

# Chapter Chatter

Volume 6, Issue 2

April/May 2006

## Special points of interest:

- Letter from the Prez
- SmartLab 2006
- Fall Conference 2006
- PAC

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## Greetings from the Prez!

A happy spring to you all! For those of you new to our CLMA chapter, welcome! I hope you will find a welcoming, knowledgeable, and collaborative organization. Our Six Rivers Chapter is among the best of the best! At CLMA's ThinkLab '06 Conference and Exhibition, we received the Chapter Excellence Awards in two areas, Communication and Membership! You have a fantastic board, dedicated to providing extraordinary service. It was a true honor to accept these awards on your behalf.

For both seasoned and new members, please consider getting involved with your chapter. I know that your time and talents are highly valued; and it is often difficult to balance work, family, volunteering, and other interests. A few questions come to mind. Why is it important to stretch yourself just a bit more with your professional organization? What can CLMA do for you? What can you do for CLMA?

Maybe it will help if I share my own experiences with CLMA...it all started in the early 90's when a colleague suggested I get involved. I attended the first of many Ohio River Valley CLMA Conferences and was hooked by the great opportunities for networking, management education, and advocating for my profession through involvement with the Greater Cincinnati and Six Rivers chapters. As did many of you, I moved from the "bench" to management with very little preparation. CLMA, through local and national conferences, was my safety net. Over the years CLMA has continued to provide a rich source of professional sustenance! Now, more than ever before, as the median age of medical technologists increases each year, and the regulatory/legislative environment continues to impact our profession; we need strong organizations. CLMA continues to be a leader in promoting excellence in clinical management and advocacy on behalf of our profession and members. Lasting friendships and alliances are developed and nurtured. So, do consider giving a bit of your time and talent to your organization. We welcome whatever involvement you can spare; whether committee work, running for an office or board position, presenting a timely topic at a local or national meeting, and/or participating in chapter programs. I invite you to contact me or any board member to share your interest and talents.



Joyce Dicks, President  
 Six Rivers Chapter CLMA  
[jdicks@shrinenet.org](mailto:jdicks@shrinenet.org)



**Chapter Excellence Award for Communication**  
**Chapter Excellence Award for Education**

*(l-r) Joyce Dicks, President, Six Rivers Chapter, Ruth Pollison, CCL Chair-elect, Judy A. Lien, CLMA President*

## Member Benefit



### NEW SIX RIVERS CLMA MEMBER BENEFIT!!!

Beginning this year, all MEMBERS of our chapter who attend any of our chapter sponsored events will receive ONE ENTRY into a drawing for a FREE REGISTRATION for the following year's CLMA ThinkLab!!! Next year's ThinkLab will be in Houston, Texas! The more events you attend, the more chances you have to win! The entry will be drawn after the Fall Conference and any events held after the Fall Conference will be placed in the next year's drawing. Good luck and hope to see you soon!

## SmartLab: The Power of Business Literacy

Laboratory professionals are technically trained but are often not trained in the art and science of business. As the laboratory environment becomes more of a business environment, business skills and savvy are essential for the laboratory manager. This session introduces the laboratory manager to the concept of business planning, including strategic analysis, marketing, operational planning, and financial analysis. With this basic knowledge, the laboratory manager is better equipped to analyze and present his/her business idea to decision-makers.

"The Power of Business Literacy" is an interactive learning experience based on a realistic case study using a combination of presentation and experiences to enable participants to develop business planning skills and the confidence to present their new business ideas to decision makers.

You will learn:

- The importance of preparing a thoughtful, well-researched, and complete business idea.
- The elements of a good business plan and how they speak to each of the different decision makers involved.

How to create a business plan by implementing specific exercises, including marketing and operating plans, budgets, and income statements.

**Program and Education Updates: Save the Date for SmartLab**

**CLMA SmartLab!!!!**

**At CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, COLUMBUS  
In the Education Center, Room ED025A  
July 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006 8:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.**

**AGENDA**

- 8:00 a.m.-8:30 a.m. Registration and Continental breakfast
- 8:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. The Power of Business Literacy**
- 12:00 p.m.-1:00 p.m. Lunch
- 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. Wrap-Up/Q&A**
- 2:00 p.m.-2:30 p.m. Six Rivers Chapter Updates ORV Planning Committee  
Fall Conference
- 2:30 p.m.-3:30 p.m. ChildLab Tours**  
Tour the new laboratories!
- 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. ORV Planning Meeting/Conference Call  
Laboratory Conference Room

**Speaker Sponsored by:**



**SPACE IS LIMITED SO MAKE YOUR RESERVATION TODAY!!!**

**RSVP by July 7<sup>th</sup> via Registration Form on page 3.**

This conference is approved for CEU credits.

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**CLMA SmartLab REGISTRATION**

**CLMA Members\*\*:** \$20.00  
**Non-members:** \$30.00  
**CLT/CLS Students** (must provide letter from program director): **FREE!**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Title:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Organization:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ph:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Make check payable: CLMA SIX RIVERS CHAPTER**

Mail to: Jade Wilson, Program Chair  
Children's Hospital, Lab Administration  
700 Childrens Drive  
Columbus, OH 43205

Contact info: [wilsojad@chi.osu.edu](mailto:wilsojad@chi.osu.edu)  
Phone: 614-722-5376  
Fax: 614-722-5308

**\*\* All Six Rivers chapter members in attendance will also receive one entry into the drawing for a FREE registration to CLMA ThinkLab '07.**

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## Program and Education Update: Save the Date for Fall Conference

### 2006 FALL CONFERENCE

September 14–15, 2006

Deer Creek Conference Center

### TRICKS OF THE TRADE—

**Who Says You Can't Teach Lab Management New Tricks?**



**Thursday, September 14, 2006**

#### **Evening Cookout & Networking Event**

A relaxed format for vendors and customers to socialize.

**Friday, September 15, 2006**

#### **Day Long Program that includes:**

Vendor Exhibits

Silent Auction for Student Scholarships

Luncheon & Annual Meeting

#### **Program:**

The morning agenda includes a fast paced, highly interactive program from **Ron Pickett**, who will entertain and inform us about the **politics that exist in organizations; that politics can be understood and managed, and that denial won't make politics go away!**

#### **His presentation highlights include:**

- \* The Political Face of the Organization
- \* Influence and Survival Strategies
- \* Supporting your POCTs
- \* Keeping your Department (relatively) Free of Politics
- \* Self Assessment and Personal Development Plan
- \* Sources of Power
- \* Ethical Politics
- \* Political Competencies

The afternoon will focus on two of the hottest process improvement techniques in healthcare today, **Lean** and **Six Sigma Methodologies**. These sessions will also be interactive with hands-on activities and simulations that will be both educational and fun. In addition, staff from **Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center** will present results from their recent Lean campaign to reduce specimen turn around time and discuss the next steps in their Lean journey. The Lean and Six Sigma facilitators will be from **TechSolve, Inc.**, a non-profit organization composed of a team of business experts, engineers and scientists chartered to help a broad spectrum of organizations implement and sustain process improvements.

**Watch the Six Rivers Chapter Website for updates: [www.sixriversclma.org](http://www.sixriversclma.org)  
or contact Jade Wilson at [wilsojad@chi.osu.edu](mailto:wilsojad@chi.osu.edu)**

*The resource for laboratory professionals.*

## Political Action Committee Award Winners

### SIX RIVERS CLMA

Renee Cuevas-Downs  
Secretary, Six Rivers Chapter  
700 Children's Drive  
Columbus, Ohio 43205

Phone: 614-722-5389  
Fax: 614-722-5308  
Email: [cuevasr@childlab.com](mailto:cuevasr@childlab.com)



Paul Labbe, Vice President of Operations for Compunet Clinical Laboratories, received the 2005 PAC Contributor of the Year award for his outstanding advocacy activities and fundraising support for the PAC on behalf of the Six Rivers Chapter.

[www.sixriversclma.org](http://www.sixriversclma.org)



Wendell O'Neal, PhD, President of the Whisk Group, received an award as 2005's Top Financial Contributor of the Year (shown below at right with Katharine Ayres).

## What is a Political Action Committee (PAC)?

A PAC - Political Action Committee - is a voluntary organization of individuals with a common interest who maximize their impact on campaigns and elections. The central idea behind a PAC is to allow like-minded persons (employees, union members, trade association members, issue advocates, etc.) a convenient way to pool their financial resources and, on a coordinated and centralized basis, make contributions to candidates. PACs are a logical extension of our democratic process -- they are legal, ethical and strictly regulated by U.S. federal law. PACs have helped to ensure that ordinary citizens can – and do – play a role in the election of qualified people to represent them in government.