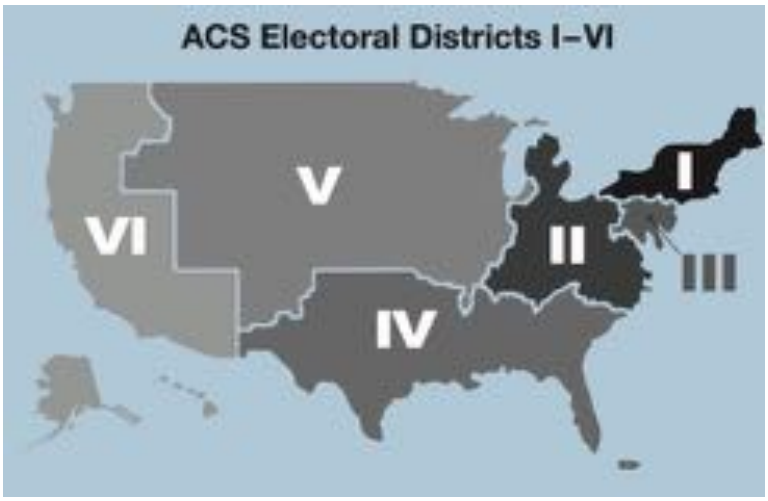
The ACS Leadership Institute (LI) gathering is held annually for newly-elected leaders of ACS Local Sections and Divisions to gather for ~ 48 hours over the third weekend of January to interact with ACS staff and leadership. There are "tracks" for Division leaders, Region Leaders, and Local Section Leaders for the most beneficial interaction of leaders in each of these "tracks". The well-designed Leadership Courses developed by ACS since 1965 are also offered to participants. There were many opportunities to share "best programs" and "practices" with the large group so all could benefit from others' processes and successes, as well as to learn about pitfalls to avoid.

At LI, we were regularly reminded about writing reports of our activities as they occur through the year and placing them in FORMS in preparation for the Annual Report submission. Another recurrent theme was that members are more likely to read "Social Media" such as Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest etc., than e-mails, or the website, though sections were encouraged to maintain a website (note that our KACS Section does have a facebook pages and website, www.kalamazooacs.org)

Another topic of conversation at the LI was that it is disappointing that many members are not aware of our Society's member-friendly programs and amazing services. There is the ACS website (www.acs.org) but it has MANY layers of information through which to navigate to get to what one needs. In the next Newsletter I will present some information about ACS' career offerings; below I will talk about the often-misunderstood difference between Districts and Regions:

The ACS has many opportunities for service to its members and to the public – the Local Section (LS) is one of them. Members are **assigned** to a LS based on their mailing address of record – any who report an address with zip codes in **Kalamazoo, Allegan or Van Buren counties** are assigned to the Kalamazoo Local Section. Members may request re-assignment to a local section of their choice. Members of a Section are **encouraged to inform the section's leadership of programs which would interest them, and to participate in section activities** which are announced through use of our Facebook page, our newsletter, e-blasts, and on our website, which has a list of **current officers – we would love to hear from you!**

Local Sections are assigned to **Voting Districts**, of which there are **6**, each with an elected voting representative on the Board of Directors (BoD). Per our National ACS Bylaws, Districts must have approximately equal numbers of members, so occasionally individual local sections may be moved to a new district – Kalamazoo moved from District II to District V about 4 years ago – There are also six Directors-at-Large on the ACS BoD.



Another, non-bylaw-mandated, grouping of Local Sections is the Region, a geographical area of local sections initiated around the time of WWII, which gave ACS members opportunity to meet in a smaller, more accessible and affordable professional meeting format than at the two national meetings, to present scientific papers and form networks for professional enhancement. **There are 10 Regions**. Our **Kalamazoo Section is part of the Great Lakes Region (GLR)**. As a result of comments and concerns expressed at the LI we should see a current, better delineated Region map in the foreseeable future ☺

Some of you may remember that in 2015 our KACS co-hosted a Regional Meeting with the Western Michigan Section, which belongs to the Central Region, in Grand Rapids (the JGLCRM2015); many of you attended, organized symposia, and presented your research orally or on posters. The Huron Valley Section, in the Central Region, has invited our Section to **co-host** a joint meeting with them again in **2027**! Who is willing to work at that??

In the next Newsletter I would like to highlight a very useful ACS **career service** which was brought up at the LI as a result of a "collaborative project" idea presented by the Huron Valley section representative and the Kalamazoo section rep (me).

Visit our website www.kalamazooacs.org

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

At the end of this newsletter is a BONUS FEATURE:
A brief literature review by our local section chair, Steve Seacrest on

Quantum Mechanics and Photosynthesis