



THE S O S H O W M E

Winter 2011

President's Message

By John Koenig

What do ASCLS and MoCLS mean to you? They can mean many different things to many different people. ASCLS can also mean different things than MoCLS. MoCLS can be a group of professionals who work together on a regular basis to promote and educate on the profession of Clinical Laboratory Science. It is a group of professionals in a specific geographic area (Missouri) that has special needs and concerns. Yes, a group of professionals who have formed a special bond and who care about each other and have similar concerns.

ASCLS is also a group of professionals that focus on our profession, but they are looking at it in a national perspective. They are there to promote the profession and tell people who we are. As one leader so aptly put it: to put the Face to the Profession. In addition, they are there to advocate for us in Washington DC. Our leadership in ASCLS does an excellent job of doing this and also bringing in members from all over the country to advocate at our annual Legislative Symposium.

So what does ASCLS/MoCLS mean to me after 33 years of membership? Well of course all the things I mentioned above are important to me; but most importantly, it makes me feel like I have been part of an organization that makes a difference, and through it that I have made a difference to promote the profession that I love and could not stay away from. I retired two years ago, but this year I had to get back into the laboratory and am back on the bench working a couple of days a week.

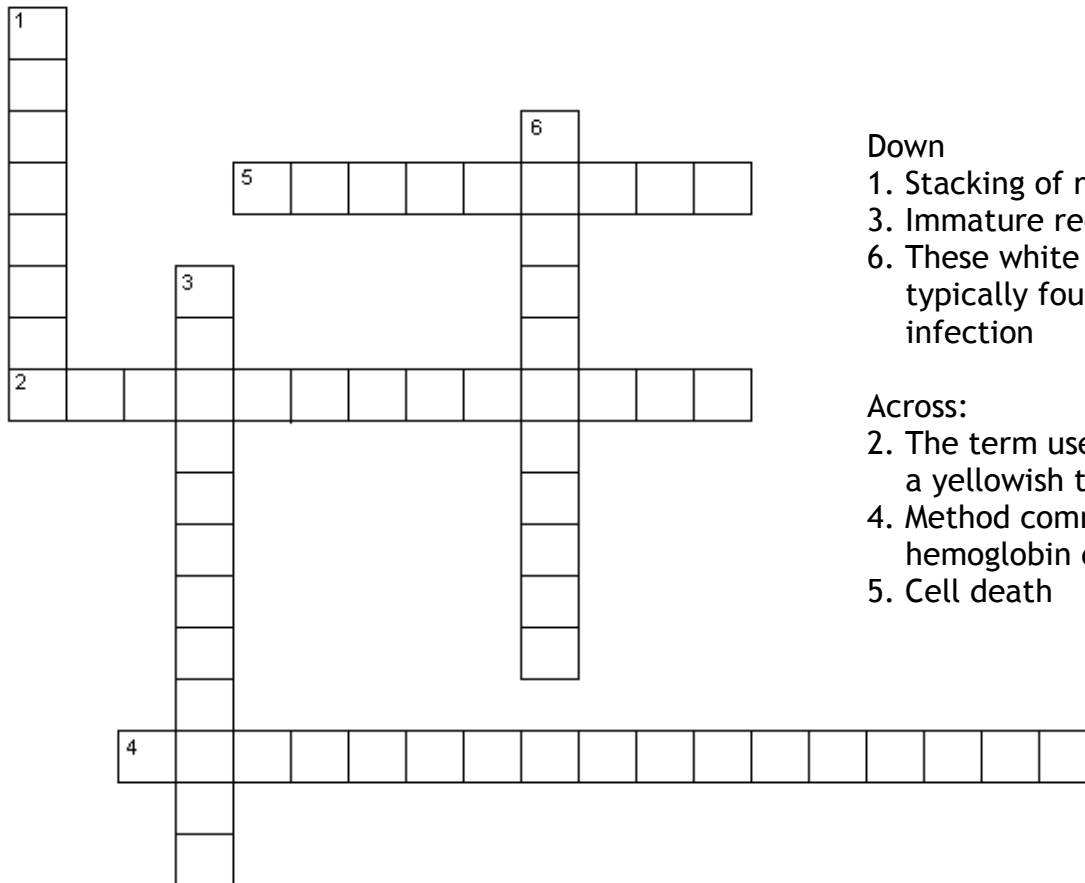
INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<i>President's Message</i>	1
<i>Crossword Puzzle</i>	2
<i>Refocus Your Energies</i>	2
<i>KUDOS!</i>	3
<i>News From Around the Region</i>	3
<i>Things to Come</i>	4
<i>Your MoCLS Board</i>	6
<i>A Call for Nominations</i>	6
<i>Save the date</i>	7
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	7
<i>Crossword Puzzle Answers</i>	8

ASCLS/MoCLS also means friendship and caring. I cannot count the number of friendships I have developed over the years, friendships which I will cherish forever. I have especially made these friendships by working so closely with the people in MoCLS, but I have also made friends from all over the country that I can call on whenever I need to.

So what does ASCLS mean? It means education, promotion, advocacy, and friendship. It is important to have a strong professional organization if we are going to have a strong profession. We need ASCLS and MoCLS, and ASCLS needs you. It cannot do all the things we need it to do if we do not have members. Members are the strength of any organization, so it is important that all laboratorians look at the value of ASCLS membership and join. Each of us has the duty to recruit and retain members, especially amongst our students and young professionals. I have set a goal for our society this year to go out and recruit new members. The future of our profession depends on it.

Heavy on the Heme



Down

1. Stacking of red blood cells
3. Immature red blood cell
6. These white blood cells are typically found in a parasitic infection

Across:

2. The term used to describe a yellowish tint in CSF
4. Method commonly used for hemoglobin determination.
5. Cell death

Answers on Page 8

Refocus Your Energies

Tim R. Randolph
Region VI RD

It is time; time to take the plunge; time to break the mold; time to create new patterns!!! I hear you whispering over there; "I can't add one more thing to my life"!! I agree, unless you cut something out.

I am so proud to be an active laboratory professional working with and through ASCLS to make a difference. From my vantage point, I am surrounded by talented professionals with noble desires but many of whom are a bit disappointed in the outcomes of their efforts. Each of us has a tool box full of admirable tools but we lack one critical tool, a hatchet. In order to achieve the outcomes we seek we must retool our processes. I am not advocating that we gut the house and rebuild from scratch but unless we "chop" out a few less productive activities, we will not have the time to accomplish the tasks that are more likely to produce the desired outcomes. Only you can determine what to put on the chopping block, but may I share with you two areas in which to redirect your efforts?

1. Establish an annual planning meeting in your state

In my opinion, the number one reason State Presidents may be disappointed in the outcomes achieved by their state leadership is because too many leaders spend too much time trying to learn their job and not enough time doing their job. As State President, if your state holds your annual state meeting in the spring, email your President-elect today and work with them to set a date for a

KUDOS!

This column will feature achievements made by our members and awards they received for all their efforts. If you would like to share your good news, please e-mail Shelly Schoeberlein at mocls@sbcglobal.net or Sharon Duessel at Sharon.Duessel.MLS@gmail.com

Brikena Luther (Helmi)
MLS(ASCP) gave birth to baby boy
Kayden Madhov Luther on January 14th,
2011. Kayden weighed in at 7 lbs, 12.6
oz and measured 20 inches long. Both
Mom and Baby are doing very well.

Congatulations to Tom Reddig on
his retirement. We in the Clinical Lab
field appreciate everything you have
done for us! Enjoy your Retirement Tom!

Congratulations to Taylor Likert,
clinical laboratory science senior student
at Saint Louis University and Mocls
student member. Taylor has been
awarded one of two 2011 Missouri Society
of Pathologists William R. Bynum, MD
Memorial Scholoarships. Selection was
based on leadership ability, initiative,
acceptance of responisibility, dedication,
relationships with colleagues, and clinical
laboratory technical and diagnostic skills.

News From Around the Region.....

Debbie Baudler
1st year Board Director

From St. Louis District Rep: Binh Cao

Why I Chose Medical Laboratory Science:
The MLS program equips students with both
the theoretical and practical skills needed to
compete. The clinical rotations students go
through give them a definite edge over the
typical graduate. Furthermore with an aging
workforce, many new MLS professionals will
have the opportunity to put their knowledge into
practice. And while jobs can be hard to come
by, networking potentials, such as the annual
ASCLS meetings, allow MLS students to have
more career options. Job choices can range
anywhere from working in a specific lab,
working as a generalist, being involved in
marketing, or performing research. Medical
Laboratory Science can also serve as a
stepping stone to gain working experience that
many employers want. Not only does the

profession provide good job security, but it also
allows for room to move around and grow.
There are many choices and advantages
available to new MLS graduates, making
Medical Laboratory Science a great place to
start.

From Columbia/Jefferson City District Rep: Judith Donovan

Moberly Area Community College's MLT
program graduated 5 students August 6, 2010
at a ceremony held at Audrain Medical Center.
Most are employed now in the area. One has
taken the registry so far and she passed with
flying colors. There are nine MLT students
currently training in the MACC program. They
are placed in labs all over the area from
Fitzgibbon to Capital Region to Kirksville to

News From Around the Region continued from page 3

Hannibal to Hermann. I am building a NAACLS-approved Phlebotomy program. Completers of my two classes will be eligible to take the ASCP Phlebotomy registry. Several area hospitals have been training MLT students even though they are challenged with remodeling and expansion projects. They are: Children's Hospital in Columbia who moved to Columbia Regional Hospital in September. At Boone Hospital Center, a new laboratory is under construction. They plan to move into the space this summer. Capital Region is also remodeling and expanding their laboratory. We could not be more grateful that they are training these students especially under such difficult circumstances. [Judy is Program Coordinator at MACC.]

**From Kansas City District Rep:
Christine Bremser**

After serving as registration chair for the 2010 Patchwork spring meeting in Kansas City, I was asked to serve on the steering committee at Johnson County Community College (JCCC) in Overland Park, KS as a representative from MoCLS. JCCC was approached by Olathe Medical Center in Olathe, KS to explore the possibility of starting a MLT program to address the laboratory workforce shortage in the greater KC area. Several of the items that

the steering committee is working toward is to identify clinical training sites in the greater KC area (including the rural areas) & curriculum sequence for 2 year MLT at JCCC to 4 year MLS program at University of Kansas Medical Center (KU). The ideal situation is for the 2 year program at JCCC to transfer as a 2 year program to a university. Articulation is the key in making a sell on the MLT program with the Board of Regents, the JCCC Board of Trustees, & the JCCC Ed Affairs Committee. It has been a privilege to serve on this committee with other laboratory professionals in the KC area.

**From Springfield/Joplin District Rep:
Rob Beeler**

Save the Date: The next MoCLS State Meeting will be in Springfield, Missouri, **April 6-8, 2011**, at the University Plaza.

From Cape Girardeau/Poplar Bluff District Rep: Ann Green

Ann is current Program Director for the MLS program at Southeast Missouri Hospital in Cape Girardeau.

Wanted: District Rep from the Kirksville/Hannibal Region

Things to Come...

Sharon Duessel MLS(ASCP)^{CM}
Professional Affairs Chair

As a profession, we're not in the public eye often, so we must do what we can to promote the profession. To accomplish this MoCLS designed a t-shirt with the MoCLS logo on the front pocket and "Ask me about Licensure!" with the "Support Clinical Lab Personnel Licensure" logo on the back. These t-shirts remind everyone that labs are absolutely necessary for the health care industry's daily workings. It's perfect for the die-hard Laboratorian, or even for those who

just want to support the profession. They are available for purchase at \$7.00/ea. Contact Shelly Schoeberlein at mocls@sbcglobal.net to order.

With the New Year, comes another round of wonderful and fun educational opportunities. For all the educators out there, we especially thank you for all the hard work you do teaching the Clinical Lab Scientists of tomorrow. Check out the Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference February 17-21, 2011.

Things to Come continued from Page 4

This year, the conference is hosted on a cruise ship, departing from beautiful, sunny, Ft. Lauderdale Florida. Missouri weather can be brutal at this time of year, so what better way to escape the cold than to go on a cruise? Visit <http://www.ascls.org/conferences/clec2011/> for more information.

Those of you looking for educational and networking opportunities closer to home can check out the MoCLS Annual State Meeting. Held in Springfield, Missouri, this year's conference will have numerous educational sessions, vendors, and lots of fun. The conference will be held at the University Plaza Hotel from April 6-8, 2011.

Not long after the state meeting, is the National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (NMLPW). From April 24th to April 30th, we celebrate YOU, the Lab Professional. This week is dedicated to everyone in the Clinical Laboratory Science field, from the clinical setting to the educators. We thank you for all that you do. Speak to your coworkers, your bosses, and plan ways to celebrate your lab. Visit <http://www.ascls.org/about/national.asp> for ideas on how to do this.

And you don't want to miss the National ASCLS Meeting. The 79th annual meeting will be held in Atlanta Georgia in July 2011. More details to come at a later date.

So remember, there are plenty of learning and networking opportunities to take part in. And while you're out in the public, wear one of our new t-shirts and support our profession--because without you, the lab profession is unseen, unheard, and unknown.

Refocus Your Energies continued from Page 2

planning meeting to coincide with your annual spring meeting. In most states, the annual state meeting is the event where most of leadership is present. If your meeting ends on a Friday, schedule your planning meeting for Friday afternoon/evening and Saturday. It will require each member of leadership to add one more day to their national meeting plans but this is far less of a time commitment than a separate meeting at some future date. It will also "cost" the society less since no additional travel expenses are incurred and you may be able to extend the hotel group rates another day.

Once the planning meeting date is set, begin working with your President-elect to organize the meeting with three main foci. First, integrate an annual planning meeting into the annual state calendar so it is as certain to occur as your state meeting. Second, start the meeting with introductions and a training session for the entire group. Create a flow chart outlining the organizational structure of your state society with every position represented. I am constantly amazed at how many years it takes the average new leader to cut through the jargon, acronyms and clicks to truly understand what it is they are assigned to accomplish. Their shortcomings are rarely talent or desire, but rather information and direction. When the organizational chart is explained, position by position, briefly define the purpose of each position. In planning for the planning meeting, the State President and President-elect will be better able to identify what activities need to be on the chopping block. Remember, if we always do what we have always done, we will always get what we always have gotten. Third, create a one page position sheet for each leadership position with the job description summary discussed in the training session and about 5 goals to be accomplished by each position. Assign 3 (or so) of the 5 goals to each position and allow each leader to determine, with the help of the entire leadership, the last 2 (or so) goals and determine 1-3 activities they will perform to accomplish these goals. Type them into the one page sheet for each position, assign a due date for EVERY activity and this becomes the activity plan for each leader and the template for their reports to the President. Create a master calendar for the President-elect that includes all the deadlines

Your MoCLS Board

President * John Koenig
Koe41322@yahoo.com

President – Elect * Shelly Schoeberlein
mocls@sbcglobal.net

Past – President * Shelly Schoeberlein
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Secretary * Danyel Anderson
andersod@otc.edu

Treasurer * Rita Heuertz
heuertzr@slu.edu

First Year Professional * Alese Furnald
furnalda@gmail.com

Student Director * Samantha Whittaker
Swhitta1@slu.edu

1st Year Board Director * Debbie Baudler
dbaud368@yahoo.com

2nd Year Board Director * Christine Bremser
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Region VI Director * Tim Randolph
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St. Louis * Binh Cao
Binhcao1@hotmail.com

Columbia/Jeff City * Judith Donovan
judithd@macc.edu

Kansas City * Christine Bremser
christinebremser@att.net

Springfield/Joplin * Rob Beeler
rbeeler24@hotmail.com

Poplar Bluff/Cape Girardeau * Ann Green
agreen@sehosp.org

Hannibal/Kirkville - Vacant

A Call for Nominations

The General Election may be over, but the MoCLS Board seeks nominations for the following positions.

Please see the table below for brief descriptions of each position.

For more information, contact Nominations chair, Shelly Schoeberlein at mocls@sbcglobal.net

Secretary
2 year term
Term begins August 2011

President - Elect
1st year of a 3 year commitment
Term begins August 2011

1st year Board
2 year term
Term begins August 2011

Nominations Committee
3 positions open
1 year term
Term begins August 2011



MoCLS Spring Conference 2011

April 6-8

University Plaza Hotel and Convention Center
Springfield, MO

Speakers, Continuing ED, Vendors and
Networking!

*Contact Renee Setina at holtip@sbcglobal.net or Danyel Anderson
at andersod@otc.edu for more information.*

Calendar of Events

Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference
Cruise ship departing from Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
February 17-21, 2011

Legislative Days in Washington, DC
Capitol Hill
March 21-22, 2011

Final MoCLS Board Meeting
Springfield, Missouri at Spring Meeting
TBD

ASCLS Annual Meeting
July 26-30, 2011
Atlanta, Georgia

Refocus Your Energies continued from Page 5

assigned to each leader to assist them in staying on task and on time.

2. Keep the main thing, the main thing (Don't get derailed by the details or less relevant discussions) I can't speak for you, but to me the single issue that has the greatest potential to impact more areas of our organization and profession is "membership." Yes, I know, this issue is just as "old" as the planning meeting, but by retooling, maybe we can gain some ground on this ever elusive issue. More members accomplish three very important goals: 1. makes our voice louder in DC; 2. provides dues revenue to fund programs, activities, travel, and materials we have dreamed about; 3. fills our leadership positions and spreads out the work. If you agree with this, as you write the 3 or so goals for each leadership position, make sure every or nearly every activity has some direct connection with membership. Who should we target for membership? Let's look at the facts. We owe our current members information about the accomplishments their dues money funds and educational opportunities to promote professional development; this is membership retention. One of the largest areas of membership loss is the transition from student members to first year professional and from first year to a stable professional member. This is your focus group for member retention. In my opinion, member recruitment must be person to person, friend to friend, and colleague to colleague. EVERY MEMBER OF LEADERSHIP MUST HAVE AS A GOAL TO IDENTIFY AND APPROACH A FEW FRIENDS AND COLLEAGUES ABOUT MEMBERSHIP. The contact information for these potential new recruits, once the initial contact has been made, can then be passed on the membership chair and President for follow-up. The future of all organizations is in the hands of the young, so do not lose the focus of students and new professionals. Hit this group hard and often. Second, focus on former members. Renewals are often easier than new recruits. Lastly, remember younger professionals are more likely to be enthusiastic and less likely to be jaded by cut backs, freezes, downsizing and those annoying phone calls from the floor, and to be set in their ways.

OK, now it is time to sharpen the hatchet and start hacking.

