

ASCLS-TN NEWSLETTER

KEEPING YOU UP-TO-DATE ON ASCLS ACTIVITIES IN TENNESSEE

Volume 1, Issue 4

July 2010

Second Quarter

ASCLS-TN President's Update

A Fond Farewell....

As my term as ASCLS-TN President comes to a close with the approaching ASCLS Annual Meeting in Anaheim, I would like to take a moment to reflect and thank all those who have been an integral part of this journey. Sue Ann Allen took me under her wing as her President-Elect in 2007. She taught me the ropes and how to best deal with people, whether it is a new member or a person on the staff of the hotel hosting our meeting. Sue Ann is one of those people that 'gets things done', and we know we can all count on her, and for that I am forever grateful. She is truly an asset to ASCLS-TN.

Katherine Hopper has what it takes to be a wonderful leader for our society. She is hard working, dedicated, and a wonderful mother, both to her own child and to her peers. Rebecca Rogers has blossomed into a true leader within ASCLS at all levels, and I can't wait to see what she has in store for ASCLS-TN in the coming years. Lynn Ingram has been my mentor, on all things ASCLS and life-related. Thank you to everyone who has made my time in ASCLS and ASCLS-TN a fabulous learning experience. I am definitely a more confident leader now than I was as a 'newbie' almost seven years ago. You are being left in highly capable hands. Please continue the hard work to provide the 'face' of our profession, but remember to keep a little fun going as well. Best wishes,

Angela Phillips, MLS
ASCLS-TN President 2008-2010

Meet Me In Savannah... September 22-24, 2010



ASCLS Region III will be hosting our Triennial meeting "Meet Me in Savannah" September 22-24, 2010 at Georgia Coastal Center in Savannah Georgia. Thirty-four PACE ac-

credited hours will be offered. Renowned speakers from across the United States and Georgia will be presenting on topics in blood bank, chemistry, hematology, immunology, microbiology, molecular diagnostics, management, point-of-care testing, and professional development. Region III encompasses the 7 southern states (Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Ten-

nessee, North Carolina and South Carolina) and Puerto Rico. So, come and join us in historic Savannah, network with your colleagues, attend sessions, and have a great time!! For further information and the registration form, visit www.asclsgeorgia.org/ or contact Barbara Russell at brussell@mcg.edu or 706-721-7627.

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**Ideas for the
ASCLS-TN NEWSLETTER ?
Let us know! Send an e-mail to:
BeccaBL2@aol.com**

Board Member Spotlight :

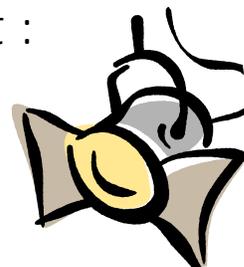
Katherine Hopper



Katherine (aka 'Kat') entered the laboratory profession as a generalist after graduating from the University of North Dakota with a bachelor's in Clinical Laboratory Science. After earning her Master's degree in Biomedical Science from Creighton University in Omaha, she moved to Tennes-

see in 2004 to start up Volunteer State Community College's MLT program. She currently is the program director for Vanderbilt University Medical Center's Medical Laboratory Science program. Katherine works PRN at St Thomas hospital in the core lab to 'keep up her skills.'

"I remember one of my college professors telling us that those happiest in their careers typically are members of their professional society. Her words stuck with me and have been proven true for me. I joined ASCLS as a student, but dropped my membership after a few years out of college. At the time, it was a



financial decision. When I started looking to expand my career, I found that many of the opportunities to grow came through ASCLS-sponsored events. I joined up again and have since grown so much professionally. The more I learn about ASCLS, the more proud I am to be a member."

Katherine lives in Goodlettsville, TN with her husband Graham and their son Philip. They will be joined by another child in January.

ASCLS-TN Announced Honors in Music City

Members were honored for their achievements at TALC

Middle Tennessee would like to say THANK YOU to everyone who attended TALC 2010 in Nashville. Our exceptional meeting co-chairs, Sue Ann Allen and Katherine Hopper made the meeting a complete success! As an organization, we appreciate all who attended.

If you were not able to join us, you missed some terrific continuing education sessions as well as the opportunity to network with our supporting exhibitors and other laboratorians in attendance from across the state of Tennessee. Be sure to mark your calendars for next spring!

At the general assembly business meeting, several ASCLS-TN members received awards, and we would like to share those with you now. ASCLS-TN has three 25-Year Members for 2010: Sue Ann

Allen, Karen Clark, and Lynn Ingram. Omicron Sigma recognitions were awarded to: Judy Davis, Lynn Ingram, and Rebecca Rogers at the National Level; Angela Phillips, Katherine Hopper, and Tim Wallace at the Regional Level; and Sue Ann Allen, Wes Williamson, Tiffany Landis, Sula Thomas, Holly Brown, Krystal Triplett, Perry Scanlan, and Karen Johnson at the State Level. Our TN Young Professional of the Year went to Krystal Triplett, and our Member of the Year was our outgoing President, Angela Phillips. Both Krystal and Angela will be up for the same awards on the National level at the Annual Meeting in Anaheim. We wish them luck! Our two TN Keys to the Future this year were awarded to Jennifer Brackett and Tiffany Landis, senior MT students from UTHSC. Brittany Blum from UT Knoxville was chosen as the 2010-



Outgoing ASCLS-TN President, Angela Phillips presents Katherine Hopper with the ASCLS-TN President's Gavel during the general assembly business meeting and awards ceremony during TALC 2010.

2011 Student Delegate, and she will attend the national meeting in Anaheim, CA to represent the ASCLS-TN Student Forum. Scholarship winners were Lindsay Johnson from Vanderbilt, and Diedra Clark from UTHSC. Congratulations to all our winners!

ASCLS-TN Officers for 2010-11 were also elected at the general assembly business meeting. Our

new officers are: President-Elect, Wes Williamson; Secretary, Rebecca Rogers; and Board Member, Eleanor Jator. Transitioning into their new positions for 2010-2011 are Katherine Hopper, President; Krystal Triplett, Treasurer; Jennifer Brackett, First Year Professional Chair; and Tiffany Landis, Student Forum Chair. Congratulations and welcome to the ASCLS-TN Board, everyone!

Something New at the ASCLS National Meeting In Anaheim

TALC 2011

SAVE THE DATE

**Mark your calendars...
Save the Date...
Participate!**

WHAT:

Tennessee Annual Laboratory Conference (TALC)

WHEN:

March 31 & April 1, 2011

WHERE:

The University of Tennessee Conference Center, Downtown Knoxville, Tennessee

Knoxville is pleased and very excited to be the host city for this coming year's conference! Come meet with laboratory professionals from across the state for fun, fellowship and lots of education opportunities! Student activities are also being planned. Hotel accommodations will follow at a later date. Hope to see you there!



ASCLS Provides Hope

As a way to promote the profession, and provide a face to the community of Anaheim, help ASCLS provide HOPE (Helping Other People Event) to those less fortunate. The event benefits the Orange County Food Bank. The greatest need is for protein items, such as peanut butter (in plastic jars) and canned meat or tuna, but any non-perishable canned food, dry cereal, or dry food item is appreciated. A donation barrel will be available at the Hyatt Regency near the meeting registration area. Donation times are listed below. Please drop off donations during these times only.

The Magical Kingdom



78th Annual Meeting

July 27-31, 2010
Anaheim, California

Donation times:

Tuesday July 27th — 12:00-1:00pm, 4:30-5:30pm
Wednesday July 28th — 7:30-8:30am, 7:30-10:30pm
Thursday July 29th — 4:30-5:15pm
Friday July 30th — 8:0am-12:30pm

Monetary donations will also be accepted. For those unable to participate in person, a Virtual Food Drive is available online at <http://www.ocfoodbank.org/fooddrive/virtual.html> until August 31st.

This event is sponsored by the ASCLS Promotion of the Profession Committee.

ASCLS is Live Streaming the Opening Keynote

Are you going to miss the ASCLS Annual Meeting? We will be live-streaming the opening session! Supported by an educational grant from Abbott Molecular, ASCLS (in conjunction with Dane Garvin, Ltd.) will be webcasting the opening keynote presentation: *Evolving Respiratory Viral Testing and Impact on Patient Management* as part of the DNA MedEd Café Web-cast Series. Join us LIVE on July 28, 2010 at 11:00am Central Time. Register for free here: <http://www.webedcafe.com/frontmatter/162/1/2010-Respiratory-Viral-Testing>

Personal Pocket Laboratory Guide

The ASCLS Patient Safety Committee has developed Personal Pocket Laboratory Guide tri-folds. We encourage you to personalize and print these cards and provide them to your clients. The tri-folds contain tips for patients to safeguard their laboratory testing, a chart for them to track their laboratory test results, and the Lab-TestsOnLine website address, for questions about laboratory testing. These pocket guides are designed to be personalized with your laboratory contact information. These should be edited by adding contact information in the center text box of side 1 prior to printing.

Find them at: <http://www.ascls.org/leadership/psc/index.asp>



**Personal Pocket
Laboratory Guide**
 Name: _____

Tips to safeguard your laboratory testing

1. Ask your healthcare provider to explain your laboratory testing in terms you can understand.
2. Make sure you can read the writing on the order before leaving your healthcare provider's office. If you cannot, ask the office to write it more clearly.
3. Laboratory professionals should always ask you to verify your identity. Watch your specimens being labeled before you leave the laboratory.
4. Caregivers must either wash their hands or use a bacterial hand cleaner between patients. They must also put on fresh gloves. If you do not see this, ask if it has been done.
5. Speak up if you have questions or concerns.

ASCLS-TN STUDENT CORNER University of Tennessee Knoxville

From performing manual differentials to grading gel antibody screens, from culturing *Neisseria meningitidis* to calibrating large chemistry analyzers; we are learning a lot at the University of Tennessee – Knoxville's Medical Technology program – and loving every minute of it!

This year's class consists of 11 very different, yet very dedicated and enthusiastic individuals. We are the picture of diversity - describing us in one word would be impossible! We have come from many different backgrounds, are of all ages and have varying degrees of previous experience. Despite our differences, we have come together to form our own little MT family, complete with the constant support, encouragement, and friendship that aids in our success.

At this point in the year, we are currently completing our second clinical rotation. My favorite point in each day is when lunch time rolls around and we can come back together as students and swap stories from the day. "I had a crazy antibody case this morning!" "You will never believe what was waiting for me on my chocolate agar." "Ugh!

Both CBC analyzers are down today!!" You never know what you may hear each day, and I have learned to love these times.

UTK's program has done wonderful things for us thus far, presenting us with all the most up to date knowledge and technology that are pertinent to helping us succeed in our futures. We are almost there – only five months till we graduate and are thrown out into the sea of MT's and MLT's. Wish us luck – and we will see you in the lab!



UTK's MT students:
Back row: Instructor Mark Cole, Meredith Maxwell, Valerie Woodings, Brittany Blum, & Amani Babu
Middle row: Allison Kittrell, Jennifer Hoffner, Jill Jenkins, & Jack McPherson
Front row: Tiffany Hurst, Terria Beal, & Lorissa Brooks

Memphis Society for Clinical Laboratory Science Update

In the absence of a seminar presentation for the month of July, the Memphis Society for Clinical Laboratory Science chose to honor the members of the Memphis area laboratory community that have been outstanding examples for our profession by holding an awards ceremony and reception. A call for nominations went out across Memphis, and students, educators, and laboratorians alike sent in their picks. Included here is a complete list of winners.

Congratulations to all!

MLT Student of the Year:
Vivian White - SWTCC
MT Student of the Year:
Rebekah Green - UTHSC

Clinical Instructor of the Year:
Jerry Jackson – Baptist Women's Hospital, Memphis

MLT Educator of the Year:
Amy Cox

MT Educator of the Year:
Lani Collins

Young Professional of the Year:
Krystal Triplett - St. Jude

Mentor of the Year:
Angela Phillips - St. Jude

Member of the Year:
Rebecca Rogers - St. Jude

MSCLS Awards of Excellence:
Professionalism:
Crystal Melloh - St. Jude
Best Laboratory Team:
St. Francis Hospital - Bartlett

Laboratory Management:
Donna Patterson - St. Jude

Generalist:
Mae Alice Williams - St. Francis Hospital, Memphis

Blood Banking / HLA:
Amanda Miller - St. Jude

Hematology / Coag:
Shelby Ridley - St. Francis Hospital, Memphis

Phlebotomy:
Sherry Fleming - St. Francis Hospital, Memphis

Chemistry / Toxicology:
Donna Clary - AEL

Microbiology / Immunology / Virology:
Ginger Jamison - St. Jude

Molecular Diagnostics:
Brian Oxner - St. Jude

MSCLS Heroes:
Jane Morgan – nominated by Linda Pifer
Jan Glover – nominated by Gloria Jenkins
R. Tim Wallace – nominated by Lynn Ingram
Pamela Holder – nominated by Darius Wilson
Brian Oxner - nominated by Krystal Triplett

We also recognized outgoing MSCLS President - *Darius Y. Wilson*, thank you for your service during the 2009-2010 year!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

ASCLS-TN Summer Planning Meeting
August 14, 2010 in Nashville, TN

Region III Triennial Meeting / Fall Council Meeting
September 22-24, 2010 in Savannah, GA

ASCLS-TN Fall Board Meeting
October 2, 2010 in Nashville, TN

Memphis Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
All meetings begin at 6:00 pm
August 4, 2010 @ St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
September 2, 2010 @ Methodist University Hospital
October 7, 2010 @ Baptist Memorial Hospital

ASCLS - Middle Tennessee Society
All meetings begin at 5:00 pm
August 23, 2010 @ Centennial Women's MOB



ASCLS Online

FOLLOW US:



American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science
Voice, Value, Vision

ASCLS-TN Wants Your Help:

Katherine Hopper, the incoming President for ASCLS-TN, has several great ideas for the length of her term. Are you interested in getting involved with ASCLS at the state or local level? Do you have great ideas for how to accomplish our goals? Are you outgoing, do you like to have fun, do you love your profession? Then we are looking for you! Listed below are ASCLS-TN's main goals for the year. If you would like to contribute your thoughts and enthusiasm or if you are interested in volunteering some of your time to our state society, please contact Katherine at: katherine.m.hopper@vanderbilt.edu

- i. Increased society involvement by all ASCLS-TN members
- ii. Review of By-laws
- iii. Review of Strategic Plan
- iv. Explore championing a TN lab workforce committee

East Tennessee

We are still seeking volunteers to revitalize the East Tennessee chapter of ASCLS. Please let us know! Email Holly Brown at hfoosterbrown@hotmail.com or Donna Wright at dmwright@mercy.com

We look forward to hearing from you!

ASCLS: Membership & Your Re-Certification New this year!



Renew or join and select an ASCLS Certification Maintenance Membership (CMM) to get 12 hours of P.A.C.E.® approved online continuing education for only \$55 plus national and state dues. The CMM is a one year subscription with MediaLab, Inc. that includes designated discipline hours required for the Board of Certification (BOC) Certification Maintenance Program (CMP). This special offer is available ONLY to ASCLS members.

Subscription includes the following courses:

- Safety** -- Packaging and Shipping Infectious Materials (1.5 hrs) & Laboratory Ergonomics (1 hr)
- Blood Bank** -- The Disappearing Antibody: A Case Study (2.0 hrs)
- Chemistry** -- Cardiac Biomarkers (1.5 hrs) Pharmacology in the Clinical Lab: Therapeutic Drug Monitoring and Pharmacogenomics (1.5 hrs)

- Hematology** -- Beta Thalassemia (1 hr) Detecting and Evaluating Coagulation Inhibitors and Factor Deficiencies (1 hr)

- Microbiology** -- The Influenza A Virus: 2009 H1N1 Subtype (1 hr) Reading and Reporting Gram Stained Direct Smears (1.5 hrs)

Or, upgrade to access unlimited hours of CE and select the courses you want by becoming a Certification Maintenance Member Plus (CMMP) for the \$95 plus national and state dues for a one year subscription. To view the menu of MediaLab's online offerings go to LabCE.com.

Learn online – take your quiz online – enter & track your credit online at the ASCLS CE Organizer! Renewing your professional certification has never been more convenient!

Follow the instructions on the member renewal form or new member application to purchase. You will receive an email with information to access the online CE courses at the MediaLab, Inc. website within 2 weeks of your member renewal or join date. You have until July 31, 2011 to complete all 12 hours. Questions? Contact Joan at joanp@ascls.org

Check ASCLS-TN out online!
www.ascls-tn.org
Join our Listserve at: