May 2025

Volume 76 Issue 10

**Inside this issue**:

Student Awards p1

USNCO p2

Upcoming Events p2

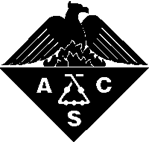
Comm. Chairs/125 yrs. p3

Quasquicentennial p3

Exec. Board Members p4

**ACS**

Chemistry for Life



**ACS-KC section**

**Student and teacher awards banquet:**

**When: Thursday, May 8, 2025; 6:00pm**

**Where: Princess Garden Restaurant, 8906 Wornall Rd., KCMO**

**SPEAKER: Dr. Gary Clapp, Retired, MWSU and the Kit Bond Science and Technology Incubator**

**Menu: Family Style Dinner including Appetizers: Egg Rolls, Crab Rangoon, and Hot & Sour Soup; Entrees: Cashew Chicken, Beef & Broccoli, Shrimp & Veggies & Tofu & Veggies. Hot & Iced Tea included. Additional beverages available for purchase.**

**COST: Members: $20; Students & Seniors: $5; Awardees: FREE**

**our Speaker: Dr. Clapp retired after 30+ years in Environmental, Pharmaceutical, and Forensic Chemistry prior to finishing his career teaching Organic Chemistry at MWSU. At the May Awards Banquet, Gary will lead us in a 15 min. session where we will participate in solving 1 of 4 scenarios his group worked on and resolved in a variety of fields. We’ll be asked to use our chemistry knowledge along with other skills we’ve acquired, to solve a technical problem they encountered. Table groups will be given an issue to resolve, to the best of their ability, and then a chosen member of the table will act as spokesperson to summarize the resolution reached! Dr. Clapp will then disclose how the issue was resolved during their initial investigation.**

**Congratulations to our 50- & 60- year members! We celebrate your ACS membership and service! Please join us for our Awards Banquet to be recognized on May 8th! Those who joined in 1965: Dr. Jerry Dias, Dr. Tawfeek Elattar, Dr. Charles Greenlief, Dr. Larry Lambing, & Dr. Charles Radanovics; 1964: Dr. Ronald Blecke, Dr. Stanley Greenfield, Dr. Robert Hirschmann, Dr. Thomas Metz & Sr. Mary O’Rourke; 1975: Mr. Mark Algaier, Dr. Alan Colen, Ms. Nancy House, & Mr. Francis McNamara; 1974: Dr. William Brinkman, Mr. Donald Leming, Mr. Mark Litchman, Mr. Mark Northrup & Dr. John Pierce**

Please RSVP to Sarah Leibowitz: [sleibowitzacs@gmail.com](mailto:sleibowitzacs@gmail.com) by Friday, May 2, 2025.

Thank you!

* **AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY 1876-2025**
* **149 YEARS**
* **\*Make sure to check out our website!!**
* **www.acs-kc.com**

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” …**



**USNCO: National Exam participants and their sponsoring teachers:**

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE 11 STUDENTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL CHEMISTRY OLYMPIAD EXAM AT MISSOURI WESTERN UNIVERSITY ON WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH & 10TH, 2025! The exam was administered by Alcinda Ruuskanen with invaluable help from MWSU students Matilda Soderlund and Emma Salker as they helped with preparing solutions and setting up the lab.**

**They are:**

**Andrew Hodges,** Liberty North HS ~ Sponsoring teacher: Spencer Fish

**Charlie Fisher,** Liberty North HS ~ Sponsoring teacher: Spencer Fish

**Eddison Chen,** Blue Valley Northwest ~ Sponsoring teacher: Nanet Sula

**Neil Agarwal,** Blue Valley West HS ~ Sponsoring teacher: Brad Banning

**Srinivasa Vel,** Blue Valley Northwest ~ Sponsoring teacher: Theresa Kennedy

**Neil Joshi,** Blue Valley West ~ Sponsoring teacher: Brad Banning

**Matthew Chen,** Blue Valley North HS ~ Sponsoring teacher: Amy Schulte

**Sriram Srini Kalki,** Blue Valley North HS ~ Sponsoring Amy Schulte

**Elle Mitchell,** Pembroke Hill HS ~ Sponsoring teacher: Greg Spiegel

**Vikram Nguyen,** Pembroke Hill HS ~ Sponsoring teacher: Greg Spiegel

**Angel Samano,** Olathe North HS ~ Sponsoring teacher: Amy Clement

**Upcoming Events:**

**Chemists Celebrate Earth Week**

**Glaciers: Hot Topic, Cool Chemistry!**

Celebrate the International Year of Glacier Preservation and glaciers’ role in creating a more sustainable world during **April 21-27, 2025**, which is Chemists Celebrate Earth Week. Float into the world of glaciers and learn about this “Hot Topic, Cool chemistry!” in the latest edition of *Celebrating Chemistry.* Visit: <https://www.acs.org/education/celebrating-chemistry-editions/2025-ccew.html> for more information and resources.

**Annual ACS-KC Section Networking Picnic**

Mark your calendar! We have the River Shelter at English Landing Park in Parkville reserved from 11:00am-2:00pm on **Saturday, June 14th!** Join us for food, beverages, games, networking and good company! There is no cost to attend; our local section will provide food, drinks, and the grill master! Feel free to bring any yard games you’d like to play and maybe even your dog! There are walking trails as well. Questions? Contact Sarah Leibowitz at: [sleibowitzacs@gmail.com](mailto:sleibowitzacs@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you and enjoying the picnic food and having fun with you!

**ACS MWRM: ACS Midwest Regional Meeting 2025**

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

Abstract Submission for ACS MWRM opens April 14, 2025! Visit mwrm2025.org in the coming months for further information.

**ACS-KC Section Celebrates its quasquicentennial**

This year, the KC Section is celebrating our Quasquicentennial, which is our **125th Anniversary!**  That’s right, the section was founded in 1900, and we are going to have a year-long celebration as a result.

The section recently received a $2,000 grant from the National ACS in support of our Quasquicentennial Celebration and we plan on organizing many 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**

MAY 2025

American Chemical Society

Kansas City Chemist

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