Report of the **fortieth KACS Awards Gathering**, May 20, 2013

What a pleasant evening we had hosting a gathering of approximately 100 enthusiastic attendees: students, parents, grandparents, high school teachers, and KACS members, for our Section’s fortieth Awards presentation to High school students who have excelled in Chemistry either routinely in the classroom, as recommended by their teachers, and/or as a result of success on a two-stage chemistry exam administered by our Section. In the last couple of years we have also formally recognized past chairs of the Section with “Past-Chair” pins. Also recognized at this ceremony are KACS members who have been members of the Society for 50 years, outstanding College Students nominated by the two 4-year colleges in our Section, an outstanding high school teacher, and one (or more) Section member(s) or friend(s) who has consistently given of his/her time and energy for the successful execution of any of our Section’s activities – it is always “fun” to see the surprise on the recipient’s face.

**Outstanding high school seniors** recognized this year were

Andrew Behrman – Comstock

Zachary Carr – Gull Lake

Samantha Ternes - Hackett Catholic Central

Alex Lim – Kalamazoo Central

Nolan Stoffer – Kalamazoo Christian

Quinton Colwell – KAMSC/Portage Central

Lucas Ryan – Lawton

Nicholas Bertoldi – Mattawan

Renee Schwartz – Otsego

Samantha Pursley – Paw Paw

Kelsey Ernst – Plainwell

Scott Linder - Portage Central

Sergio Rodriguez-Labra – Portage Northern

Sarah Glass – Wayland Union

**Examination winners** recognized were

James Gibson – Gull Lake

Michael Melbow – Gull Lake

Grey Braybrooks – KAMSC/Kalamazoo Central

Tyler Leverton – KAMSC/Loy Norrix

Daniel Woodworth – KAMSC/Kalamazoo Central

Henry Spies – Gull Lake

Callahan Katrak – Mattawan

Cooper Quartermaine – KAMSC/Gull Lake

Quinton Colwell – KAMSC/Portage Central

Sarah Glass – Wayland Union

Nicholas Bertoldi – Mattawan

Kylee Chaffin – Gull Lake

Caelan Deater – Gull Lake

Kelsey Ernst – Plainwell

Morgan Freeby – Portage Central

Katie K. Lee – KAMSC/Portage Central

Alex Z. Lim – Kalamazoo Central

Madelene McKenzie – KAMSC/ Portage Northern

Joshua Mussche – KAMSC/Comstock

Sergio Rodriguez-Labra – Portage Northern

**Outstanding college-student award** recipients were

Joshua Abbott – Kalamazoo College; Brandon Barr - Western Michigan University

The **Outstanding high school teacher** Awardee was Theresa Schwartz, Plainwell

**50-year members** in attendance were Dr. Robert C. Kelly and Dr. Douglas L. Rector; each received a certificate supplied by the National ACS. Drs. Fred Antosz and Charles Hall did not attend.

**Past chairs** in attendance were Michael Kiella, Monica Whitmire and Elke Schoffers

Our startled **Section Awardee** was Robin Lenkart of the Chemistry Department at Western Michigan University.

**Thanks** are due once again to our Awards Committee, and to our KACS Education Committee – Drs. Donald Schreiber, James Kiddle, Sherine Obare, and Andre Venter - for another successful event.

Report submitted by Lydia Hines