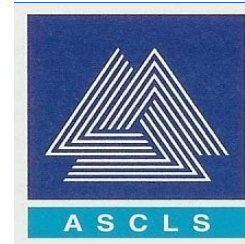




ASCLS-Idaho FOCUS



The Windy City

Fall 2006

Message from the President:

Sandi Oldenberg, ASCLS-Idaho President

The big event of my summer was the trip to Chicago for the ASCLS National Convention and annual meeting. Even though this was the second time I have had the privilege of going to the National Convention, you just don't get used to some things. It was even more rewarding than the first time I went because I was able to build on relationships and renew friendships first started at the 2005 convention!

The first session I attended was a 3-hour seminar for Presidents'-Elect. In addition to meeting Shirley McKenzie, President of ASCLS, and many others whose contributions keep the society functioning on the national level, we got to meet the Presidents-Elect from all the other states. We received lots of great information what our responsibilities as President of our state societies are, and even more valuable, we received suggestions and instructions on HOW to accomplish these tasks.

After the Presidents-Elect Seminar it was off to change for an evening of jazz and food and socializing at the Navy Pier, courtesy of Dade Behring. It was a beautiful venue, and, as always a terrific event. I think we all enjoyed an evening of relaxing before really getting into the nitty-gritty of the week.

The next morning was the opening keynote, and the awards assembly. ASCLS-Idaho received several awards. We were recognized for recruiting the most non-student new members (Thank you to Lorena Bobinski, our Membership chair for both last year and this year--keep up the great work!) and our newsletter won award for best color print newsletter.

After spending a little time being completely amazed by the size and variety of vendor booths at the Clinical Lab Expo, I began stuffing my brain with the educational offerings. I attended seminars on Pharmacogenomics, and on Engraftment/Chimerism, both subjects in which I had much to learn.

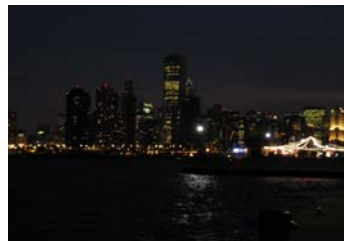
Wednesday night was the E&R silent auction. Each state had contributed items specific or important to their state for auction. The stained glass syringa and the star garnet jewelry made by Barb Frankovich were particularly popular with the bidders. I was very proud of myself that I didn't buy more than I could carry home in my suitcase.

Thursday was spent almost entirely on educational sessions, but I particularly enjoyed my Lunch n' Learn session on Successful Collaborative Meetings. This was a very small group and provided lots of time for asking questions and networking with people from other states. I came away from this offering with so many ideas and so much enthusiasm for our state meetings, it may have been the most valuable session I attended all week!

Friday morning started at 7:30am (groan) with the Region VIII meeting. As always, it was great to see everyone and catch up with the other states in our region. I started my educational offerings with Biofilms: Architect of Chronic Disease. Microbiology is not really my area, and I didn't know much about biofilms, so I thought this session might be interesting. It was more than interesting, it was fascinating, and the speaker was so engaging that I decided to attend his next session, Clinical Rounding--How we Make it Work in Microbiology. That afternoon and evening, we took a little time to take in some of the sights in downtown Chicago. We visited the Sears Tower, and took in some of the Art Institute. Both were wonderful, and I really regret that I didn't have more time to take in all the things Chicago has to offer.

Saturday wrapped up with the closing keynote, and the House of Delegates. At the House of Delegates, we welcomed outgoing national President, Susan Morris back with a walking stick to symbolize the new frontiers she will be tackling in the years to come.

Overall, it was a wonderful experience, filling me with excitement and enthusiasm for the Society and for the profession, and there for a while, I felt ALMOST capable of doing all the things I hope to accomplish as ASCLS-Idaho President in the coming year!



Inside this issue:

<i>ASCLS Chicago National Convention</i>	1-5
<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>A letter from Sonja Nehr-Kanet</i>	2-3
<i>Student Diaries</i>	4
<i>Barb Frankovich - Past President</i>	5
<i>2006 Leadership Retreat</i>	6
<i>Region VIII Messages</i>	7-8

The ASCLS-Idaho FOCUS is published quarterly and is made available to all ASCLS-Idaho members in electronic format. Rights to edit for content and length of materials are retained by ASCLS-Idaho. Send all inquiries to the Editor at:

culberic@peoplepc.com
All ASCLS-Idaho members are invited to submit articles for publication.



Dear ASCLS – Idaho Members,

I would like to take thank you all for the opportunity of representing you as a delegate at the ASCLS 74th Annual National Meeting of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science, July 25-29, 2006 in Chicago, Illinois.

The following is a journal of activities. (It was a busy time!)

On Tuesday July 25, I arrived in Chicago and rushed directly from the airport to my first session, Committee Chairs Orientation (1 – 2:30 pm). I have the privilege to be the Committee Chair for the Education and Research Fund, Inc for 2006-07. Shirlyn McKenzie, ASCLS President for 2006-07 is advocating better communication. (See ASCLS Strategic Plan Pg. 7)

From 2:45 - 4:45 pm, I attended the Scientific Assembly Chairs (SA) meeting. This year also finds me the Committee Chair for the Scientific Assembly, Phlebotomy and Point of Care. *(Please contact me to share your interest, input, ideas for this area!)*

I gratefully took a few minutes to check in and then was off again.

From 6 – 7:30 pm, I attended a session for NCA/NAACLS Update. (See News Pg. 7)

From 7 – 8 pm, there was a First Timers (to National convention) and Student Reception. I met up at 7:30 pm with ISU CLS students Mark Crocker (SLRMC) and Heidi Hobbs (Interpath). They had already mingled with ASCLS President, Bernie Beken, President-Elect Shirlyn McKenzie, various ASCLS Board members, and of course other ASCLS members and other students.

An extra long walk (we should have, could have taken a shuttle bus), Heidi, Mark and I made our way to Navy Pier to attend a Dade Behring sponsored dinner and entertainment event. This was wonderful support and recognition for our profession. Along the way, we spotted billboards recognizing the importance of lab professional. Abbott Laboratories is sponsoring a new campaign, “Labs are Vital” (www.labsarevital.com).

Wednesday July 26th, Scientific Sessions started at 8 AM, and we had the ASCLS Awards and our Opening Keynote with the Galileo Players. Idaho was recognized for its newsletter and membership increases. As a Delegate, my first official function was from 10:30 -11:30 AM, President’s Council and First House. This was an opportunity to discuss and be informed of the major issues facing the organization

The AACCC/ASCLS Expo was a 20 minute shuttle bus ride away; and the EXPO is something NOT to be missed. (Photo by Heidi Hobbs)

At the back of this huge room, the Student Poster Presentations occurred from 1 – 2 pm. Mark Crocker and Heidi Hobbs fielded many questions and proudly shared their research.

I explored the exhibits (but there is never enough time to see them all!).

From 6-7:30 pm the Issues Update session provided us with information regarding what we were going to need to vote about on Saturday.

Wednesday evening was the Welcome Mixer and Education and Research Fund Silent Auction. This is always a great activity. Being involved with the Education and Research Committee, I have a better appreciation of how each donation to the E & R Fund is utilized. Kathy Wesseler has been coordinating the silent auction for several years and this is the major fundraiser for the E & R. This year \$4425 was raised; the quality of donated items were wonderful but the total number of items donated were down. The committee is thankful for everyone’s support and will look into ways to make the E&R Fund, Inc, more visible to the membership.

Thursday July 27th found me reviewing Dade MLT scholarship applications in the early AM (one of my committee responsibilities for the E&R). I was then off the AACCC/ASCLS Expo to be in the ASCLS booth and visit with the vendors. In the late afternoon, I took a break from the conference and spent two hours in the Chicago Art Institute. It was an enriching and relaxing visit. <http://www.artic.edu/aic/index.php>

I missed the conference’s T’NT Boot Scootin’ Boogie Bash, but joined up with about 25 other region VIII members. It was special to have an opportunity to meet other ASCLS active members in other states (Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and Montana).



PRESIDENT

Sandi Oldenberg
6886 W. Tamarindo Ct.
Boise, ID 83714
H: 208-853-1976
yamama@clearwire.net

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Jenny Lee
410 Brookdale Dr.
Boise, ID 83712
H: 208-387-0970
jennymf@msn.com

PAST PRESIDENT

Barb Frankovich
2308 W. Santa Clara Dr.
Meridian ID, 83642
H: 208-888-5119
barbmtascp@msn.com

SECRETARY

Mary Lay
2368 E. Alderhill Dr.
Eagle, ID 83616;
H: 208-938-3429;
W: 208-381-2360;
mhleagle@mac.com

TREASURER

Karen Dixon-Hoskins
3808 South 5th West
Idaho Falls, ID 83404
H: 208-522-4353; W: 208-529-6070
hoskins@srv.net

EDITOR

Eric Culbertson
6247 S. Star Struck Ave.
Boise ID 83709
H: 375-1454
culberic@peoplepc.com

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY

Debbie Shell
5812 W. Buckskin Rd,
Pocatello, ID, 83201
H: 208-234-0722
dmssq@allidaho.com



Friday July 28th was an early start with Region Caucus meetings from 7:30 to 8:30 AM.

Organizing – Staffing for Committee and Task Force chairs

- ◆ Appoint/recruit committee/task force members
 - Give them assignments/tasks
- ◆ Build in mentoring to develop future chairs by appointing
 - Chairs-elect and past-chair positions
 - Co-chair positions
 - New member or student member on each committee/task force

My favorite scientific session was on Friday July 28th from 10:45 to 12:15 PM. Practical Tips for Organizational Leaders. Kathy Doig is always inspirational and practical. The major messages was reflect and anticipate; the 4 functions of Management were to Plan, Organize, Direct/lead and control/monitor. I also liked her suggestion regarding mentoring. The PDF files of this and for many other sessions are available on the ASCLS website.

(<http://www.ascls.org/conferences/2006AM/sessions.asp>)

Check them out; lots of other hot topics too!

Scientific Assembly and Luncheons were held from 12:30 to 2 PM. As Scientific Chair for Phlebotomy and Point of Care, we had lively discussion about how to better involve and provide appropriate education for Phlebotomists. As a group, we proposed that we have a Phlebotomist Workshop Day and include educational activities, the scientific assembly and social activities to recognize their vital roles. An article for ASCLS Today (due Dec 1) needs to be written (any one with any topics or wish to write an article, please contact me! nehrsonj@isu.edu)

Exhaustion had set in and I found relief again at the Chicago Art Institute. It was special meeting up and having dinner with two of my ISU CLS graduates from Boise, Jenny Lee (03) (President-Elect ASCLS Idaho) and Aimee Russell (04) (Young Professional for Region VIII).

Saturday July 29th was the last day and meant packing up. The Closing Keynote: Balancing Work and Family: Keeping Your Job, Your Family and Your Sanity was enlightening. The 20/80 Rule was good to remember. For example, out of your entire closet (100%), you wear regularly just 20% of your clothing. In a nutshell, if we can focus on the 20% of the things that are truly important and spend 80% of our time on them, we may be in better balance. (Something I am thinking about; but not quite there!)

The House of Delegates was the main event for us delegates. I had the honor to be here in 2004 as well. The formality can be a little intimidating, but with wonderful experienced ASCLS colleagues (Debbie Shell in 2004), the second time was much easier. Idaho welcomed back to our ranks, Susan Morris, ASCLS President (04-05); Past President (05-06). Since the issues were so well discussed at previous sessions, the House proceeded with record speed. I was brave enough to go up to the microphone to share a commendation for all the CLS students who are not only studying all their clinical topics, but are spending time performing research.

My Saturday afternoon was spent preparing and holding my first meeting as Chair of the Education and Research Fund. There are numerous scholarship and grants available. I hope to make those opportunities more visible to YOU in Idaho, as well as around the country.
http://www.ascls.org/leadership/awards/e_and_r.asp

I would like to encourage you to be active in your organization. Can I ask you to please mentor our students and each other? Kathy Doig explained that she got started because someone asked her to do something. So if someone asks you to help, please say yes. You never know how that opportunity will lead to so much more.

Again, I would like to thank the ASCLS members of Idaho for your support financially of my registration fees and flight. I would like to also thank, Dr. Terry Bowyer, Idaho State University Chair of the Department Biological Sciences and Dr. Kathleen Spiegel, ISU CLS Program Director, for your financial support of the rooms, and the registration and flight expense for CLS Students Heidi Hobbs and Mark Crocker.

Sincerely yours,

Sonja Nehr-Kanet



BOARD MEMBER, 2ND YEAR

Laura Brattain
P.O.Box 253
Victor, ID 83455
W:208-354-6327
H: 208-478-1030
lbrattain@tetonvalleyhospital.com

BOARD MEMBER, 1ST YEAR

Scott Bradley
PO Box 171
Menan, ID 83434

PROFESSIONAL AFFAIRS

Dennis Bankhead
1452 N. Crestmont
Meridian, ID 83642
H: 484-2488
dbankhead73@hotmail.com

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

Mary Lay
2368 E. Alderhill Dr.
Eagle, ID 83616;
H: 208-938-3429;
W: 208-381-2360;
mhleagle@mac.com

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Holly Weinberg
281 S. Silverwood Way
Eagle ID, 83616
W: 208-381-2363; H: 208-939-2652;
weinberh@slrmc.org
roho281@aol.com

MEMBERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Lorena Bobinski
10140 W. Meadowlark St.
Boise, ID 83704
H: 375-5048
lobobi@cableone.net

SCHOLARSHIP

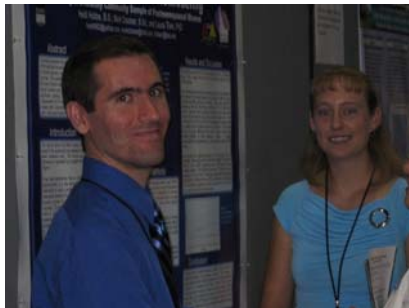
Christina Blasick
5428 N. Toscana Ave.
Meridian ID, 83642
H: 208-863-5729
Blaschri@isu.net



What our newest members have to say!

Mark Crocker

When you're sitting at home, hunched in front of the computer watching the grainy video of a CLS lecture, it's hard to imagine that there is a wider world of *any* kind. After a year of such video-viewing, fact and fiction blur until they become one homogenous whole and you catch yourself trying to re-wind real life. Watch TiVo for long enough and it has the same effect, by the way. It was, therefore, very pleasing to discover that by signing with ASCLS Idaho, I was not joining some freaky cult, but was becoming a member of a nationwide professional association dedicated to raising the profile of the clinical lab and advancing the interests of those who work in it. Whew! Here I was, worried about how I looked in black-hooded robes and it turns out ASCLS isn't *that* kind of a society.



Once a year, ASCLS holds a big meeting to hash out policy positions, deal with other Society business and just have a good old fashioned get-together. Awards are awarded, speakers speak and educators educate. By associating with AACC (American Association for Clinical Chemistry), laboratory vendors are attracted *en masse* in the form of a Clinical Lab Expo, which is an ideal opportunity for the laboratory professional to see emerging technologies, get a look at the latest equipment and pick up lots of free stuff.

In 2006, the ASCLS national meeting was in Chicago and, as much by sheer luck as anything else, Heidi Hobbs and I were able to attend and present a poster. I must admit that my initial enthusiasm about going was due to the prospect of getting away from my clinical rotations for a few days, but as the poster presentation loomed, I began to consider that I might prefer to be interning.

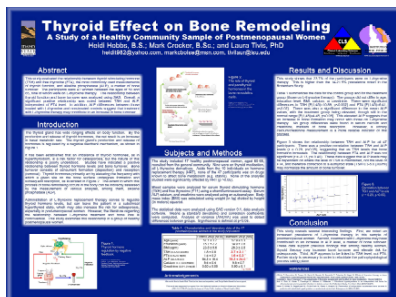
My doubts proved unfounded. Arriving on Tuesday, Heidi and I made a quick trip to the Expo Center to see the vendor displays and to 'reconnoitre' the area where we would be presenting our poster. We discovered that, contrary to how it seems when hunched over that screen at home, there *is* a wider world out there and it's BIG. The impression that I took away with me from my experiences during those few days was that labs *matter*. They are important. A vendor, Abbott Diagnostics, proved this when their representative pledged one million dollars to CLS education programs during his speech on the opening day.

The next three days passed quickly. After the first morning opening formalities (complete with awards ceremonies) had finished, we made our way to the Expo Center and spent time looking around and talking to vendor representatives. After lunch we presented our poster and completed the afternoon by going back to the vendors to obtain some free merchandise. I'm sure that it is entirely possible to spend the whole time at the Expo collecting freebies, although how you would carry all your loot away is another matter. Some of the vendors very helpfully gave away free bags at their stands, but these were woefully inadequate for the volume that could be acquired. The only way I can see that could really work would be if they gave away shopping carts. That evening, a tortuous walk from the hotel to Navy Pier led us to the Dade-Bering party where we were prepared for the journey back by the application of copious amounts of free food, alcohol and entertainment. On Thursday, we attended a presentation on the Myelodysplastic Syndrome before spending the afternoon at the Museum of Science and Industry and the Sears Tower. A dinner with other Region VIII members (the Northwest region) finished the day.

So it turns out that there is a whole community of laboratory professionals all across the country just like you and me. It seems to me that the best way we can help each other is to keep in touch. Next year's meeting will be in San Diego. Maybe I'll see you there. Black-hooded robes are purely optional. If you need me, I'll be practicing my secret handshake.

Heidi Hobbs

The 2006 ASCLS National Meeting in Chicago, my first, was a great experience. It was somewhat overwhelming, with numerous vendors to visit with at the expo, many presentations to attend, and various speakers to listen to, and so little time to do it all in. The learning opportunities were seemingly endless. In addition, interacting with that many techs gets you excited to be involved in organization and the profession. It was also interesting to talk with CLS students from around the country about their programs and experiences. Overall, I am very thankful for the opportunity to present our student research poster, and thankful to everyone who made it possible for me to attend. It is something I definitely want to attend in years to come.



PAC

Debbie Shell
5812 W. Buckskin Rd
Pocatello, ID, 83201
H: 208-234-0722
dmssa@allidaho.com

AWARDS

Keila Poulsen,
3994 E. 65th S.
Idaho Falls, ID 83406
kpoulsen@aol.com

BYLAWS

Diana Ernest
4479 S. Rimview Way
Boise, ID 83716
H: 208-338-5960
dleerrest@aol.com

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Heather Gunter
hgunter@pocatellochildren.com

PACE

Sandy Perotto
1607 Longmont
Boise, ID 83706
pandap@earthlink.net

2007 CONVENTION CO-CHAIR

Barbara Frankovich
2308W. Santa Clara Dr
Meridian, ID 83642
(208)888-5119
barbmtascp@msn.com

2007 CONVENTION CO-CHAIR

Lorena Bobinski
10140 W. Meadowlark
Boise, ID 83709
(208)375-5048
lobobi@cableone.net



By Barb Frankovich, Past-President

I have had the privilege of attending my 3rd national convention and I must tell you that each one is just enlightening as the others. I attended a workshop entitled “Biofilms: Architects of Chronic Diseases”. As a generalist, this was all new information for me. It was amazing, yet unsettling to learn that 37 diseases are known to be clearly biofilm associated. Listening to this presentation made it clearer to me that our profession must constantly review and update its practices for the safety and improved care of our patients.

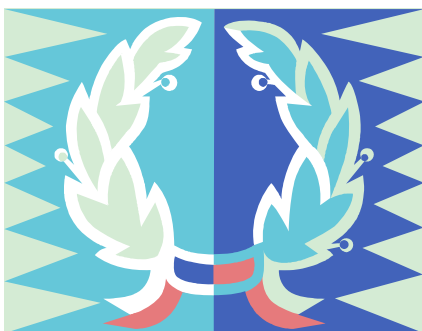
One of our responsibilities as a delegate is to attend the House of Delegates. Generally, there is some type of position paper presented for discussion and hopefully adopted by the delegation. This year, “Laboratory Personnel Licensure” was the position paper. Having been a delegate for 2004 and 2005, I

was prepared for a lengthy discussion and wordsmithing of the document. To everyone’s bewilderment, there was none. The position paper was accepted as submitted! I am guessing this was one of the shortest House of Delegates sessions in the history of ASCLS.

We were delighted and honored to welcome back Susan Morris to our society from the national board. We dressed her in “trail blazing” garb as she blazes new trails in which we can support and follow her.

I encourage everyone to try to attend one of these national conventions, either as a delegate for the state or on your own. Next year it will be in San Diego!

Applause, Applause!!!



ASCLS-Idaho was recognized with 2 awards at the national convention in Chicago. We were honored with a first place finish for our newsletter in the paper color print format. For Membership, our society had the 2nd greatest percent increase (11.1%) without counting students.

Congratulations to our Editor, Brian Anderson, our Membership Chair, Lorena Bobinski and all those who assisted in these endeavors!



The 2006 Leadership Retreat!!!



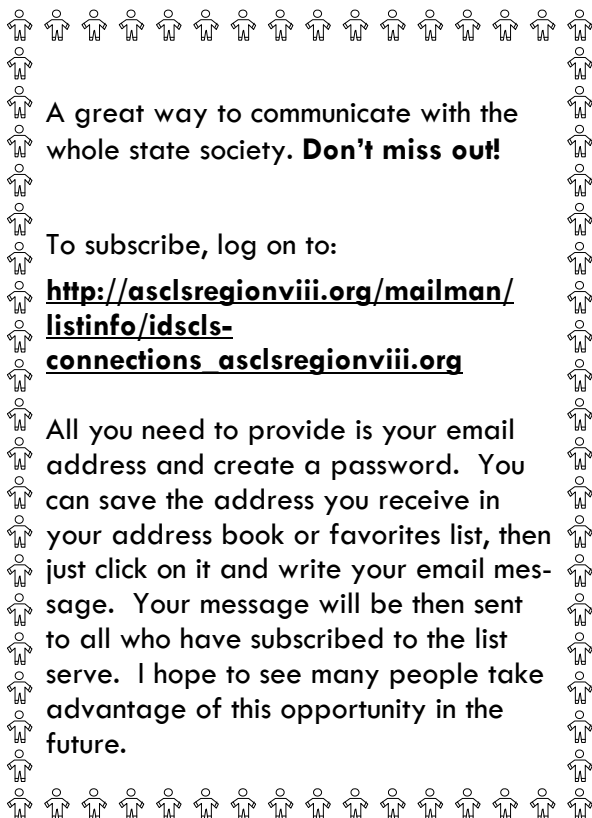
The 2006 Leadership Retreat was held in Hagerman on June 3 at the Snake River Grill. Kirt Martin, the chef and owner of the Snake River Grill provided an excellent facility and edibles helping to make the day an enjoyable one for all. The retreat was well attended by new members as well as veterans and we had some very animated discussions on a variety of topics. The morning started with a discussion of Change and how to help implement change in our jobs and in our professional society. That discussion paved the way for a presentation by our own Susan Morris on what's happening at the National, Regional and State levels of ASCLS. What started out to be a quick overview of what to expect at the National House of Delegates

turned into an in-depth discussion of various issues with Sonja playing an excellent devil's advocate. After a tasty lunch provided by Kirt and his staff, we moved into out-going President Barb's final board meeting with in-coming President Sandi co-chairing. We dealt with some old business and then moved into a discussion of goals for the coming year. The remainder of the afternoon was spent mentoring incoming officers and committee chairs and throwing around ideas for the Sandi's year at the helm. Overall, it was a day well spent, a time for us to share ideas, concerns, and a lot of laughter. I look forward to meeting in Hagerman again next year, same time, same place and hope to see many of you there. Mark your calendars now for the 2007 Leadership Retreat. This year we have a committee working on the retreat and there are some incredible things in store for one and all!



-Holly Weinberg

Don't Forget the List Serve!



 A great way to communicate with the whole state society. **Don't miss out!**

 To subscribe, log on to:

http://asclsregionviii.org/mailman/listinfo/idscls-connections_asclsregionviii.org

 All you need to provide is your email address and create a password. You can save the address you receive in your address book or favorites list, then just click on it and write your email message. Your message will be then sent to all who have subscribed to the list serve. I hope to see many people take advantage of this opportunity in the future.

Recruit a new member



* Join the
 M-G-M Campaign!
 * Be an ASCLS
 Star! *

Every laboratory professional deserves the opportunities of the

VOICE-VALUE-VISION

of ASCLS membership!

We all benefit when ASCLS grows!

Check our website, www.ascls.org, for additional details and rules applying to this campaign



MARK YOUR CALENDARS TODAY



The ASCLS-Idaho Spring Convention planning is underway. It will be held at the Doubletree Riverside in Boise April 19-21, 2007. We want to see you there!!

Announcements

ASCLS Idaho Board Meeting. All are Welcome!
November 13, 2007, from 5:10-6:40 p.m. At the ISU Distance Learning Sites. Have your voice heard across ID!

Boise: Meeting in Room: DL 096, 12301 W Explorer Dr., Suite 102, Boise, ID 83713

Pocatello: Meeting in Room: DL B78, Eli M. Oboler Library, 850 South 9th Avenue, Pocatello, Idaho 83209

Idaho Falls: Meeting in Room: DL CHE 314, 1784 Science Center Drive, Idaho Falls, ID 83402
 Phone: (208) 282-7880

Twin Falls: Meeting in Room: DL TWIN C89, ISU T.W. Center, Evergreen B40, P.O. Box 1238 Twin Falls, ID 83303 Phone: 208-736-2101

February 22-24, 2007 Clinical Laboratory Educators' Conference ; Louisville, KY

July 17-21, 2007 Annual Meeting ; San Diego, CA

"You have to accept whatever comes and the important thing is that you meet it with courage and with the best you have to give."

- Eleanor Roosevelt

New Logo!



We have a new logo to go with our new name. The society voted in the name change at the business meeting in 2005 and then chose the new logo at the 2006 convention. We have pins available for sale for only \$5. Contact Barb Frankovich, Debbie Shell, Aimee Russell or Sandi Oldenberg to purchase one. Hurry, they are going fast!!!

"Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be."

- Abraham Lincoln



Region VIII News

Important Notice to All: Certification Expiration in 2007

If you were certified in 2004 in one of the following entry-level categories, your certification is time limited and will expire in 2007.

The expiration date of your certification is printed on your certificate. To maintain your certification, completion of the Certification Maintenance Program (CMP) is mandatory.

If you have a time-limited certificate and do not complete the CMP by the deadline date printed on your certificate, your ASCP member ID card will not indicate your certification number. Individuals requesting verification of your certification will be informed your certification has expired and is no longer valid. Time-limited certification and CMP were developed to assure the public that ASCP certified laboratory professionals are performing activities to stay current in their practice. In addition to traditional continuing education courses, many other activities also earn points for completion of CMP, such as: For a complete listing of activities for CMP points, visit the ASCP web site at www.ascp.org/certification/cmp/

ISU CLS Boise Graduates 2006

A total of eleven students completed the program in the Boise area. **Congratulations to all.**

In picture from left to right: Sonja Nehr-Kanet, Clinical Assistant Professor, CLS Program, Boise, Lana Leake, MS CLS (first CLS graduate student for Boise campus, employed at West Valley Medical Center, Caldwell), Heidi Hobbs (employed at InterPath Laboratories, Boise), Angela Shaw (employed at West Valley Medical Center), Cassie Dayan (employed at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center).



Congratulations to Mary Galindo for beginning a CLS Club at ISU!

ASCLS Strategic Plan 2006-2007

1. Identify issues that impact or will impact the laboratory practitioner and develop strategies to prepare them to address the issues.
2. Respond to advances in scientific and information technology that will impact the profession.
3. Adapt ASCLS to the changing priorities of contemporary lab professionals.
4. Increase membership and the financial stability of the organization.
5. Identify strategies to respond to the impacts of the aging population and other changes in the health care arena on the profession.

NCA/NAACLS Update

Standards for Professional Doctorate (See <http://www.naacls.org/> for more information).

There are exciting developments from NCA and BOR (ASCP). There are continued discussions about the unification of those entities (See <http://www.nca-info.org/> for more information).

New Committee

The Young Professionals committee consists of Aimee Russell, Scott Bradley and Christine Blasick.

Aimee Russell is leading the committee as the new Young Professionals Committee Chair. The Board would like to consider making the Young Professional a Board Position. This could potentially involve a By-Laws change.

Calendar of Events

[November 13, 2006](#)

ASCLS-Idaho Board Mtg. at the ISU DL sites 5:10pm

[January 12, 2007](#)

Deadline to submit articles for the winter FOCUS.

[February 22-24, 2007](#)

Clinical Laboratory Educator's Conference; Louisville, KY.

[April 19-21, 2007](#)

ASCLS-Idaho Spring Convention; Boise, ID.

[April 22-27, 2007](#)

National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week

[July 17-21, 2007](#)

75th ASCLS 2007 Annual Mtg.; San Diego, CA.

"The only place success comes before work is in the dictionary." - Donald Kendall




I would like to thank everyone that submitted articles for the Fall 2006 issue. This year we hope to have 4 issues. The winter FOCUS issue deadline is January 12, 2007. Please submit to me at culberic@peoplepc.com or by mail.




I hope to get updates on projects and watch our for requests from Sandi for the next issue. Until then,
Have a Great Holiday Season!!!

Eric-Editor



Visit us on the
web!



WWW.ASCLS.ORG

A graphic consisting of a white starburst shape on the left containing the ASCLS Idaho logo and the text "Visit us on the web!". To the right is a black rectangular box with a white oval cutout containing the ASCLS logo and the website address "WWW.ASCLS.ORG".

email request to the editor.

With the development of our electronic newsletter and our website, we have been able to decrease printing and mailing costs. If you prefer to continue to receive The Focus by mail, please send a written or

Editor

Eric Culbertson
6247 S. Star Struck Ave.
Boise, ID 83709
culberic@peoplepc.com