August 2025

Volume 77 Issue 1

**Kenneth A Spencer Award Winner, Dr. Gary List**

**Please mark your calendar and plan on joining us as we celebrate this year’s Spencer Award Recipient, Dr. Gary List, on Thursday, October 16, 2025. The Banquet and Presentation will be held at Grand Street Café. Detailed information to follow in September’s KC Chemist.**

Dr. List is nationally and internationally recognized as an authority on oilseed processing and edible fats and oils. His research has encompassed analytical methods development, deterioration of soybeans in international trade, alternative oil processing, causes of non-hydratable phosphatides in soybean processing, long term storage of vegetable oils, lecithin recovery, use of supercritical fluids in lipid chemistry, interesterification of triglycerides, hydrogenation, removal of trans fats from the food supply. Formulation of trans free margarines and spreads…His research has had major impact on the edible industry. Analytical methods he developed are used in quality control labs worldwide. His research brought first generation trail modified soybean oils to commercialization. Three major oil processors brought zero trans fats to the marketplace based on his research on interesterification and modified hydrogenation technologies.

**Join us for Happy Hour & networking!**

**We will meet at Chicken N Pickle – North Kansas City (1761 Burlington), on Friday, August 22, 25 at 5:00pm. Come when you can! No need to RSVP. The KC Section will take care of appetizers; drinks will be on you own. We look forward to seeing you there!**

**Our next ACS-KC Section**

**Monthly membership meeting**

**When: Thursday, September 25, 2025**

**Where: Arthur Mag Conference Center, 425 Volker Ave., KCMO**

**Speaker: Alex Marin, Materials Engineer, KC National Security Campus, managed by Honeywell**

**Menu: Pizza and Beverages**

**COST: $5**

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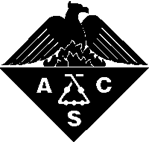
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the kc chemist

**Chair Elect**

**Dr. Thomas Metz was born in Emporia Kansas in 1942. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Emporia Kansas State University in 1964. He then earned his PhD from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1971. He worked at Bayer Crop Science from 1970-2006 and is now a part time teacher at MCCKC, Longview, and has been since 2006. His ACS experience includes being Secretary from 1979-1980; Chair-Elect in 1981; Chair in 1982; and Councilor from 1983-1998. Dr. Metz is interested in expanding the representation in the KC section and bringing some fresh life to the section. He will attempt to get guest speakers from our local Universities, MRI, and Industry. He prefers to keep favorite spots for meetings like our local brewery and winery, but also will look to add some dinner meetings. He looks forward to working with the Executive Committee to achieve these and other goals to energize the section.**

**Secretary**

**Dr. Gregory D. Claycomb is an Assistant Professor of Chemistry at Park University. He teaches general, analytical, and physical chemistry courses as well as introductory physics. He is dedicated to providing a quality education in the classroom, and often works with students outside of the classroom by mentoring them in research related to the chemical analysis of food products. In addition to working with Park students, he serves the high school chemistry community by acting as the coordinator of the KC-ACS USNCO, the High School Chemistry Olympiad. He was educated first at the University of New Mexico, and then at Kansas State University where he studied the chemistry solid surfaces and received the degree of PhD in 2006.**

**Treasurer**

**Dr. Gary Clapp is the President & CEO of the Institute for Industrial and Applied Life Sciences and of DT Search and Design which are both located in the Kit Bond Science and Technology Incubator on Missouri Western State University’s campus. He received his undergraduate degree in Chemistry from Minnesota State University, Mankato in 1984, and his PhD from Oregon State University in 1990. For the past 20 years, Dr. Clapp has been involved with many operational activities of independent businesses performing laboratory testing and research development in support of human and animal pharmaceutical drug development operations for Aptuit, AAI Development Services, Oread Laboratories and Hauser Chemical Research. Dr. Clapp’s duties included oversight and supervision of work performed in Biotechnology, BioAnalytical, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Pilot Plants and Preformulation/Formulation for pharmaceutical solid dosage forms. He has been an active member of the ACS for 26 years and has served as an officer in the KC section for the past 12 as Treasurer, Vice-Chairman and Chairman. Dr. Clapp has also served as an invited technical reviewer on numerous National Institute of Health (NIH) technical evaluation committees. In addition, he has served as the Chairman for the western region of the American Council of Independent Laboratories (ACIL).**

**Councilor**

**Dr. Eckhard Hellmuth is asking for your vote at the end of his second term as Councilor (’06-’11). He would be sincerely honored to represent the Section in serving on the ACS Council for a second three year term; the continuation of his work on the Bylaws & Constitution (B&C) Committee of the ACS depends on winning your support. He hopes to interact with everyone for a few more years. For many years he had the great pleasure to work closely with Chemists at the local and national level. Together he hopes to explore ways and means in identifying goals, and areas of interest of our members. “How can we find better, more relevant activities to suit your needs? How can we facilitate better interactions, more networking opportunities, scientific & technical task exchanges, and last but not least, social contacts between us, you, and your colleagues in Engineering and the Sciences in the large geographical area of the Section?” Dr. Hellmuth has served as Chair (’02, ’05), Secretary (’68), Alternate Councilor (’03-’05), and as Chair of many Section Committees including Education (70’s, 80’s), Science Start-Up (90’s), SEED (70’s, ‘00’s), and Program Committee (‘98-present). He also committed many hours to planning and administration of our 2001-2011 Spencer Awards including establishing good personal interactions with the Executive Committees of the ACS Divisions of Agricultural & Food Chemistry and Agrochemicals in support of the Spencer Award Events. Eckhard Hellmuth graduated with an MS (’55) and a PhD (’60) from the University of Marburg, Germany, did post-doctoral research in Marburg and at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in Troy, NY, and started his career at UMKC in Polymer and Physical Chemistry in 1965.**

**Alternate Councilor**

**Dr. Gary Clapp … Please see above under “Treasurer” …**



**Upcoming Events:**

**National ACS Meeting Fall 2025:**

Washing, DC & Digital; August 17-21

**Innovations in Chemistry**

Get ready to learn, network and advance your career.

Register today at [www.acs.org/events/fall.html](http://www.acs.org/events/fall.html)

**ACS Midwest Regional Meeting 2025**

**October 12-14, 2025, Columbia MO**

**Host Section:** University of Missouri Local Section

Visit: mwrm2025.org for more information.

**Spencer Award Recipient: Congratulations to Dr. Gary List (D.Sc.)!**

Dr. List was a Lead Scientist at the National center for Agricultural Utilization Research in Peoria IL. He has been involved in research for over 50 years, and we welcome the opportunity to celebrate him at our Annual Awards Dinner & Presentation on Thursday, October 16, 2025. Dr. List’s talk title is: “Thermodynamic Properties of Triglycerides: Experiments and Models.” Mark your calendar and stay tuned for more information.

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AI-generated content may be incorrect.**

**ACS-KC Section Celebrates its quasquicentennial**

This year, the KC Section is celebrating its Quasquicentennial, which is our **125th Anniversary!** That’s right, the section was founded in 1900!

The section recently received a $2,000 grant from the National ACS in support of our Quasquicentennial Celebration, and we plan on organizing a few interesting activities, including inviting some eminent speakers and having a membership meeting where we review the past 125 years of history of the section.

If you have ideas for events or celebrations that you would like to see for our Quasquicentennial, please do not hesitate to contact me at [jwoodford@missouriwestern.edu](mailto:jwoodford@missouriwestern.edu). Thank you for celebrating this milestone!

**ACS-KC Standing Committees & Chairs**

**Please consider volunteering on one (or more) of our committees!**

**We welcome your thoughts, ideas, and contribution!**

**\*Please contact Gary Clapp (**[**geclapp424@yahoo.com**](mailto:geclapp424@yahoo.com)**) if you are interested in one of the committees. Thank you! We would appreciate it, and we welcome your input and assistance!**

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A green check mark in a circle

Description automatically generatedCheck us out on Facebook: ACS-KC and LinkedIn: ACS-KC

**COMMITTEES and CHAIRS**

AWARDS……………………………………………………………………Alcinda Ruuskanen, MWSU

EDUCATION………………………………………………………………Dr. Jeffrey Woodford, MWSU

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT………………………......Dr. Shuo Han, UMKC

FINANCE……………………………………………………………………Dr. Jeffrey Woodford, MWSU

LONG RANGE PLANNING…………………………………………..**OPEN**

MEMBERSHIP…………………………………………………………...Mr. Alex Marin, Honeywell

MINORITY AFFAIRS…………………………………………………...**OPEN**

NCW & GREEN CHEMISTRY COORDINATOR……………….**OPEN**

NEWSLETTER EDITOR………………………………………………..Mary Jean Clapp, EDUStaff/emPowerU

NOMINATIONS Local Section Executive Committee….**OPEN**

PROFESSIONAL RELATIONS……………………………………….Dr. David Van Horn, UMKC

PROGRAM………………………………………………………………..Dr. William Gutheil, UMKC

PUBLIC (Government) AFFAIRS…………………………………Dr. Gary List, University of IL, Urbana-Champaign

PUBLIC RELATIONS……………………………………………………Dr. Gary Clapp, Retired, MWSU

SAFETY………………………………………………………………………Michele Sanders, Harcros Chemicals

SENIOR CHEMIST………………………………………………………Mr. Mark Northrup, Retired

SPENCER AWARD NOMINATIONS……………………………..Dr. Tom Hemling, TCH Animal Health, LLP

WEBMASTER…………………………………………………………….Dr. Gary Clapp, Retired, MWSU

WOMEN CHEMISTS…………………………………………………..Michele Sanders, Harcros Chemicals

**ACS-KC Section 2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**

**Chair: Dr. Bill Gutheil (UMKC) (816) 235-2424**

**Visit our website!!** American Chemical Society

Kansas City Section

View online**:**

**www.acs-kc.com**

**Chair-Elect: Dr. Gary Clapp (Retired, MWSU) (816) 341-3230**

**Treasurer: Dr. Jeff Woodford (MWSU) (816) 271-4100**

**Secretary: Mr. Alex Marin (Honeywell) (919) 215-6425**

**Councilor: Dr. Sarah Leibowitz (TriRX Pharm. Serv.) sleibowitzacs@gmail.com**

**Alt. Councilor: Michele Sanders (Harcros Chemicals) (913) 621-7883**

**Newsletter Editor: Mary Jean Clapp (SJSD)** [**Clappmj@aol.com**](mailto:Clappmj@aol.com)

**Website Director: Gary Clapp (Retired, MWSU)** [**geclapp424@**](mailto:gclapp@missouriwestern.edu)**gmail.com**

**Immediate Past Chair: Mr. James Partridge (Honeywell) (913) 669-2441**

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American Chemical Society

Kansas City Chemist

2903 Wilshire Court

St. Joseph MO 64506