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# Six Rivers

## CHAPTER CHATTER

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Volume 2, Issue 3

August, 2002

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### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

#### CONGRATULATIONS “CHAPTER OF THE YEAR” MEMBERS!!

I wish that all of you could have attended the 2002 National Conference in New Orleans! What a thrill it was to hear our Chapter announced as “Chapter of the Year”! This has been a personal dream of mine for several years, as well as part of the strategic plan of our chapter. I want to thank each and every member for their contributions to the winning of this award. In addition I want to thank the current and past Board Members for their patience and dedication in documenting our achievements and always keeping their eyes on this goal. Through this process we have been recognized as leaders in the Clinical Laboratory Management community. What an honor to be a part of such a chosen group! And what a perfect ending for me personally as I complete my term as your president!

Plan now to participate even more in our chapter activities! Attend the National conference next year in Salt Lake City! I can guarantee that you will find the time well spent!

#### CHAPTER of COUNCIL PRESIDENTS’ MEETING

The CCP meeting took place Wed June 26 prior to the start of the Annual Conference in New Orleans. Over 100 CLMA leaders nationwide attended. Paul Labbe (President Elect), Joyce Dicks (Board Member) and I represented the Six Rivers Chapter.

During the meeting we received information from the CLMA president, Tony Kurec on the strategic initiatives of the National Office. Key objectives include continued improvement of internal and external communication as well as increased support of regional and chapter meetings through corporate sponsorship. Bob Neri, Executive Vice President of CLMA, discussed the changes in format of the National Conference including the joint planning with ASCP and the redistribution of handouts using CD-ROM. Next year’s conference is in Salt Lake City in June, while the 2003 meeting will probably be moved to the March/April timeframe in order to reduce the conflicts with the AACC conference.

Charlie Fenstermaker, CLMA Director of Marketing, discussed membership initiatives. Included in his plans are solicitation of CEOs and improvement in recruitment and retention of CLMA members. The development of formal orientation programs at the chapter level was encouraged. “Chat rooms” were also discussed. Early involvement of new members was emphasized. A chapter development fund has been established. Grants of up to \$500 can be awarded to struggling chapters to try to assist them.

Chapter member awards were announced. Our own Kathy Good was one of the 3 winners. Congratulations, Kathy! We are all proud of you!

Bob Anselmo of the Delaware Valley Chapter is the new Chair-elect of the CCP group.

The afternoon was spent networking while taking a riverboat tour of New Orleans or golfing. The rain put a damper on the activities, but the company was still great. Sharing with others and learning from their experiences is one of my favorite parts of the CCP group! The next meeting will be held in January. Any chapter member interested in becoming more involved in this group please let me know!

Dorothy Skidmore

**Six Rivers Chapter  
Officers & Board Members**

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**Communication**

Jenny Murray

**Membership**

Liz Maxwell

**Education**

Joyce Dicks

**Healthcare Policy**

Paul Labbe

**Strategic Planning**

Kathy Good (513) 872-6034  
[kgood@shrinenet.org](mailto:kgood@shrinenet.org)

Visit our chapter web site for all  
the latest info!

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

**Membership**

A warm welcome to our newest members of the Six Rivers Chapter of CLMA! They are:

Mary Jo Wantland – Greiner Bio-One  
M W Sales Rep

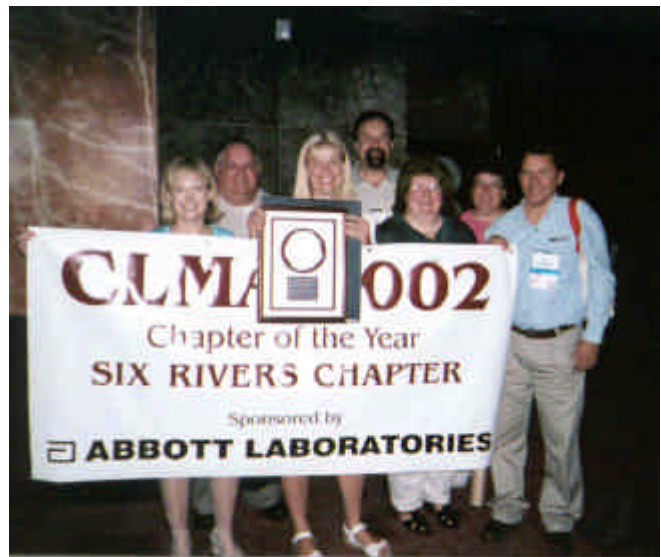
Thomas Brennan – Airnet Express  
VP Medical Sales

Karen Knapp – Children’s Hospital Columbus  
Dept. of Lab Medicine -- QA Regulatory  
Specialist

Daniel J. Hapner – Laboratory Manager  
Dayton Oncology & Hematology, PA

The entire Board and Membership would  
like to welcome these new members.

Reminder: Please renew your membership if the  
expiration date is near. Every member is very  
important to the success of our chapter.



*CHAPTER CHATTER- published quarterly, usually in  
February, May, August and November as an educational  
service to members. The deadline for material  
for publication is the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month preceding the  
month of issue. Articles are welcome!*

Contact:

Barb Keehn, (937) 297-8303  
[barb.a.keehn@questdiagnostics.com](mailto:barb.a.keehn@questdiagnostics.com)

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**More: Chapter of the Year Award**

I had the distinct honor and pleasure of being part of the Six Rivers Chapter members that accepted the Chapter of the Year Award at the National CLMA Conference in New Orleans during the opening ceremonies on Thursday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. It was gratifying to see that the team's hard work over the past couple of years was recognized on a national level, and I hope you feel the same sense of pride I have in being a member of the Six Rivers Chapter.

A special thanks and congratulations to Kathy Good, who led the Strategic Planning Committee and the Chapter of the Year application, but also was awarded the National CLMA Member of the Year award. Thanks Kathy! And congratulations to all Six Rivers Members who through their active participation in the various activities helped our chapter receive this prestigious award. Check out the pictures on our web site at [www.sixriversclma.org](http://www.sixriversclma.org) or the direct link <http://www.sixriversclma.org/newsletter/newsletter.html>

Or the National CLMA site at:

<http://www.clma.org/pubmain.cfm?section=chapters&page=award>

Paul Labbe  
President-Elect



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**Elections are coming soon!! Watch for your ballot**

**YOUR SLATE OF CANDIDATES for SIX RIVERS BOARD**

**PRESIDENT-ELECT CANDIDATE**

**Joyce Dicks, B.S., MT(ASCP)**

Director, Clinical Laboratory Services  
Shriners Hospitals for Children  
Cincinnati Burns Hospital

Joyce has been a CLMA member since 1993 and is an active Six Rivers chapter board member, program committee chair, and chair of the 2003 Ohio River Valley Regional Conference. Joyce also represents Six Rivers chapter at the national level by serving on a reactor panel developing measures to evaluate clinical laboratories.

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## BOARD CANDIDATES

### **Cynthia Griffith, B.S., MT(ASCP)**

Clinical Manager of Technical Services  
Middletown Regional Hospital Laboratory

Cynthia graduated from Cumberland College in Williamsburg, Kentucky and served her clinical rotation at Kettering Medical Center in 1974. Since then, she has worked in the Laboratory at Middletown. She has served on the board, and as both Secretary and President of the Greater Miami Valley Chapter of CLMA before the joint Six Rivers Chapter was formed. She was active in the planning committee for the first Ohio River Valley Region CLMA meetings and currently sits on the Program committee for the 2003 regional meeting. She is a resident of Miamisburg, Ohio and is the President of the Miami Township Zoning Commission.

### **Dan Hapner, M.A., MT(ASCP)**

Lab Manager  
Dayton Oncology and Hematology PA

Dan has been a medical technologist since 1976. He worked at Kettering Medical Center from 1976 until Oct 2001 when he started his current job as Lab Manager of 4 sites for Dayton Oncology and Hematology PA, a job that he thoroughly enjoys. From 1978 until 1987 he also worked at Childrens in Dayton during which time he helped start the first chapter of CLMA in Dayton. He was active in ASMT, OSMT, and National officer for student bowl and bylaws back in the 1980's. Currently he is an active member of the Dayton Ski Club, ASMT and CLMA. He is also on the US Oncology board for Lab Managers. His main interests are Hematology and Oncology but he has held many different positions from treasurer to president to trip leader etc. He relates "I look forward to helping to make CLMA a strong group and will help in any way I can."

### **Pam Oliver MT(ASCP)SI, MBA**

Project Manager, Hospital Alliances & Service  
LabCorp, Dublin, Ohio

Pam took her first step into clinical laboratory management after being a bench technologist for seven years. She comments that "CLMA saw me through this transition by training me in "Management 101" and boosting my self-confidence. The membership feedback I continue to receive has supported me through managing a CAP-certified POL, supervising three LabCorp technical departments and managing multi-faceted hospital alliance projects." Pam has been a CLMA member since 1987 and served as a board member, treasurer and government liaison for the Central Ohio Chapter. She currently serves on the Six Rivers Chapter Membership Committee and would enjoy expanding her role in this great, motivated chapter as an active board member.

### **Jim Shultz MBA**

Chemistry Sales Representative  
Dade-Behring

Jim entered the laboratory profession through a sales position in molecular genetics with Dupont in 1986. Through his sales positions he has learned a lot about labs and health-care trends. Currently, in his position at Dade-Behring, he focuses on lab work as a process. Jim has been a member of CLMA for 10 years. He has served on several different committees in the past and is interested in becoming involved again. He thinks that it is up to each one of us to get involved and make the job and laboratory industry attractive and enjoyable. He believes that "now is the time to move"!

## Chapter Member Survey

Thanks to everyone who participated in our annual member survey, distributed in May! 17 members responded (about 14% of chapter membership). Congratulations to Pam Oliver who won the \$50 drawing!





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## **Health Care Policy Committee Update**

### **CLMA Political Action Committee (PAC):**

Christine Diehl, CLMA President-Elect, updated the Council of Chapter Presidents on the initial progress made with the National CLMA establishing a Political Action Committee (PAC) on June 18, prior to the national conference. The Health Care Policy Committee was a major player in forming the PAC, after surveying the CLMA members twice to gain their input. Most CLMA members feel that a PAC will help CLMA obtain more status on government rules and regulations, and ensure that laboratory interests are represented.

A number of sister organizations have a PAC, and will work in conjunction with each other on, and pool their resources, as appropriate, on health care policy making processes. ASCLS, CAP, AAB all have Political Action Committees that gain support from their membership through contributions, and CLMA's goal for the first year is \$10,000. Contributions may be made by CLMA members, CLMA employees, executive level employees of the PAC committee and approved corporate members. Contributions are personal and are not tax deductible, therefore a chapter cannot contribute. The CLMA PAC was still being finalized, with the Mission Statement and the seven member board pending CLMA board approval, with the function of the PAC board as fundraising, expenditures, advice and administration. Representation of the PAC board will mirror the CLMA national membership, and the issues that will be lobbied for will be channeled from the general membership, to the Health Care Policy Committee to the Political Action Committee.

You will be receiving more information on the CLMA Political Action Committee very soon, so you may make an informed choice on your level of participation.

### **Professional Outreach Committee Update**

Last fall the Six Rivers Board decided to form a committee to promote our profession. In the face of dwindling applicants for vacant Laboratory Technical positions and staff retention problems at many facilities, we decided this should be one of the major missions of our chapter. This is where all of you come in! We need to leverage all of the membership to maximize the potential impact. All of you are emissaries of the Clinical Lab profession and the time is here when we need to stand together and tell everyone the wonderful things we accomplish.

The Committee is looking at several ways to accomplish our goals; some of the possibilities are: career fairs, science fairs, supporting secondary education teachers and an interactive communication link to the Technical school / University based programs. The Chapter would provide support materials such as handouts and power point slides, coordinate volunteers, scholarships and other possible financial support.

Our first order of business requires your help. We would appreciate your response to the following:

- ❖ Are you involved with any professional outreach activities; ie, career fairs, science fairs, tours, etc.? Please provide the details.
- ❖ Are there opportunities you are aware of for which you need help?
- ❖ We would especially like to know if there are events you are forced to turn down due to other time commitments. The committee would be glad to take this information from the membership and attempt to find volunteers for as many worthwhile events as we can support.
- ❖ If you would like to be a volunteer, please let us know what areas interest you.

Speaking from personal experience, being involved with these activities can be enjoyable, rewarding, and a chance to share that Clinical knowledge with hungry minds.

Please call or e-mail your replies to (513) 357-7229 or [Jim.Reynolds@RCC.org](mailto:Jim.Reynolds@RCC.org)

Thanks, Jim Reynolds, Cincinnati Health Dept

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## **Upcoming Meetings**

**Six Rivers Chapter Fall Conference**, Deer Creek State Park, Ohio, October 10, 2002. Contact Joyce Dicks at (513) 872-6325 or e-mail: [jdicks@shrinenet.org](mailto:jdicks@shrinenet.org) or visit the web site [www.sixriversclma.org](http://www.sixriversclma.org)

**ASCP Workshops for Lab Professionals**, Indianapolis, November 19-21, 2002

December 12, 2002 - **Winter Workshop Day** - sponsored by Alliance Lab Services and Six Rivers CLMA, Cincinnati, OH. A full day of education including management and technical topics. Pre-registration fee: \$20. For more information, contact Linda Lowe, 513-585-6694.

**Ohio River Valley Region Conference & Exhibition** - April 30- May 1, 2003, Kings Island Resort and Conference Center, Kings Island, OH. Co-sponsored by CLMA chapters in Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio Valley Section of AACC.

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