



Spirit of Virginia

CLMA

THE RESOURCE FOR LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS

We need Volunteers!

Chapter News

February 2006

Volume 2, Issue 1

Feature Articles

- President's Report
- Scholarship Announcement
- 2006 Chapter Regional Mtg.
- 2006 Officers and Directors

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Extra Copies of 2005 NMLW Advertising Supplement are available for educational opportunities in your community. If you would like to place an ad in the 2006 edition, send e-mail to: jbalk@mcvh-vcu.edu.

President's Report - Deborah Ford, President

I felt like the famous super model Cindy Crawford's new husband on their wedding night. I kind of know what's expected of me, but I'm just not sure I've the ability to make it interesting or that my efforts will be grand enough! Ready or not, we are well into a new year with new challenges and opportunities for the Spirit of Virginia Chapter of CLMA. The decision, to be branded as CLMA rather than the Clinical Laboratory Management Association, is to more accurately represent all laboratory professionals.

CLMA provides leadership in the industry by supporting laboratory professionals through education, advocacy, enhancing the image and increasing the visibility of the laboratory profession.

The SOV Board of Directors met in 2005 at UVA, facilitated by Barbara Strain, to develop strategic plans/goals for the next 3 years. The chapter's mission must follow the National Chapter's mission which stresses education, networking and advo-

cacy. Therefore, the focus for SOV will include:

- Improving communication with members
- Increasing membership and Chapter involvement
- Education and Networking opportunities
- Supporting PAC

To be successful, the SOV, needs input support from each of you. If you are willing to serve on a committee or host regional CE/Chapter meetings in your area, please notify a board member. Help create a CLMA Chapter that truly improves the profession for all laboratory workers. An engaged member will enhance our national goal of being "A Resource of Laboratory Professionals".

The National CLMA is addressing new opportunities with an additional position of Member Relations Specialist, Lea Owens. Ms. Owens joined the CLMA staff in May 2005 to offer strategic support to chapters.

Announcing CLT and CLS Scholarship Opportunities

The SOV BOD is pleased to announce a scholarship program to recognize future medical laboratory professionals with demonstrated leadership abilities and the potential of success in the profession. Students must be enrolled in a CLT or CLS program in the Spirit of VA CLMA region. The programs include: J. Sargeant Rey-

nolds Community College, Centra Health School of Medical Laboratory Technology, Wytheville Community College, Augusta Medical Center, Rockingham Memorial Hospital, Virginia Commonwealth University, and Carilion Health System.

The chapter will award two \$1,000 scholarships in July of 2006. **Deadline for application is June 1.** Additional information and application forms may be found on the website at:

www.spiritofvirginia-clma.org

Chapter Regional Meeting March 9, 2006 at Augusta Medical Center

The first 2006 chapter educational session will be held at the Augusta Medical Center Community Care Building 1st Floor in Fishersville on March 9, 2006. BD has graciously agreed to provide the speakers. Registration will begin at 10:00 am.

The first presentation will be **Hemolysis: Causes, Effects, Reduction** featuring:

Shrita Smith, MS, MT(ASCP), Manager, Global Technical Service BD Diagnostics-Preanalytical Systems, Franklin Lakes, NJ

In this session, the speaker will discuss how improper specimen collection and han-

dling can contribute to increased hemolysis rates. The speaker will review the effects of hemolyzed specimens on laboratory test results, patient outcomes, and operational efficiencies within a healthcare facility. Recommendations will be given to help decrease the incidences of hemolyzed specimens. This session is geared toward phlebotomists, nurses, and any clinicians who draw blood specimens or to anyone involved in training clinical staff on blood collection procedures.

The topic after lunch will be **Impacting Laboratory Efficiency and Patient Outcomes with Change Management, Lean Management and Six Sigma Tools** featuring:

*Maria Garces, MBA, MT(ASCP), Operations Consultant
BD Diagnostics-Preanalytical Systems, Franklin Lakes, NJ*

This session will address problematic areas in the laboratory that would benefit from streamlined operations to deliver improved patient outcomes, such as specimen management. Participants will learn the basics of Lean Management

and Six Sigma. They will also learn the practical applications of Lean Management and Six Sigma principles for improving laboratory operations, patient safety, and have access to data that demonstrates effective use of techniques to streamline laboratory operations and improve specimen management practices.

Fee: CLMA Members—\$10.00
Non Members - \$20.00

Special Promotion:
Group Discount
5 participants for \$30.00

Deadline for Lunch Count is Monday, March 6, 2006

For Registration Form check out our web site at

www.spiritofvirginia-clma.org.

If you have questions, please email: jbalk@mcvh-vcu.edu

President's Report

(Continued from Page 1)

CLMA has also created a new committee, Members and Chapter Relations Committee, which is a blend of the existing CCL Advisory Committee and Membership Development Committee. The purpose of the new committee is to explore, identify, and evaluate resources, benefits, and programs that grow membership.

Advocacy is now officially part of CLMA's revised mission statements. The goal is to expand the presence and influence of the lab professionals on Capital Hill. SOV needs to unite the ranks and strengthen support for CLMA PAC. If we don't have leverage or influence, we will never be effective. The power to influence lies in uniting and participating!

On 1/12/06, Marcia Accordino, Past President, Johnetta Balk, President Elect and I had a

transition meeting in Farmville to discuss Chapter business, CLMA reporting requirements, BOD conference calls, and 2006 goals for the SOV Chapter. Many thanks to Marcia for her continued leadership and knowledge transfer.

In 2006, SOV will strive to offer three exciting CE opportunities in varying regions, sponsor two MLT/MT scholarships, fund two leadership members to the National CLMA conference, and fund two members to the March 2006, Legislative Symposium on Capital Hill.

It is often said, "If you need help, ask a busy person". I know that all are wearing many hats and juggling many responsibilities. Please consider an additional activity. The SOV Chapter needs YOU! Join/renew your membership today! It gives you access

to all CLMA programs, publications and advocacy resources. You have the ability to broaden your professional contacts through on line and in person networking opportunities. Membership also provides CE opportunities, legislative and regulatory updates, and reduced pricing for the National CLMA ThinkLab Conference and Exhibition. The SOV Chapter pledges to work together to increase awareness and provide resources for all laboratory professionals.

Don't be left out of the communication loop.

Update your mailing & e-mail address when you change. Go to www.clma.org to update your profile.

SOV gratefully acknowledges the support of Augusta Medical Center Laboratory and Karen Clark for meeting arrangements.

Special for Members: Attend Chapter activities during 2006 and your name will be entered in a drawing for a free Annual Meeting Registration at the 2007 meeting in Houston, TX. The more activities you attend, the greater your chance of winning!!

The BOD approved a special member recognition promotion for 2006/2007. Attendance at Chapter events qualifies members a chance to win a free annual meeting registration at the 2007 meeting in Houston, TX. If you know of someone who should be a member, share a membership application and become an Ambassador!

7th Annual Educational & Vendor Extravaganza Report

Volume 2, Issue 1

"Going From Good To Great!"

was the theme of the 7th Annual Educational Conference sponsored by both the SOV and Tidewater Chapters on October 14, 2005 at the Omni Richmond. The keynote presentation was "Going from Good to Great" by national speaker Tammy Tiller-Hewitt, MHA. The afternoon educational session was a panel of experts from the Division of Consolidated Laboratory Services in Richmond and the Virginia Department of Health in Norfolk.

We had good vendor response again this year. Special thanks to all vendors that supported the meeting. Your support makes our meeting possible.

Door Prizes Awarded

Recipient	Vendor	Prize
Ridley Fleck	Lab Corp	CD holder
Tammy Holbrook	Lab Corp	CD holder
Billie Vaughn	Ortho Diagnostics	MP3 player
Joe Baker	Cardinal Health	Cardinal truck
Brenda Diffendal	Cardinal Health	2 way radio
Nieva Ladrillono	Bon Secours	Gift basket
Ridley Fleck	ARUP	Flash drive
Jeff Henry	ARUP	Roses
Tammy Holbrook	Roche Diagnostics	Terrarium
Chris Harper	Roche Diagnostics	Terrarium
David Rice	Trinity Biotech	\$25 Gift card
Debbie Ford	Dade Behring	Computer bag
Katrina Atkinson	Dade Behring	Flower arrangement

SOV/IAAP Seminar May 23, 2006 Lynchburg College

The featured speaker at the SOV/IAAP Seminar in May at Lynchburg College will be Devon Hansen. She will present two topics: "Facing the Fire: Humor and Anger in the Workplace" and "Creative Conflict Management". Devon has established herself as a nationally recognized featured speaker and conflict/change management consultant with Fortune 500, healthcare, government, and recovery clients ranging from Bank One, GTE, and Rockwell International to the YMCA Women's Resource Center, Women Survivors of Childhood Abuse and the Domestic Violence Conference. Check out her website for additional information at www.heartpeople.com. A seminar announcement and registration forms will be posted on the SOV website in the next couple of weeks. This seminar is a great value for the money. Visit exhibitor booths, network with your colleagues and buy tickets for wonderful door prizes compliments of IAAP and SOV Chapter.

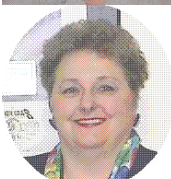
Chapter Officers and Directors 2006



President,
Deborah Ford, MT(ASCP)
Site Supervisor Laboratory
BSHSI, Memorial Regional Medical Center, Mechanicsville



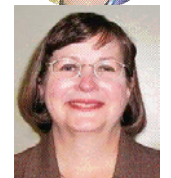
Director,
Ellen B. Boswell, MBA, MT(ASCP)SH
Clinical Pathology Administrative Director
Medical Laboratories, UVA Medical Center, Charlottesville



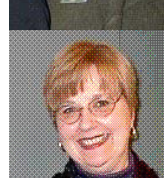
President Elect:
Johnetta Balk, EMBA, MT(ASCP)SBB
Contract Administrator
VCUHS Pathology Laboratories, Richmond



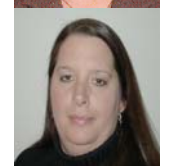
Director,
Brenda S. Hunt, MT(ASCP)
Contract Administrator
VCUHS Pathology Laboratories, Richmond



Secretary:
Chris Harper, MBA, MT(ASCP)
Patient Satisfaction Survey Analyst
UVA Medical Center, Charlottesville



Director:
Emy Morris, MS, MT(ASCP)
Sales Specialist,
BD, Richmond



Treasurer:
Carol A. VanDevender, MBA, BS, MT(ASCP)
Laboratory Manager
Lewis-Gale Physicians, LLC, Roanoke

Contact information for officers and directors for 2006 can be found on the website at www.spiritofvirginia-clma.org.



Spirit of Virginia

CLMA

THE RESOURCE FOR LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS

Johnetta W. Balk
26 Little Falls Lane
Rockville, VA 23146

**SOV/IAAP Seminar
May 23, 2006
Lynchburg College**

**8th Annual Joint Fall
Educational & Vendor
Extravaganza
November 14, 2006
Williamsburg Marriott**

Mark your Calendar!!

Phlebotomy Seminar a Smashing Success!

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.SPIRITOFVIRGINIA-CLMA.ORG

SOV Chapter Officers

Deborah Ford, President
Johnetta Balk, President Elect
Chris Harper, Secretary
Carol Vandevender, Treasurer
Ellen Boswell, Director
Brenda Hunt, Director
Emy Morris, Director

Newsletter Editor

Johnetta Balk

To submit topics or questions
E-mail: jbalk@mcvh-vcu.edu

The Phlebotomy Seminar held on September 28, 2005 was an overwhelming success. Attendees heard nationally renowned phlebotomy expert Dennis J. Ernst, MT(ASCP) provide helpful and down to earth information about the importance of "Eliminating Pre-Analytical Errors in Specimen Collections", "The New CLSI Standards: Important Changes Every Phlebotomist MUST Know" and "Protecting Yourself from Phlebotomy-Related Lawsuits"

More than thirty organizations and physician offices sent employees to the session. Based on feedback from the participants, the chapter will hold another phlebotomy seminar in the Lynchburg area in 2007.

**Workbooks with handouts
from the seminar available
for \$10.00. Contact
jbalk@mcvh-vcu.edu for de-
tails.**