



The Pennsylvania Newsletter

Official Publication of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Pennsylvania
"Your Professional Organization for over Sixty Years"

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Fall 2010

Message from the President

Michele E. Lachance, ASCLS-PA President



Greetings fellow ASCLS-PA members,

It is with great pleasure that I write my first article to you as President of our constituent society. We've had a rough year, but I hope that I can bring some new energy and life into this organization. As I write this, I am in Anaheim, CA at the national ASCLS meeting and let me tell you what a great time I am having with all of my colleagues from around the country! I wish that all of you could attend and discover for yourselves how wonderful our national meeting is! The days are filled with continuing education, governance sessions and an occasional social event. The time is flying by!

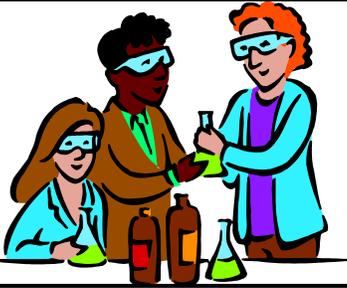
The new ASCLS president, Marcia Armstrong, has a theme for this year, and it is "ASCLS Awareness". At this time in our profession, this is an appropriate theme, and I think we can look at this in two ways. How aware are we, the members of ASCLS-PA, of what ASCLS can offer us? And how aware are non-

members of ASCLS? I'd like to talk about awareness a little bit and then ask for your help.

First of all, thank you for your continued membership with ASCLS. Why do you continue to renew? Is it because ASCLS fights with Congress for your rights as a laboratory professional? Is it because of the country-wide contacts you have made and that are available to you for networking? Is it because ASCLS works diligently on patient rights? Or is it for the continuing education opportunities that ASCLS offers? Were you even aware that ASCLS does all of these things and more on your behalf? I hope you are! And what about your non ASCLS colleagues? Are they aware of all the membership benefits? I doubt it or they would join! And this is where we need your help. I challenge you this year to spread the word about ASCLS at your workplace. Start with the simple step of wearing your ASCLS-PA pin to work every day. Talk to anyone who notices it about ASCLS. Be proud to be a member.
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The ASCLS-PA Student Review Session was a Success!

Laurie Flood
ASCLS-PA Student Representative

The Student Review Session was reinstated this year at the 2010 ASCLS-PA Annual Spring Meeting in King of Prussia, PA. On May 11, approximately 60 students came to the review session in preparation for the Board of Registry certification examination which tests the core subjects of chemistry, hematology, microbiology, and blood bank.

The day kicked off with Katey Howell, the First Year Professional of ASCLS-PA, who gave a talk on both the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science and on Test Taking Tips for the Registry. The remainder of the review sessions focused on the subjects contained in the examination. Medical Technologists and professors from several different hospitals came to present students with ideas on what is the most important information to focus on when studying for the

exam. Blood Bank was presented by Barbara Steiber from York Hospital; Hematology and Coagulation by Dr. Raelene Maser of the University of Delaware; Chemistry and Urinalysis by Dr. Mary Ann McLane (our ASCLS president) of the University of Delaware; Microbiology and Immunology by Wendy George of Lancaster General Hospital; and Laboratory Management and Safety by William Hunt of the University of Pennsylvania.

The sessions were very successful and after talking with a number of students, nearly everyone seemed pleased with the quality and enthusiasm that the speakers brought to the sessions. I'd like to thank all of the speakers, the ASCLS-PA board members, and especially the students for making the day a great success!

ASCLS-PA is Hosting a One-Day Continuing Education Meeting in November!

Sandy Toloczko, ASCLS-PA. Board Member; P.A.C.E. Administrator
Eileen Molecavage, ASCLS-PA. Board Member

ASCLS-PA is going back to our "GRASS ROOTS"! We used to have travelling one day continuing educational meetings called "Tek-Trek's" which were quite successful, as they were very convenient for laboratory professionals to get one day off from work to attend. We are going to attempt this format again to see if we can reach more of you, our ASCLS-PA members, throughout our state.

Our first stop will be in downtown Wilkes-Barre at the Best Western Genetti Hotel and Conference Center at 77 East Market Street on Monday November 8, 2010 from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Break tables will be available with delicious muffins and danishes and a deli lunch buffet will be held from 12:00-1:00 p.m.

Disciplines will be in Blood Bank, Chemistry, Hematology and Microbiology along with some general topics of interest.-with local talented speaker representation from the Red Cross, Department of Health, OSHA and the Crime Lab.

So start passing the word around to your "lab cooler colleagues" to save the date: Monday November 8, 2010 You will gain a "wealth of knowledge" and obtain valuable contact hours towards your BOR certification maintenance requirements.

We hope to see everyone in the Northeast on November 8th!

The Magic Wasn't Just at Disneyland

Katie Franz, ASCLS-PA Past President



From July 27-July 31 Clinical Laboratory Professionals gathered in Anaheim California for the 78th Annual ASCLS meeting. Friends and colleagues from all over the country met at the beautiful Hyatt Regency Orange County. These four days were filled with scientific sessions, governance meetings, and of course fellowship and fun.

Some of the highlights of the meeting included world class speakers on a wide range of topics from Gram Stains to Error Prevention in the lab to Case Studies in Genetic testing. ASCLS members attending the meeting were invited to take part in one of the best benefits of membership which is the opportunity to learn what your Society is doing on issues of importance to clinical laboratory science professionals. Most ASCLS governance meetings are open to all members. Members were able to attend the ASCLS Board of Directors meeting, Issues Update, Region Caucus meetings, Scientific Assembly meetings, and the House of Delegates. The massive exhibit hall at the Anaheim Convention Center was the venue for the Clinical Laboratory Exposition. Opportunities abounded to speak with vendors from all over the country and the world and see the latest in Clinical Laboratory Technology.

The ASCLS Promotion of the Profession Committee introduced what is sure to become an annual happening, "ASCLS Provides HOPE – Helping Other People Event". The inaugural event was a food drive to benefit the Orange County Food Bank. Gifts of food and money were collected by members of the committee. Meeting attendees could be seen walking over to the local Target Store to purchase their donations of non perishable food. The committee was proud to report that the food bank received a total of 640 pounds of non-perishable food along with a check in the amount of \$2070 from our generous members.

Attendees also enjoyed social events such as the first –timer's reception and the always popular President's Reception and Silent Auction. Those attending this event were treated to an open bar, as well as delicious food which included pasta, pizza, salad and a luscious dessert table with a chocolate fountain! While munching on these goodies guests were able to browse the silent auction table and bid on items from all over the country including jewelry, books, handmade items and regional foods. The evening included a DJ and all ages could be seen out on the dance floor.

The week ended with the ASCLS House of Delegates where in addition to the business of the organization we welcomed our new ASLCS President, Marcia Armstrong. A most fitting gift of a star named after her was given to Past President Mary Anne McLane. Mary Anne's year of "Providing the Face" to laboratory professional was acknowledged by all. We in Pennsylvania are proud to claim Mary Anne as an honorary ASCLS-PA member for life.

Our fine delegation from ASCLS-PA consisted of: Michele E. Lachance, President, Katie Franz, Past President, Sharon Strauss, Mary Gourley, Mary Beth Miele, and Sandy Toloczko. ASCLS-PA was also well represented by members Barbara Snyderman serving on the ASCLS Board of Directors as Region II Director and Bill Hunt who chaired the minutes committee for the House of Delegates. Of course the highlight of the house was welcoming back our favorite son ASCLS Past-past President Scott Aikey. In order to ease Scott's transition back to the state, we wore masks representing the ASLCS Board Members and Staff. This brought a few chuckles from the rest of the delegates.

Beautiful weather, Disneyland, good friends, and good fun were the order of the week for all who attended this meeting. The delegates from Georgia extended an invitation to everyone for the 2011 meeting in Atlanta. Why don't you join us?



Upcoming Changes to the ASCLS-PA Annual "Spring Meeting"

Michele E. Lachance, ASCLS-PA President

I want to make you all aware of a big change we are working on for the upcoming year - a new format for our annual two day spring meeting. Members of ASCLS-PA met in June specifically to discuss this event. It was decided that the two-day meetings are too much work for the few people that volunteer in our society as well as for the small number of individuals that attend. Since one of our goals is to broaden our reach throughout the state, a one day meeting held three times a year in three different locations was decided upon.

This will help us do two things. One: with several meetings, we will be able to reach many more members throughout PA, versus one meeting that concentrates on our membership in the Harrisburg or Philadelphia region.

Two: It will spread the meeting workload around to volunteers in other parts of the state, instead of having the same volunteers plan a

meeting in the same place over and over again. We hope that this format will be a benefit to both you and to those of us who do the meeting planning.

Our first CE day will be in Wilkes-Barre on Monday, November 8th. Mark your calendars now! For more information, please see the article elsewhere in this newsletter. We are also looking to have a meeting in State College in April of next year, and one in Harrisburg in May of next year. This will be followed by a fall 2011 meeting in the Pittsburgh area.

We hope that this new format will allow more of you to take advantage of this membership benefit. Please come out and attend the CE day nearest you! And if you are interested in helping to plan a meeting in your area, please don't hesitate to contact me at lachance10@verizon.net.

2011 ASCLS Annual Meeting

July 26-30; Atlanta, GA

Consider attending!

(continued from page 1)

Second, I ask you to constantly mention ASCLS in your conversations with co-workers. When someone complains about having difficulty obtaining CE, mention how ASCLS members obtain CE through state meetings, online CE articles (some for free!) and our news publications. If someone believes they are "stuck" on the bench with no room for advancement, tell them how ASCLS is working towards a doctorate in clinical laboratory science. Don't be afraid to tell them how great we are! Make them *aware* that if they are professionals, there is no doubt that

they should belong to a professional organization- ASCLS.

Are you aware? Are they aware? If not, let me help you or help them to become so. I am here for you this year and I want to make you aware of what ASCLS and ASCLS-PA are. I welcome your comments and suggestions. I am here to serve you as best I can. Feel free to contact me at lachance10@verizon.net at any time.

Become AWARE of ASCLS!

Successful Dinner Meeting in DuBois

Eric Evans, ASCLS-PA Membership chair



ASCLS-PA hosted a dinner meeting in DuBois, PA on April 17, 2010. Attendees enjoyed networking with other lab professionals from across the state, a great dinner, and received two CE credits from two educational presentations. The first speaker, Jeanne Lumadue, MD, PhD, presented the topic "Blood Utilization in 2010." The second speaker, Scott Aikey, MS, MLS(ASCP)^{CM}DLM^{CM}, discussed the Electronic Health Record. Both presentations were very well received and highly informative.

The meeting was a success on several fronts. There were 20 attendees and the meeting was kept under budget. Some attendees met former colleagues and old friends they haven't seen for many years. It was an exciting atmosphere. Conversations ranged from reminiscing of the days when educational and networking events for lab professionals were held in this region on a monthly basis to enthusiastically looking to the future with the hope that

this opportunity will continue to be available in this area of the state.

One of ASCLS-PA's strategic initiatives is to provide educational opportunities in the western part of PA. With this in mind, we are working hard to provide future opportunities in this region and hoping for continued growth. In fact, the ASCLS-PA leadership held a special meeting in Harrisburg on June 12th specifically to discuss future meetings.

On a final note, at the ASCLS-PA/PSSAMT annual meeting in King of Prussia on May 11th and 12th, I had the opportunity to speak to the PSSAMT leadership about our "westward expansion" plans. The initiative was well received and they are enthusiastic to take part and spread the word throughout their membership about future meetings in the area. So stay alert for new developments! All updates will be sent out via the ASCLS-PA Members Listserv.

Tips! ASCLS-PA Members Listserv

The new ASCLS-PA members listserv is a way to send an email out to all members of PA by using a single email address. If you have a question or comment you would like to send to the entire PA membership, simply send to ASCLS-PA-Members@ascls-lists.org.

Responding to the listserv

If somebody sends a message out to the membership using the listserv, you have two options for responding:

1.) Reply to the entire membership- simply hit "reply." You do not have to hit "reply all" to send to the entire group. **NOTE:** the message will tell you that "Joe" sent it, but hitting "reply" will still send your response to the entire group.

2.) Reply to just Joe- hit "forward." Then copy and paste Joe's email in the "to" box and send your response.

If you are not on the listserv or not sure if you are and would like to be to keep up-to-date with society news as it develops, email Eric Evans, ejevans80@yahoo.com.



2010 ASCLS-PA Awards & Recognition

Mary Gourley, ASCLS-PA Awards Chair

At the 2010 Annual Spring Meeting of ASCLS-PA, the following awards were presented:

Dolbey Member of the Year – Scott Aikey (Scott has received this prestigious award three times – 1998, 2004 and 2010.)

Estolle Gross – Michele E. Lachance

Keener Memorial – Eric Evans, Michele E. Lachance, and Mary Beth Miele

20-year Membership – Mary Ann Haupt and Ana Prieto Orti

This year the Board of Directors approved a Sustained Membership Award in recognition of the 75th Anniversary of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Pennsylvania. The award will be presented to individuals who have attained at least 30 years membership. Certificates will be presented in increments of 5 years. This year 50 certificates were presented to the following:

- **65 yr** – Dorothy Pfender
- **60 yr** – Adaline Dogon, Eleanor Hart, Jane Wilson
- **55 yr** – Alice Bashore, Patsy Bering, Roma Brown, Estolle Gross
- **50 yr** – Isabel Podolak, Patricia Strausbaugh
- **45 yr** – Mary Gourley, Alice Potter
- **40 yr** – Rose Evans, Goldie Gross, Elise Kugler, Dorothy Mabary, Sandra Neiman, Vera Obuszcak, Constance Perkoski, Linda Vivian
- **35 yr** – Pamela Adams, Linda Burke, Glenn Crowe, Carolyn Darr, Susan Herr, Judy Hoover, Dilys Keyworth, Harriet Nadler, Linda Reese, Mark Smucker
- **30 yr** – Deborah Ackerman, Eileen Benedict, Barbara Bowman, Donna Bray, Nancy Bristol, Brenda Carbon, Felicia DelBuono, Roger Dimit, Cindy Evans, Vincent Frank, Susan Mindler, Philip Mohr, Jeanne Noga, Mary Obetz, Paul Reid, Linda Semler, Barbara Snyderman, Elaine Sojak, Sharon Strauss, Alvin Swartzentruber, Sandra Weiss

Two certificates have been returned, address unknown. If anyone has contact information for Eleanor Hart or Dorothy Mabary, please let me know so that I can forward their certificates. You may contact me at m.gourley@verizon.net.

Congratulations to all the award recipients. If you wish to nominate anyone for an award to be presented at the Annual Meeting next spring, you can download the nomination forms from the ASCLS-PA website. Descriptions of each award are found in the ASCLS-PA Handbook. The Awards Committee welcomes all nominations and would appreciate your help. Anyone can nominate, so let's have a banner year come next spring.

2010 ASCLS-PA Spring Meeting Wrap-Up

Mary Beth Miele, ASCLS-PA General Chair 2010



The Annual Spring Meeting for Clinical Laboratorians in Pennsylvania and surrounding region was held at the Radisson Valley Forge Scanticon Hotel on May 11th and 12th, 2010. This premier event was hosted by the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS-PA) and the Pennsylvania State Society of American Medical Technologists (PSSAMT). Each group conducted governance meetings during the meeting.

An overview of the Board of Certification and what it means for Medical Laboratory Scientists now and in the future served as a plenary session on Tuesday afternoon. Forty-five discipline-specific lectures and 6 review sessions designed for clinical laboratory students were presented during the two day meeting. Each day provided the opportunity to obtain 6 hours of continuing education, plus 1 contact hour available for completion of a vendor exhibit quiz.

Over 250 laboratorians, including more than 50 students attended the two-day meeting. The student review sessions were organized by Laurie Flood the ASCLS-PA Student representative. Katey Howell the ASCLS-PA New Professional representative welcomed students to the profession and spoke about test taking tips when preparing for certification examinations. The 6 review sessions were attended by students, educators, and bench technologists and received great evaluations.

Evaluations of other sessions noted speakers who were passionate about clinical laboratory science, provided excellent handouts, were outstanding presenter, gave highly detailed information, and provided a vision of clinical laboratory testing in the future. Experts from all areas of the United States shared their knowledge during this meeting.

We owe a special thanks to our industry partners who sponsored speakers. They are: AACC-Philadelphia, Roche Diagnostics Corporation, Beckman-Coulter, Quest Diagnostics, Miller-Keystone Blood Center, Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics, Gen-Probe, Inc., BD Diagnostics, BD GeneOhm, Meridian Biosciences, Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics, Abbott Diagnostics, Radiometer America, Trinity Biotech, ARUP Laboratories, AABB, and Bio-Rad Laboratories.

The vendor show was a highlight of the meeting with more than 14 companies exhibiting their equipment and services. In addition, Ortho-Clinical Diagnostics brought their Adventour mobile laboratory to demonstrate their "instrumentation in action" for conference attendees. The attendees who received PACE credit for participating in the vendor exhibit quiz rated their interactions with exhibitors highly. We sincerely appreciate all the support we received from our industry partners. A modest profit of \$3000 was realized because of their support. [Note: Registration fees for students do not cover the cost of their attendance at the meeting.]

A deep debt of gratitude is owed to our program chair William Hunt, our registrar Sharon Strauss, PACE coordinator Sandy Toloczko, vendor liaison Charles Wilson, and other committee members and moderators including Dee Dolan, Ruth Negley, Katie Franz, Michele E. Lachance, Barb Snyderman, Eileen Molecavage, Mary Ann McLane, Mary Gourley, Sandy Neiman, and Eric Evans. In closing, we acknowledge the unwavering support of the leadership of the Pennsylvania State Society of American Medical Technologists. And keep your eye out for additional continuing education opportunities in the coming year. We hope to bring CE closer to you!



RENEWAL NOTICE

American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
P.O. Box 79154, Baltimore, MD 21279-0154

Phone: 301-657-2768 Website: www.ascls.org/members/login.asp

A S C L S

Preferred Phone:
 Preferred E-mail:
 Membership #:
 Name:
 Address:

Highest Degree:
 Company/Employer:
 Department:
 Business Address:

Business Phone:
 Business Fax:

**please add or change any incomplete or incorrect information

ASCLS MEMBERSHIP IS EFFECTIVE FROM AUGUST 1 - JULY 31

SCIENTIFIC ASSEMBLIES

PRIMARY

- (01)
- (02)
- (03)
- (04)
- (06)
- (07)
- (08)
- (09)
- (10)
- (12)
- (13)
- (14)
- (15)

SECONDARY INTEREST

- (01) chemistry/urinalysis
- (02) microbiology
- (03) laboratory administration
- (04) immunology/immunohematology
- (06) histology/cytology
- (07) hematology/hemostasis
- (08) generalist/public health
- (09) industry
- (10) education
- (12) phlebotomy/POC
- (13) molecular bio/genetics
- (14) consultant
- (15) regulatory affairs/quality management

POSITION

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lab Director (Admin.) | <input type="checkbox"/> Inspector/Surveyor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lab Manager | <input type="checkbox"/> Consultant |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lab Supervisor | <input type="checkbox"/> Marketing/Sales |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staff MLS | <input type="checkbox"/> Phlebotomist |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Staff MLT | <input type="checkbox"/> Program Director |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Faculty Member/Instructor | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Laboratory Assistant | |

Two easy ways to renew your membership

1. Fax your form and credit card payment info to:
(301) 657-2909
2. Visit our website: www.ascls.org/members/login.asp

Current Membership:
 Current State Society*
 *To change, call Sherry at office

- National Dues (required):
 State Dues (required):
 Optional Contributions appreciated, please see flyers
 ASCLS/PAC Contribution:
 Education Fund Contribution:
 Special Projects Contribution:

CE options available with membership renewal

- Certification Maintenance CE package \$55
 for 12 hours of online CE from MediaLab _____
- Certification Maintenance Plus CE package \$95
 for unlimited online CE from MediaLab _____

TOTAL PAYMENT: \$ _____

(If the total payment is not filled in, you will be charged the total amount as indicated above.)

CARD NUMBER MasterCard Visa AMEX

EXPIRATION DATE _____ SIGNATURE _____

YES, I want to use automatic renewal for (check all that apply)

- future dues
- future contributions as indicated above
- future CE programs as indicated above

I understand the above card will be charged each year by July 31st at the appropriate amount.

ASCLS MEMBERSHIP CALENDAR YEAR IS: AUGUST 1 - JULY 31

Your dues payment is valid during this time period; please promptly return your remittance to ensure that you receive your maximum membership benefits.

ASCLS MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES:

PROFESSIONAL I: Includes full voting privileges, basic benefits, and the award winning journal, *CLS*.

PROFESSIONAL II*: Includes full voting privileges, basic benefits, but **not** the journal, *CLS*.

COLLABORATIVE*: Available to any individual who currently holds membership in any other *health related national organization and has never been a member of ASCLS*. Does not include voting privileges; includes basic benefits only.

FIRST YEAR PROFESSIONAL*: Open to persons who have graduated within the last twelve months from an accredited program in laboratory science. Includes full voting privileges. Prior student membership with ASCLS is not a prerequisite. This membership status is valid for only one year to assist recent graduates. After one year in this category, members are upgraded to Professional membership.

STUDENT*: Open to persons enrolled in a structured program of training or academic instruction in clinical laboratory science, or to full-time graduate students in a related science area. Includes full voting privileges.

*Persons residing in foreign countries are not eligible for these categories.

ASCLS ANNUAL MEETING

July 26 - July 30, 2011 - Atlanta, GA ~ July 17 - 21, 2012 - Los Angeles, CA

CLINICAL LABORATORY EDUCATORS' CONFERENCE (CLEC 2011)

February 17 - 21, 2011 - Fort Lauderdale, FL

ASCLS/CLMA/ASCP/AMT LEGISLATIVE SYMPOSIUM

March 21 - 22, 2011 - Washington, D.C.

ASCLS - VOICE, VALUE, VISION:

Your VOICE to resolve the personnel shortage by:

- Convening a council of laboratory associations to address the shortage
- Increasing loans and loan forgiveness
- Increasing salaries

Promoting your VALUE as:

- Part of a nation-wide disaster preparedness plan
- Providers of quality, efficient, cutting-edge healthcare

Providing VISION to:

- Increase reimbursement to clinical laboratories for the services they provide
- Advance new practice roles and
- Provide patient-centered information on our website and collaboratively with Lab Tests Online.

We are there, in the Capitol and the Federal agencies, when you can't be!

Dues and contributions paid to ASCLS are not deductible as charitable contributions but may be deductible as business expenses under other sections of the Internal Revenue Code except to the extent that ASCLS engages in lobbying activities. It is estimated that 8% of the dues paid to ASCLS are attributable to lobbying and are therefore, not deductible.

\$8.00 of Annual Membership Dues are allocated for a subscription to the newsletter *ASCLS Today*.

\$40.00 of Annual Membership Dues for Professional I are allocated to a subscription to the journal, *CLS*.



The Pennsylvania Newsletter
8 Lakeview Court
Sinking Spring, PA 19608

Moving? Remember you can update all your membership information online at www.ascls-pa.org

Or send your attached label and your corrected address to: ASCLS-PA, 8 Lakeview Court Sinking Spring, PA 19608 , to insure uninterrupted service

Coming Events

ASCLS-PA Event planning meeting	Aug 28, 2010
ASCLS-PA Board meeting at Wilkes-Barre	Nov 7, 2010
2010 ASCLS-PA Day-Meeting at Wilkes-Barre	Nov 8, 2010

The Pennsylvania Newsletter

**The official publication of the
American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Pennsylvania**

Michele E. Lachance	President
Bill Hunt	President-Elect
Katie Franz	Past-President
Ruth Negley	Editor
Editorial Staff	Board Members of ASCLS-PA