



Six Rivers

CHAPTER CHATTER

Volume 3, Issue 1

February, 2003

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings and Happy New Year!

Six Rivers Chapter members have been in the news lately!

- Congratulations to Stanley Gay, Operations Manager at LabNet of Ohio for winning a registration to the National CLMA conference in Salt Lake City, Utah in June for sponsoring a new member, and helping Six Rivers achieve the highest number of new members in this campaign.
- Congratulations to John Sherer, Compliance Officer at CompuNet Clinical Laboratories, for his article in Vantage Point on his years in the Medical Laboratory field.
- Congratulations (and welcome) to Michael Ashby, Laboratory Manager of Clinton Memorial Hospital, for his article in Vantage Point on his experiences in management and staff positions. Michael has recently moved to this area from Spokane, Washington.

See further details on our web site at: <http://www.sixriversclma.org/new/new.html>

It is very likely, that as you read this, Dorothy Skidmore and I will be at the CLMA Council of Chapter Presidents meeting in Orlando, Florida from February 7-9th. We will be learning the latest on CLMA national initiatives, along with helping to mentor new attendees. We will come back with new ideas on keeping our Six Rivers Chapter at the forefront of our profession, ensuring that the membership stays connected through networking of talent and ideas!

Within our own state, there is collaboration occurring among all of the Allied Health Professionals. On Saturday, February 15, the Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists are hosting a day long open discussion on

- Workforce shortage
- Recruitment and retainment
- Licensure
- Scopes of Practice
- Health Policy Monitoring

The goal of this session is to develop a network in which we can support each other legislatively and clinically while maintaining our professional scopes of practice.

On the national level, there is the "Capital Fly-In" on March 17-18th, where representatives from all of the national laboratory organizations are encouraged to fly to Washington D.C. and meet with their congressmen to lobby on behalf of our profession. For further information and your participation, contact me at 937-297-8204.

Check out the exciting meeting topics and conference highlights of the Ohio River Valley CLMA/AACC Conference to be held in our region at the Kings Island Conference Center on April 29-May 1. This collaboration between our regional chapters again follows the theme of working together to "stay connected" to celebrate and promote our profession. More information is available our Six Rivers web site or the ORV web site at <http://www.ohiorivervalley.org/> and you should be receiving a conference brochure very soon.

And finally, a mea culpa on my part, and an apology to Mary Bronk, who I had inadvertently kicked off the SRC board in my last newsletter article. Luckily Mary is a good sport and promised to fulfill her term of office which runs through 2003. Thanks Mary!

I hope to hear from all of our members throughout the year. This Six Rivers bunch is a great group, so reach out, participate, and stay connected!

Paul Labbe
President, Six Rivers CLMA Chapter

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Officers & Board Members**

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Membership

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Healthcare Policy

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Strategic Planning

Dorothy Skidmore

OutReach

Dorothy Skidmore

Visit our chapter web site for all
the latest info!

www.sixriversclma.org

Membership

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

Rebecca J. Burk
Laboratory Manager
Central Ohio Primary Care Physicians,
Columbus, OH

Susan Shull
Sr Clinical Applications Specialist
Dade Behring,
Galloway, OH

Jodee Wagner
Client Services
LabNet of Ohio
Columbus, OH

Laura Koneval
Account Specialist
Specialty Laboratories
Strongsville, OH

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

Note: Membership dues have increased:
National \$135
Local Chapter \$10

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 15th of the month preceding the
month of issue. Articles are welcome!

Contact:

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

Congratulations

"Sponsor a Member to CLMA" contest winner!

Congratulations to Stanley Gay, Operations Manager of LabNet of Ohio, who sponsored Jodee Wagner, also of LabNet, as a new member to the Six Rivers Chapter of CLMA. Stan wins a complimentary registration to the National CLMA conference in Salt Lake City, Utah in June 2003 valued at over \$500. See further details on our web site at:<http://www.sixriversclma.org/new/new.html>

Thanks to the 6 sponsors: Stanley Gay, Denise Butler, Kathy Good, Ed Tirakis, Jenny Murray, and Jim Shultz and welcome to our eight new members: Jodee Wagner, Kenneth Schnur, Jacqui Reithel, Paula Durkee, Jean Dupree, Renee Cuevas-Downs, Lita Jo Henman, and Susan Shull. This team was directly responsible for the Six Rivers Chapter receiving recognition at the national level through this membership campaign.

Membership Committee News - Pam Oliver

The Membership Committee met 1/9/03 via conference call. We had a great discussion about developing a "Buddy System" among our membership. Our hope is to match tenured CLMA members with our new members on a geographical basis. If you would consider signing up to be a mentoring buddy for a new member, or if you have additional questions, please contact:

The Professional Outreach Committee - Kathy Good

The Professional Outreach Committee has been concentrating its efforts in the following different areas.

- Collaboration: The committee met with Dr. Graeter at the University of Cincinnati and we are investigating the possibility of collaborating with them to offer a program for high school science teachers. In addition we are looking for ways for Six Rivers to fit in with programs that are already in place at UC for future potential students. We are trying to make similar contacts in Dayton and Columbus.
 - Career Presentations:
 - Packet: We are putting together a packet that can be borrowed and used for presentations to groups of potential laboratory scientists. The packet will include a powerpoint presentation (that can be edited for your particular purpose), copies of ASCP Lab Career brochures, a short CLMA videotape in which laboratory users thank the laboratory scientists, and ideas for wet workshops and presentations.
 - Meetings: 2 statewide meetings of high school career professionals have been identified where we may want to display laboratory careers. Specific details will follow.
 - Scholarship: Qualifications and criteria are being formalized.
- We are looking for input in the following (email skidmodb@healthall.com)
- Are you aware of any opportunities to interact high school teachers?
 - Do you have any ideas for presentations for high school students that we can add to our presentation packet?

Anyone interested in assisting us, please contact one of the committee members. Keep checking the web, the CLMA National and Six Rivers sites continue to be enhanced to serve you, our valuable members!

Legislative Update

Clinical Laboratory Coalition Report on Planning Meeting for 108th Congress, Dec. 18, 2002

By: John W. Sherer

The following organizations were represented at the December 18th Clinical Laboratory Coalition meeting held in Washington DC. CLMA, Abbott, AAB, ACLA, AMT, ASCLS, ASM, CAP, Ortho, Quest, and Roche.

The purpose of the meeting was to plan a strategy to proactively deal with reimbursement issue for year 2003. A recap of successes in 2002 include:

- Preservation of the CPI for 2003
- Thwarted serious threats of broad implementation of competitive bidding
- Developed a comprehensive set of materials on key issue for the coalition
- Delivered a unified message from the laboratory community to Members of Congress & staff
- Visits with all key members of the House Energy & Commerce Subcommittee, House Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, and Senate Finance Committee
- Through collective efforts, we are witnessing increasing power and influence of the coalition and community

It is feared that with the tremendous deficit spending (including costs of the military buildup against Iraq) and tax cuts, the government is going to be looking for money to pay for it. Laboratories will once again be a target. Historically, when somebody needs money, competitive bidding, the CPI update, and co-payment are put on the table to reduce spending.

The coalition participants identified the following issues and priorities for the coming year:

Defensive issues/Known Threats

Competitive Bidding
Co-Payments
CPI/Fee Schedule

Proactive issues

Specimen Collection
Increase Screening Benefits
Relative Value System
Support Workforce efforts
Work with NCI on Diagnostics

Plans were made for a Fly-In/Capitol Hill Lobby Day. The participants will receive briefings and training on March 17th and visit members of Congress and Senators on March 18th. The importance of grassroots participation was emphasized. Hopefully, each organization can provide 5 – 10 participants making sure that Congressmen and Senators serving on key committees are covered in these visits. Last year John Sherer and Joan Longberry attended the March Capitol fly In and visited their Congressmen and Senators.

Other ideas for Grassroots Advocacy was to form a network among Coalition Members of 8 – 10 people from each district who will purposefully visit congressmen at local Town house meetings and write letters to help educate Members of Congress and their Staff so they get to know local coalition members. It was also suggested we invite Members of Congress to visit out laboratories and at the same time discuss reimbursement issues. The Coalition will provide packets highlighting the key issues for the industry.

If you are interested in the Capitol Fly In March 17th and 18th, contact Paul Labbe at 1-937-297-8204. or visit the SRC website at www.sixriversclma.org.

Program Committee - Wanita Ruppert

The CLMA Program Committee held a teleconference on 1-22-03. Members present were Joyce Dicks, Sharon Kopczynski, and Wanita Ruppert

Plans are being made for sponsorship of a Six Sigma conference in May. It will be held in Columbus from 9:00AM-3:00PM with the date and site to be announced.

WATCH FOR OUR NEW BROADCAST MONTHLY E-MAIL!

....OUR WAY OF LETTING YOU KNOW WHAT YOUR SIX RIVERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES ARE DOING.....

Bayer Diagnostics Executive Management Program University of Notre Dame – April 6-10, 2003

CLMA is once again offering 20 full paid scholarships to this excellent opportunity. The program is presented by Notre Dame's Mendoza College of Business, Executive Education Department, and includes a comprehensive curriculum in strategic thinking, leadership and management principles.

I was selected, along with other laboratory managers and administrators, to attend the first program offered to CLMA members in November 2002, and it was an extraordinary experience. Not only did we learn and problem-solve together, but we also developed strong professional and personal ties which continue beyond the week at Notre Dame.

It's not too often such a valuable opportunity comes along! Please consider applying for one of CLMA's scholarships. Criteria include CLMA membership, primary duties that involve laboratory management (Lab Manager, Director, Asst. Director, Administrator), and no previous formal academic business training.

Deadline for scholarship applications is February 24, 2003. Information and applications are available at www.clma.org or by contacting Megan Wilmot, (610) 995-9580, ext. 4245 or email mwilmot@clma.org.

Communication Committee

We welcome Ed Tirakis from Drake Center Inc. to the Communications Committee. He will be maintaining the Six Rivers Chapter web page (sixriversclma.org) and assisting in other committee projects. Several of the chapter committees are working on small group meetings in each of the three cities (Dayton, Cincinnati, and Columbus). If anyone has any ideas for a small group meeting location or topic, please contact Jenny Murray at 614-722-5331 or murrayj@chi.osu.edu.

Chapter Leaders Conference -Late Breaking News

Dorothy Skidmore and Paul Labbe represented the Six Rivers Chapter of CLMA at the conference in Orlando of Chapter Leaders this past weekend. There were 80 CLMA leaders and National CLMA staff present, representing about 1/3 of the 76 US CLMA Chapters, with 22 first time attendees. We had presentations from the National Office on the State of the Organization, along with web site initiatives, and regional meeting updates. There were also presentations on Six Sigma, Recruitment Tools, and Marketing. Watch for more information in the May Newsletter.

Celebrate National Laboratory Week April 20-26, 2003

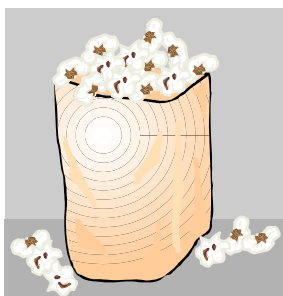


Looking for an inexpensive way to recognize each and every staff member?

While supporting CLMA educational efforts

Six Rivers chapter of CLMA is sponsoring a National Laboratory Week **Coffee, Candy & Popcorn Sale**

Breaktime favorites with a personal message for just \$1.00 each



For more information, contact
Kathy Good
(513) 872-6034
or
kgood@shrinenet.org



Sample personalized label message



Celebrate National Lab Week
April 20-26, 2003

Have a Break on us!

Special Thanks from *Your Name Here*

See attached order form:
Order by 4/1/03 for delivery prior to Lab Week



Candy Sale Order Form

Candy Type	Quantity Ordered	Cost/bar	Total Cost
2.25 oz M&M		\$1.00	
2.40 oz Snickers Bar		\$1.00	
3.0 oz Skittles		\$1.00	
2.40 oz Reeses' Cup		\$1.00	
2.24 oz KitKat		\$1.00	
Boston's Best Gourmet Coffee - Columbian		\$1.00	
Boston's Best Gourmet - Decaffeinated		\$1.00	
Boston's Best - French Vanilla Creme		\$1.00	
Microwave Popcorn packet		\$1.00	
Total			

Please PRINT personalized message below: _____

If you would like the message printed on the example with your name inserted, please just indicate your identification here: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Send Check and completed order form to:
Make checks payable to *Six Rivers CLMA*

Kathy Good
3142 Rockacres Ct.
Cincinnati, Ohio 45239

Questions? Call Kathy Good @ (513) 872-6034 or E-mail kgood@shrinenet.org

Soaring Into the Future

April 29-May 1, 2003



Ohio River Valley Regional Conference

Kings Island Resort & Conference Center

Keynote Speaker

Nancy Riesz MT(ASCP), MBA
“Leading the Way”

- ◆ Pre-conference workshop - Managing the Small Hospital Lab 4/29 6:30-8:30PM
- ◆ Early registration - wine & cheese 4/29 5:00-7:00PM
- ◆ Breakouts on managerial, regulatory and technical topics
- ◆ Expanded Vender Exhibit Hours
- ◆ Poster Session
- ◆ Networking Dinner at Valley Vineyards

Access www.ohiorivervalley.org for program information, updates and links for the conference.

Sponsored by:

CLMA Chapters:

Greater Indiana, Six Rivers, Blue Grass

& AACC Ohio Valley Section

For more information contact:

Joyce Dicks
Shriners Hospital for Children
3229 Burnet Ave
Cincinnati, OH 45229
jdicks@shrinenet.org 513-872-6325

Brochures are in the mail

Registration Deadline April 16

Call Hotel for reservations by April 9 (Mention that you are with CLMA)

"Complying with the New CLIA Standards "

Audio conference presented by AACC and ASCLS

Tuesday, February 25th, 2-3:15 p.m. Eastern Time.

Learn what these revisions mean for you and your lab and what you need to do to comply.

Alliance Lab Services is hosting in Cincinnati at the Alliance Business Center
Contact Linda Lowe, 513-585-6694, lowelk@healthall.com for details.

Compunet Clinical Labs is hosting in Dayton at 2308 Sandridge Dr.
Contact: Paul Labbe, 937-297-3204, paul.r.labbe@questdiagnostics.com

Upcoming Meetings

2003 ASCLS Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference March 6-8, 2003, New Orleans, for more information see www.ascls.org

"Make a Difference With ASCLS and CLMA", Legislative Symposium 2003, March 17-18, 2003, Washington, DC. See www.sixriversclma.org for details

SCACM Spring Meeting, April 10-12, 2003, Fort Wayne, IN, see www.scacm.org

"Quality Institute Conference 2003: Making the Laboratory a Key Partner in Patient Safety", Hosted by the CDC, April 13--15, 2003, Atlanta, GA. (CLMA is supporting the conference as a cosponsor and encourages members to attend as vital stakeholders in patient safety.) Registration: \$250 by March 14. To register online or by fax, visit: www.phppo.cdc.gov/mlp/qiconferen

"Bayer Diagnostics Executive Management Program," April 6-19, 2003, University of Notre Dame. CLMA is offering scholarships to this excellent program. Applications are due to the CLMA Executive Office, no later than Monday, February 24, 2003. Refer questions to Meg Wilmot at 610-995-9580, ext. 245 or mwilmot@clma.org. (See full article in this newsletter.)

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. For more information see www.ohiorivervalley.org

"Focus on Your Future", sponsored by the Ohio Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, Columbus State Community College, Columbus, OH, May 2-3, 2003

"Six Sigma" sponsored by Six Rivers Chapter CLMA, Columbus, OH, May 2003 for more information see www.sixriversclma.org

Six Rivers CLMA Chapter
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