



## President Notes – Natasha Hundley

As we celebrate National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (NMLPW) beginning April 18<sup>th</sup>, an opportunity exists to promote our profession and increase public understanding of the critical role laboratorians play in health and disease management. It has been exciting to see stories in the news over the past month, highlighting new undergraduate and master's degree clinical laboratory science programs in Alabama, Ohio and Utah. Last month, members of CLMA, ASCLS, and ASCP joined together on Capitol Hill to bring national visibility to issues impacting the laboratory community. Historic U.S. healthcare reform legislation was passed, providing yet another opportunity for the clinical laboratory industry to gain national attention. Locally, KCCLMA, KSCLS and MOCLS will meet April 14-16<sup>th</sup> at the Downtown Kansas City Marriott for our PatchWork of Knowledge collaborative conference held every four years. The local laboratory volunteers at the JayDoc free health clinic have expanded outreach activities to now include Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evening services, and have been requested to support two additional locations in the Kansas City area. What are you doing to increase visibility for the laboratory community in your daily activities? Take a moment to consider how you and your laboratory can promote the profession not only during NMLPW, but every week.



## Scheduled Meetings – Save the Dates

**April 14-16, 2010, 7 am to 4pm. Patchwork of Knowledge** collaborative conference. Location: Kansas City Downtown Marriott, 200 West 12th Street, Kansas City, MO. See agenda at: <http://www.kcclma.org/calendar/2010PatchworkAgendaataglanJan252009.pdf>

**May 3-6, 2010, ThinkLab**, MGM Grand Las Vegas Nevada. Click here for details and to register:

<http://www.clma.org/index.php/education/thinklab/thinklab-10>

**May 21, 2010 – KCCLMA Annual Meeting.** Panel discussion regarding “Using your LIS to Impact Productivity and Quality.” Time: 9-9:30am Networking/Breakfast, 9:30-10am Business Meeting/BOD Elections/Scholarships, 10-11am Presentation, 11am-Noon Q&A/Networking. Location: Cerner Corporation Vision Center, 2800 Rockcreek Parkway, Kansas City, MO. Please RSVP by email to Natasha Hundley, at [natasha.hundley@cerner.com](mailto:natasha.hundley@cerner.com) by May 14, 2010



## We want to know!

Please take a moment to tell us how we are doing and what we could be doing better! This link will direct you to the survey: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/F26WYHF>



## Membership News

KC CLMA utilizes International CLMA's database to track chapter membership and report via this newsletter. We recently discovered that the database has some improvement opportunities. KC CLMA will continue to report membership numbers but with this disclaimer until resolved.

According to International CLMA's database, KC CLMA Chapter currently has 72 members, including 1 new member. Please join the BOD in welcoming Jerry Hanson, Girard Medical Cerner in Girard KS.

There are 9 members lapsing at the end of March; all of whom have renewed in the past. *At minimum, we know there are at least four current members not on the list.*

KCCLMA will award a \$75 New Member Scholarship towards full CLMA membership. Application form is posted on [www.kcclma.org](http://www.kcclma.org). **Application is due May 1, 2010.**

If you know any former members, please remind him/her of the benefits of belonging to CLMA and ask them to rejoin! *Please email Pet with suggestions to recruit and/or retain at [Pet.Maniquis@Providence-Health.org](mailto:Pet.Maniquis@Providence-Health.org)*



## Sub-Committee Activities

RALS-MAS Eurotrol, Hemocue and Radiometer are sponsoring a Point-of-Care Webinar September 16, 2010. Information and registration may be found at <http://www.pointofcare.net>

The Heart of America Point-of-Care Network will hold their next meeting on October 15, 2010 at Providence Medical Center, KC, KS. <http://www.pointofcare.net/Heartland/index.htm>

Please contact a BOD member listed at the end of this newsletter if you would like to volunteer on a sub-committee: Education, Legislative, Point-of-Care, Marketing/Membership or Safety.



## Board Activities

Please refer to Meeting Minutes on "Members Only" KC CLMA web page for additional information regarding board activities.



## Safety Shorts

Have you heard about the hospital wireless system that can monitor staff hand washing? Staffs at Baptist Princeton Hospital in Birmingham, Ala., wear special badges with wireless technology that can report whether they are washing their hands upon arriving and leaving patient rooms. Text messages and e-mails can be sent as reminders to staff who don't comply with hospital rules on hand washing, says the CEO of the company that developed the monitoring system. Follow link to read more: [National Public Radio](#).



## Legislative Update

### Healthcare Reform Bill Passes the House

H.R. 3590, which is the Senate version of Health Care Reform, "Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act", passed the House on Sunday March 21, 2010 by a vote of 219 to 212 (34 Democrats and 178 Republicans voted "no"). The reconciliation package (H.R. 4872) passed by a vote of 220 to 211 (33 Democrats and 178 Republicans voted "no").

H.R. 3590 now heads to President Obama for his signature. The reconciliation bill will move to the Senate where debate on the bill is expected to begin on Tuesday; however there are a number of procedural hurdles that may slow the process and/or require the House to revote on the measure.

HR 3590 contains several laboratory provisions. A copy of the [text of the Bill can be found here](#). Most significantly, the Bill includes an across the board clinical laboratory fee schedule cut of 1.75 percent scheduled to begin next year. Also, the Senate bill includes a "productivity adjustment" to annual CPI update for labs which replaces the 0.5% reduction to updates implemented last year. The productivity adjustment would reduce the laboratory fee schedule by an amount equal to the increase in the 10-year moving average of economy-wide business multi-factor productivity factor as calculated by the Department of Labor. The just passed Senate version of reform provides that the productivity adjustment cannot reduce the CPI update below zero. These provisions are contained in section 3401(1) of the Bill.

### Laboratory Community Unites for Advocacy

Laboratory representatives ASCLS, CLMA, AMT and ASCP spent March 16, 2010 on Capitol Hill visiting members of congress and Senate to lobby for laboratory issues. These organizations would like to see congress institute the negotiated rule provisions in HR 1452, the Fee Schedule Modernization Bill introduced by Representative Bart Stupak on CLMA on the laboratory industry's behalf last year. CLMA and the others understand that the laboratory industry, like all other segments of health care, must take some cuts in reimbursement in order to pay for health care reform but would like to have a say in how the cuts are applied. A revised version of HR 1452 seeks that and is one of the messages participants in the Legislative Symposium Fly-in carried to the Hill on March 19<sup>th</sup>. Workforce shortage funding was another important message they carried.

Deb Faller, Co-Chair of KC CLMA Legislative Committee met with the offices of MO

Representative Sam Graves, MO Senator Claire McCaskill, MO Senator Kit Bond and KC Senator Pat Roberts regarding the above issues.

### CLMA PAC Chapter Challenge

CLMA PAC recently set a goal to raise \$20,000 in 2010 with a goal of \$8,000 coming from chapter PAC events. Each chapter that holds a PAC event in 2010 will be eligible for a prize drawing - one entry for each PAC event. Five chapters will be chosen to each receive one free registration to ThinkLab '11. We won a Free Registration last year; let's do it again this year!!!

**CLMA members are encouraged** to check out current legislative issues on the CLMA website at [www.clma.org](http://www.clma.org), we encourage all members to get involved!



### Urgent Request for Volunteers

KC CLMA continues to provide personnel at JayDoc FREE Clinic in Kansas City, KS in conjunction with Heart-to-Heart International (HHI). There are openings in April and May schedules. No phlebotomy experience required. Volunteers must demonstrate competency. Contact Pet Maniquis at [pet.maniquis@Providence-Health.org](mailto:pet.maniquis@Providence-Health.org) if you are interested in volunteering.

HHI responded immediately to the earthquake in Haiti. Please visit their website at <http://www.hearttoheart.org/> in order to make donations or provide other types of assistance.

HHI has multiple trips to Guatemala planned this year. Dates include: May 5-12, June 7-13, June 20-26 and September 25-October 2. Cost per person is \$975 plus airfare. Price includes: in country expenses, team meals, ground transportation, tips, taxes, medical evacuation insurance and program administration expenses. Please contact Heart-to-Heart International at 913-764-5200 or [Jorge.coromac@hearttoheart.org](mailto:Jorge.coromac@hearttoheart.org) if you have

questions or interested in volunteering for any of these mission trips.



### KC CLMA Board of Directors

President – Natasha Hundley  
([Natasha.hundley@cerner.com](mailto:Natasha.hundley@cerner.com))

President-elect – Kathy Darling  
([kdarling@saint-lukes.org](mailto:kdarling@saint-lukes.org))

Past president – Connie Broers  
([connie.broers@lmh.org](mailto:connie.broers@lmh.org))

Secretary – Holly Hamilton  
([holly.hamilton@lmh.org](mailto:holly.hamilton@lmh.org))

Treasurer – Barb Young  
([Byoung@saint-lukes.org](mailto:Byoung@saint-lukes.org))

Education Co-Chair – Vicki Parsons  
([vparsons@kumc.edu](mailto:vparsons@kumc.edu))

Education Co-Chair – Katie Aldis  
([Katie.Aldis@HCAHealthcare.com](mailto:Katie.Aldis@HCAHealthcare.com))

Legislative Liaison Co-Chair – Dawn Lumpkin  
([dawn.lumpkin@hcamidwest.com](mailto:dawn.lumpkin@hcamidwest.com))

Legislative Liaison Co-Chair & Newsletter – Deb Faller  
([dafaller@cmh.edu](mailto:dafaller@cmh.edu))

Membership/Marketing and POCT – Pet Maniquis  
([Pet.maniquis@providence-health.org](mailto:Pet.maniquis@providence-health.org))

Membership/Marketing – Terry Colombatto  
([Terry.Colombatto@hcamidwest.com](mailto:Terry.Colombatto@hcamidwest.com))

Membership/Marketing – Barry Johnson  
([Barry.johnson@thermofisher.com](mailto:Barry.johnson@thermofisher.com))

Membership/Marketing – Nancy Paul  
([Nancy.Paul@thermofisher.com](mailto:Nancy.Paul@thermofisher.com))

Website – Humbelina Harper  
([humbelina.harper@lmh.org](mailto:humbelina.harper@lmh.org))