



# Six Rivers CHAPTER CHATTER



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Volume 2, Issue 1

February, 2002

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## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

WELCOME 2002!!

Each year as I celebrate the coming of the new year, I am filled with excitement and anticipation of the future. As the days follow, somehow my enthusiasm wanes, especially as I trudge through the cold short winter days. But I have found a way to maintain my energy and hope for the future!

During the second weekend of January I flew to San Antonio for the semi-annual Council of Chapter Presidents' Meeting. I was looking forward to warm weather and sunshine, but somewhat leery about giving up "my" weekend...and facing the new experience of air travel since September 11. What I got from the weekend was a renewal of my commitment to laboratory medicine and CLMA! How wonderful it feels to have the opportunity to make a difference in the world! Even if that difference impacts only one person, it feels great! The group talked about Websites, Career Days, collaborative meetings and government advocacy. (See "CCP Meeting" article.) We enjoyed interactive discussions about creativity and managing change. What inspiration it was to be a part of such a dedicated and supportive group!

If you have never served as an officer or board member for CLMA, consider volunteering now...you will receive far more than what you give. Yes, it requires some time, but in the end you will know you have made a difference in our laboratory world. We are looking now for candidates to run for 2 year terms as Board Members and President Elect. Please give us a call! I guarantee you will be invigorated and energized by your involvement! What a great way to start the new year!

And what will our chapter be doing this year? We are still striving to reach the Chapter of the Year Award. We are meeting with educators to try to get the word out to students about what laboratory science is all about. We are working with representatives in the government to affect change that will result in better laboratories for all of us. We are educating our coworkers by organizing educational meetings and inservices. WE are making a difference and YOU CAN TOO!

Thank you for caring enough to be involved!  
Dorothy Skidmore

Don't Forget  
Ohio River Valley Regional Meeting  
Indianapolis, IN  
March 13& 14

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**Six Rivers Chapter  
Officers & Board Members**

**PRESIDENT**

Dorothy Skidmore (513) 584-1794  
skidmodb@healthall.com

**PRESIDENT ELECT**

Paul Labbe (937) 297-8204  
paul.r.labbe@questdiagnostics.com

**SECRETARY**

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murrayj@chi.osu.edu

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Wolterdj@healthall.com

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Joyce Dicks (513) 872-6325  
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[Jim.reynolds@chdburn.rcc.org](mailto:Jim.reynolds@chdburn.rcc.org)

**COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

**Communication**

Jenny Murray

**Membership**

Liz Maxwell

**Education**

Joyce Dicks

**Healthcare Policy**

Paul Labbe

**Strategic Planning**

Kathy Good (513) 872-6034  
kgood@shrinenet.org

Visit our chapter web site for all  
the latest info!

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

**CHAPTER of COUNCIL PRESIDENTS' MEETING**

The CCP meeting was held in San Antonio, TEX on January 18-20, 2002. The meeting started with a CLMA Executive Office Update given by Bob Neri, Executive VP of National CLMA. He give us information about the National CLMA meeting in New Orleans in June....that the ASCP meeting was occurring in conjunction with it, and that the traditional President's party is being moved to the end of the conference. He stated his goal is for CLMA is to gain one new member for every working day during the next two years. New member benefits are being offered including online educational programs and an online job board. Check out [www.clma.org](http://www.clma.org). Charlie Fenstermaker is working on CLMA sponsorship and industry partners. Abbott Diagnostics has already committed over \$200,000 in cash and services!!! THANK YOU Abbott Diagnostics!!

Highlights included a report form the Information Technology Task Force on the new Chapter Website Template that will make it easier for us to maintain our Chapter information on the internet. Career Day information (available under "What's New?" section of [www.clma.org](http://www.clma.org) ) was demonstrated. This powerpoint presentation can be downloaded so that you can present to your local schools! "Planning a Successful Collaborative Meeting" included a short presentation of our Chapter experiences in planning our Ohio River Valley meeting as well as the experiences of several other groups. A long discussion final discussion centered on the role of CLMA in the formation of a Political Advocacy Group (PAC) to support the campaign of national politicians attentive to the issues of CLMA members.

In addition to the information sharing, leadership sessions were presented on creativity and managing change in the laboratory. Participants competed in a friendly team scavenger hunt on Saturday evening which provided great entertainment and fun for all.

On a personal note, this meeting was a great spirit lifter for me! Anyone interested in attending the CCP in the future, just join our CLMA leadership group!!!!

*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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## Committee Reports

### Membership

Happy 2002 from the Membership Committee!

We are busy looking at our goals for the year and planning a bright and growing year. The entire board and membership would like to welcome our newest members to the Six Rivers Chapter. They are:

Wanda Smith, Supervisor of Specimen Processors, Health Alliance, The University Hospital [smithwl@healthall.com](mailto:smithwl@healthall.com)

Elaine Ewald, Lab Services Manager, CMH Regional Health System  
[elewald@cmhregional.com](mailto:elewald@cmhregional.com)

Scott Bosley, Vice President, Biometex  
[scott@biometex.com](mailto:scott@biometex.com)

Cathi O'Brien, Director Allied Travel Division, HPO Healthcare Staffing  
[cobrien@healthpersonnel.com](mailto:cobrien@healthpersonnel.com)

Jane Tester, Administrative Director of Lab Services, Wayne Hospital  
[jane.test@waynehospital.com](mailto:jane.test@waynehospital.com)

Michael Toncray, Technical Support Specialist, Bayer Diagnostics  
[michael.toncray.b@bayer.com](mailto:michael.toncray.b@bayer.com)

As Michael Toncray stated, Membership in CLMA is important "to keep in touch with and among laboratory professionals and their everyday needs and concerns in the quick changing environment of Healthcare. **Clinical Leadership and Management Review**, the CLMA Journal, the CLMA e-mails really keep all of us aware of national news and trends".

*Please join us in sending them a warm welcome.*

The Six Rivers Chapter currently has 132 members. We are always working to increase and maintain our membership, so do not hesitate to

'Spread the Word' about CLMA and the many benefits to all in the laboratory field.

Just a reminder that the new Membership Dues are \$125. which includes the national and individual chapter dues.

Also, if any member is interested in running for the Six Rivers Chapter Board, please let me know at [maxwell902@aol.com](mailto:maxwell902@aol.com) or Dorothy Skidmore [skidmodb@healthall.com](mailto:skidmodb@healthall.com). Elections will be held in the coming months.

Liz Maxwell, Membership Chair ( [maxwell902@aol.com](mailto:maxwell902@aol.com) )

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### Communication

#### **Objective:**

The communications committee will provide optimal and effective communications and connectivity to all chapter members through the use of a variety of tools and communications media.

#### **Goal 1.2.:**

1. Provide prompt feedback to surveys and suggestions. (2002)
  2. Communicate results and actions. (2002)
  3. Maintain and enhance chapter website. (2002)
  4. Publish a quarterly Chapter newsletter. (2002)
  5. Develop a facility contact database, so that newsletters and other communications can be sent to each hospital laboratory within the chapter's geographic boundaries. (2002)
  6. Send communications via mass e-mail. Those members that do not have an e-mail address would receive communications by mail. (2002)
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## HealthCare Policy

For 2002, we welcome John Boblett, Community Hospital in Springfield as a new member to the HealthCare Policy Committee. He replaces Bob Ziembowicz who moved to Michigan late last year. Members are as follows:

Paul Labbe	CompuNet Clinical Laboratories, Dayton
937-297-8204	<a href="mailto:paul.r.labbe@questdiagnostics.com">paul.r.labbe@questdiagnostics.com</a>
Debi Wolterman	Alliance Lab Services, Cincinnati
	513-585-6688 <a href="mailto:wolterdj@healthall.com">wolterdj@healthall.com</a>
Sandra Russ	Mt. Carmel Health, Columbus
	614-234-6779 <a href="mailto:sruss@mchs.com">sruss@mchs.com</a>
John Hauss	Children's Hospital, Columbus
	614-722-5305 <a href="mailto:Haussj@chi.osu.edu">Haussj@chi.osu.edu</a>
Joan Longberry	Consultant, Columbus
	614-267-3450 <a href="mailto:JFLongberry@cs.com">JFLongberry@cs.com</a>
John Boblett	Community Hospital, Springfield
	937-328-9471 <a href="mailto:john.boblett@communityhospital.com">john.boblett@communityhospital.com</a>
John Sherer	CompuNet Clinical Labs, Dayton
	937-297-8241 <a href="mailto:john.w.sherer@questdiagnostics.com">john.w.sherer@questdiagnostics.com</a>
Debbie Rodgers	Hocking Valley Community Hospital, Logan
	740-385-5631 ext 201 fax: 740-380-8194

Our goals for 2002 tie in with the Six Rivers CLMA strategic plan and are as follows:

**Objective:** To inform and advise Chapter members on legislative and regulatory affairs and to establish an effective dialogue with governmental representatives, assuring that the clinical laboratory voice is heard.

**Goal 1:** Promote HealthCare Policies that are favorable to the clinical laboratory in compliance, reimbursement, and patient advocacy.

**Goal 4.2:** Develop and maintain key contacts within the community.

**Goal 4.3** Report progress annually to the membership

Over the past few months, the committee has represented the membership in:

- responding to a national CLMA survey on Political Action Committees
- participated in promotion of HB 3388 to improve reimbursement from Medicare for venipunctures from \$3.00 to \$5.50.
- promoted HR 3448 to address laboratory personnel shortage and encourage sponsorship and grants to attract qualified applicants to the profession.
- Responding to a CLMA survey on the 3 top issues facing laboratories today
- Utilized the following list to solicit support for the above mentioned bills

Key Ohio members serving on House Ways and Means & Energy and Commerce Committees are as follows:

Rob Portman (R-2nd district) 202-225-3164

Paul Gilmor (R-5th district) 202-225-6405

Ted Strickland (D-6th district) 202-225-5705

Sherrod Brown (D-13th district) 202-225-3401

Thomas Sawyer (D-14th district) 202-2255231

Or utilize the following web site for more contact information: <http://www.house.gov/writerep/>

Your voice and opinions matter - please help support your profession by contacting your representatives in government!

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## Program Committee

- Lab Career Promotion Meeting – Fri., Feb. 1, Dayton Heart Hospital
- 22 members and 10 educators attended.
- Excellent collaboration with general session and small group discussions.

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### Six Rivers CLMA Clinical Lab Career Promotion Meeting – February 1, 2002

On Friday, Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> a group of Six Rivers members and clinical laboratory science educators from 13 college or hospital-based programs met for an all-day meeting at Dayton Heart Hospital, Dayton, OH. Six Rivers Board organized this event to investigate how CLMA could help make a difference in promoting our profession, encouraging today's youth to consider a career in clinical lab science, and supporting the excellent CLS/MT and CLT/MLT programs in our area of the country.

We spent the morning discussing the issues facing our profession, including school closings, fewer students entering training programs, lack of adequate funding, an aging workforce, and shortages of qualified professionals. Our educators have also been “doing more with less” as they teach long hours, recruit prospective students, and develop cooperative internet-based courses. We viewed CLMA's new career promotion powerpoint presentation, which is downloadable at [www.clma.org](http://www.clma.org), as well as other excellent resources. ASCP also provides great presentation materials.

Bruce Fiscus shared the innovative internship program for Radiology Technician and Medical Laboratory Technician at Dearborn County Hospital, Lawrenceburg, Indiana. These internships provide third year high school students educational and employment opportunities, including college tuition in accredited 2-year associate degree programs.

We then divided into four focus groups to explore and develop ideas and strategies. Six Rivers Professional Outreach committee will study this wealth of information and develop a specific plan of action for the chapter. Our hope is to encourage all our members to get involved. One very doable suggestion from the group is to contact your high school alma mater or other high school in your community. Volunteer to participate in a career day or to help judge a science fair. These are always popular in the spring, so act soon!

All participants agreed that this first collaboration was a terrific success and we have committed to meet semiannually. We extend a special thank you to Jim Shultz and Dade Behring for providing the day's refreshments.

If you are interested in helping develop our chapter's outreach plans, please contact Jim Reynolds, Cincinnati Health Department, (513) 357-7230, [jim.reynolds@chdburn.rcc.org](mailto:jim.reynolds@chdburn.rcc.org).



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More Pictures from the educator's meeting



Small Group  
Discussions

What were our  
conclusions?



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# Ohio River Valley Chapters of CLMA

Vendor  
Exhibits

Evening  
Entertainment

## & Ohio Valley Section AACC

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR TO "REACH FOR THE STARS"  
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[HTTP://ADAMSMARK.COM/INDIANAPOLIS/TIMEETING.HTM](http://adamsmark.com/indianapolis/timeeting.htm)

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☆ Anne Pontius ☆ Elaine Brett  
and many more stars

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☆ Motivation vs Discipline ☆ Emotional Intelligence  
☆ Advances in Diabetes, Hemostasis  
Pharmacogenetics & Congestive Heart Failure  
☆ Workplace Humor  
☆ Compliance & Legislative updates

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### SHOW YOUR STAR POTENTIAL 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Poster Presentations

Please accept our invitation to present a poster describing a stellar research project in your laboratory.

### Poster Topics include:

☆ Management ☆  
☆ Education ☆  
☆ Clinical Sciences ☆

☆☆☆☆

Networking Dinner and Interactive Virtual Games at Jillian's

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For more information visit the website - [www.ohiorivervalley.org](http://www.ohiorivervalley.org) or contact Mary Kay (765) 472-8028

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If additional brochures are needed, contact Kathy Good via email: [kgood@shrinenet.org](mailto:kgood@shrinenet.org).

## Help Wanted!

Are you looking for a way to get involved with the Six Rivers Chapter but are not quite sure where to begin? Well... have we got a job for you!? Of course we do!

The committees are working hard to make your chapter meet the needs of it's members, including you. We have some job openings for tasks that need to be done but do not require years worth of commitment. Please consider helping out with one or more of the items listed below:

### Communications Committee:

1. Assist with the publication of the quarterly newsletter.
2. Assist with the maintenance of the web page.
3. Participate in the "Buddy System" Act as a members contact for members in you geographic area.
4. Assist with mailings and other communications. May involve updating the membership database and contacting members for up-to-date contact information.

### Program Committee:

1. Help plan the Six Rivers Fall Conference, scheduled for 10/11/2002.
2. Serve as chairperson for chapter 2003 Lab Week Celebration.
3. Assist with various duties for chapter programs, ie. Registration, CEUs, speaker liaison, sponsorship.

### Membership Committee:

1. New Member Packets – This member would be in charge of preparing CLMA/Six Rivers information for new members. All materials are supplied to you separately. This would require minimal time commitment, but would be a great help to the membership committee and the chapter.
2. Lapsing Member Contact – This chapter member would make contact, either via phone or E-mail, to remind lapsing members to renew their membership to CLMA.
3. Renewing Member Thank You Letter – This member would be in charge of sending our "thank you" letter to renewing members for their renewal.
4. Newsletter Contact – This member would be in charge of preparing the article from the membership committee for the chapter newsletter. The topics could be about membership or another topic of interest.

### Strategic Planning Committee:

1. Assist in the assembly of the Chapter of the Year binders.

### Professional Outreach Committee:

1. Help seek grant money for outreach projects.
2. Help develop chapter resource library for career recruitment.
3. Serve as liaison to area educators (high school and college) Preferably several individuals spread throughout the chapter boundaries.

### Finance Committee:

1. Investigate new fund raising ideas for the chapter.

### HealthCare Policy Committee:

1. Write letters to your politician when vital issues arise. Please send a copy to Paul Labbe so we can document our activities.

If you are interested in any of the tasks listed above, please contact the committee chair via E-mail or telephone. Thanks for volunteering to make our chapter stronger!

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# National Medical Laboratory Week

April 14 – 20, 2002

## Laboratory Professionals: Quality Care Through Quality Testing



For planning information see:  
[www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org)

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### **Laboratory Manager – Hospital Based**

We are seeking an experienced hospital based Laboratory Manager for multi locations with 82 employees 7.2 Million net revenue, inpatient hospital lab and Outpatient Lab for over 150 clients.

Located in Kitsap County in the western portion of Washington State, Bremerton is situated between the majestic Cascade and Olympic mountain ranges. Bremerton and Kitsap County sit directly across Puget Sound from Seattle and serve as the gateway to the spectacular Olympic Peninsula. Our geographic area contains 228 miles of shoreline, and is rich with recreational opportunities. The location, the lifestyle, and the livability of the Bremerton area prompts people to locate here, then entices them to stay, raise their families and prosper.

Excellent benefits and relocation package, compensation based upon skills and previous experience.

For details contact::

Kim Rigby  
Holtermann & Associates  
888-778-0098

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## **Upcoming Meetings**

ASCP Workshops for Laboratory Professionals, Chicago, April 2-5, 2002. [www.ascp.org](http://www.ascp.org).

SCACM (South Central Association for Clinical Microbiology), , April 25-27, 2002, Crown Plaza Hotel and Dayton Convention Center, Dayton, OH, [pages.prodigy.com/scacm/scmorg.htm](http://pages.prodigy.com/scacm/scmorg.htm)

Ohio River Valley Regional Conference, Indianapolis, In, March 13-14, 2002 (Six Rivers members hard at work: Kathy Good, Sandy Frommeyer, Pat Walker, Donna Knight, Mary Beth Kasper and Joyce Dicks, Barb Keehn).

CLMA-ASCP-CAP Annual Conference & Exhibition, June 26-30, 2002, New Orleans, LA

Six Rivers Chapter Fall Conference, Deer Creek, (tentative) 10/10/2002

Six Rivers CLMA Chapter  
c/o Dorothy Skidmore  
3433 Riverdell Dr.  
Amelia, OH 45102

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