



Articles

Calendar

e-Laborate is the official quarterly electronic newsletter of the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science-Minnesota

Special points of interest:

- Student night planned for Tuesday, October 21st [link](#)
- Update on Licensure [link](#)
- Call for Student Volunteers—get involved in the student forum [link](#)
- Facebook group for student forum coming soon! [link](#)
- Call for volunteers! CLC 2009 to take place at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN from May 4th—6th. [link](#)
- ASCLS-MN selected 1st place recipient of the “Committee of Professional Affairs” award. [link](#)
- New leadership elected [link](#)
- Area distribution changes made [link](#)

President’s Corner



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◆ [More details...](#)

MN Laboratory Licensure: The Next Steps



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Almost a Super Delegate



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Region V Report



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◆ [More details...](#)

Bylaw Change Announcement—Area Expansion



At the Spring Membership Meeting in May 2008, those present approved a change to our ASCLS-MN State Society Bylaws. In the past, Minnesota was distributed into three areas. Today we are expanded...

◆ [More details...](#)

Area Reports



Featured Area Report: “Tater People” by Lois Anderson SE Senior Director

◆ [More details...](#)

ASCLS-MN State and National Awards



ASCLS-Minnesota was selected as the 1st place recipient of the “Committee of Professional Affairs” award at the 2008 ASCLS National Meeting in Washington, DC.

◆ [More details...](#)

New Leaders for 2008



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◆ [More details...](#)

Student Section



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◆ [More details...](#)

CLC 2008 A Great Success



The CLC 2008 was a great success. There were 630 total registrants with 209 being ASCLS members.

◆ [More details...](#)

A Great Year

[Jillene Collins; Past President](#)

We have had a wonderful year for ASCLS-MN! As usual our spring and summer were very full of events and activities.

The Spring CLC meeting really got things rolling in Minnesota. The meeting was held at the Embassy Suites in downtown St. Paul. We had over 600 attendees at this meeting with almost 900 registrations in total.

There was an all star program including three fabulous keynote presentations given by Dr. Dale Anderson, Dr. James Keegan, and our own Rick Panning! The CLC made a lot of great changes this year including “going green” with providing handouts in electronic format for attendees. One of the best innovations was the specialized “spring training” sessions. These were interactive sessions designed to give participants an in depth view of instruments and software all given by the vendors all with the benefit of CE credits. The Social event was an outing to the Twins game which provided plenty of fun and entertainment for all.

With the close of the CLC 2008 meetings we have already begun to prepare with excitement for next year. The CLC co-chair from ASCLS-MN for the 2009 Spring CLC meeting will be Julie Freidhoff. Julie has already been working to put together a committee and get things rolling in order to put together another fantastic meeting. The meeting in 2009 will be held May 4-6 at the Mayo Civic center. This will be a change for us because it will be a Monday through Wednesday meeting instead of meeting at the end of the week.

We are also very pleased to announce our recognition awards for this year. First we have named Wayne Lundeen as the Member of the Year. Wayne has served in many positions over the years in ASCLS and he is most known for his dedicated work to provide ASCLS-MN with an award



[Jillene Collins; Past President and Jo Ann Nickles; President](#)

Wayne has served in many positions over the years in ASCLS and he is most known for his dedicated work to provide ASCLS-MN with an award winning newsletter year after year. We have honored our "Omicron Sigma" award winners as well as our "Key to the Future" recipients (more details in awards article).

You will all be excited to know that the Area Expansion Bylaw has passed and is underway! We now have 7 areas that will give our members more accessibility to education, programs, and support through ASCLS (more details in by-laws article. At the membership meeting held during the CLC we held nominations and have filled all but one Area Director position for each area (more details in New Leaders for 2008 article). We are gearing up and ready to reach out with more opportunities for everyone!

We have had an eventful year on the legislative front as well. Sadly we were not successful in our efforts for licensure. However, we learned a great deal about the process and the opposition and we are gearing up to try again. We are going to need your help even more as we re-introduce the bill in the next legislative session. We did have a great victory nationally on the Competitive Bidding issue! Thank you and congratulations to all the many that rallied their efforts to make this happen. Well Done!

I am ready to pass the torch on to Jo Ann Nickles who is now your ASCLS-MN president. She has used her time as President-Elect to diligently learn and participate in order to successfully serve all of our members. I am excited to see the progress and success that she is going to have. I know it will be another great year!

President's Corner

[Jo Ann Nickles; ASCLS-MN President](#)

Here it is October 2008! Where has the summer gone? My name is JoAnn Nickles. I am the new State President and am excited for the coming year. Thank You to Jillene Collins for her leadership this past year.

Over 2 years ago, we started talking about area expansions. Minnesota had been distributed into 3 large areas for several years. We have succeeded in expanding the membership areas in Minnesota into 7

succeeded in expanding the membership areas in Minnesota into 7 smaller areas which required a Bylaw change that was approved by the membership last spring. With the expansion project, we have added several new Senior and Junior Area Directors to serve all of the areas of our state. These changes will enhance the participation and activity within our state society.

I just returned from the ASCLS National Meeting in Washington, DC along with 14 other Minnesota members. I was proud to be part of the Minnesota delegation. Minnesota is known in the national organization as an active, hard-working state society promoting laboratory medicine and supporting laboratory professionals plus having some fun in the process. In addition to our work on the area expansion project, we will be continuing our efforts in the State Legislature regarding licensure and developing a Standard Operating Policy and Procedure Manual for our State society.

ASCLS-MN is always looking for more people to participate in our society. There are many volunteer opportunities and committees that could use your ideas and support. Please check out the ASCLS-MN web site under Committees. There is something for everyone. We need you.

I look forward to the coming year. If you have any questions or comments that you would like to share with me, please contact me at:

jnuckles@healtheast.org

MN Laboratory Licensure: The Next Steps

[Rick Panning; Licensure Coalition Co-Chair](#)

The last time we connected about the legislative status of the licensure bill was last spring as the session was winding down and after we had made the decision to pull the bill from the committee process. We had made the decision to regroup and prepare for the legislative session starting in January 2009. These are the steps we have taken in preparation for reintroducing the bill.



- The coalition met to reconfirm its intent to continue with this process. Each professional society member of the coalition reaffirmed their support of the process and we have received funding from ASCP, ASCLS-MN and CLMA-MN.
- Kathy Hansen and I met with Vic Moore, our lobbyist, to review the steps that need to occur between now and the beginning of the session.
- Vic, Kathy and I met with Representative Erin Murphy. She will continue to author and introduce the bill in the House of Representatives. We also discussed the need to work on “simplifying” the bill so that it can be more easily understood by the legislators.
- A meeting has been scheduled in early October with Senator Gary Kubly, our chief author in the Senate.
- Vic Moore is setting up meetings with each of our authors and sponsors from both the House and the Senate.
- A small group of members from the coalition – John Thon, Pat Ellinger,

• A small group of members from the coalition – John Thon, Pat Ellinger, Kathy Hansen and I will be meeting to review the bill and work to simplify and modify it for reintroduction. These changes will be shared with and approved by the complete coalition before we proceed.

- We also plan to set up meetings to discuss the bill with a variety of stakeholder groups – MHA, MMA, the Department of Health and the Minnesota Society for Pathology.

- In order to garner more support for the bill, we will need to work on two specific strategies:
 - Have members of the various professional societies invite legislators to visit a laboratory in their district. This will help them understand the scope and complexity of the work that we do. We became aware, during the last session, that there a very poor understanding of the medical laboratory profession.

 - As the bill is introduced, we will need our members, and members of all of the professional groups, to contact their senator and representative to ask for their support of the bill. This will happen at various times as the bill goes through the various committee approvals that are required. During the last session, one message we hear loud and clear, was that the legislators needed to hear from the laboratory profession and not just from those opposed to the bill. We will be working to organize this much-needed advocacy process.

We will be working hard to make sure we are regularly communicating with laboratory professionals across the state during the process. This is important so that everyone will know what we are doing during the entire legislative process.

If you have any questions please contact Kathy Hansen khansen3@fairview.org or myself rick.panning@allina.com

Almost a Super Delegate

Bobbi Kochevar; President-Elect ASCLS-MN

The national ASCLS convention was recently held in Washington DC. I attended as one of the nine elected delegates representing Minnesota. This was my first experience as a delegate. Although I had no idea what to expect or what was expected of me, I was open to the learning experience. Jillene Collins, our State President, ensured we all had our required delegate cards. Okay, I had mine....but now what?



ASCLS-MN Delegates at the 2008 National ASCLS convention

Many of the other delegates had done this multiple times and served as great resources for my questions. As techs we are programmed to ensure quality and excellence in everything we do. As a delegate, I too wanted to be sure that I did everything right and was where I needed to be at all times. The reality was that throughout the entire week I enjoyed all aspects of the national conference including all of the valuable educational sessions; especially the extra 18.5 CEU's that were now added to my education hours. However, the conference was quickly coming to an end and I really hadn't done anything to feel like a delegate...and what about this card I'm carrying around?

The final day of governance was exciting and that was the day that little card had become of utmost importance. I needed it to gain entrance into the "House of Delegates" meeting. Everything was very organized by state and region. The stage was filled with ASCLS VIP's and I was proud to see all the representation from MN. Our own Rick Panning was the current President so we had primo seating in this huge auditorium. I'm told next year we'll be seated quite favorably as well since Rick will be the outgoing Past President!

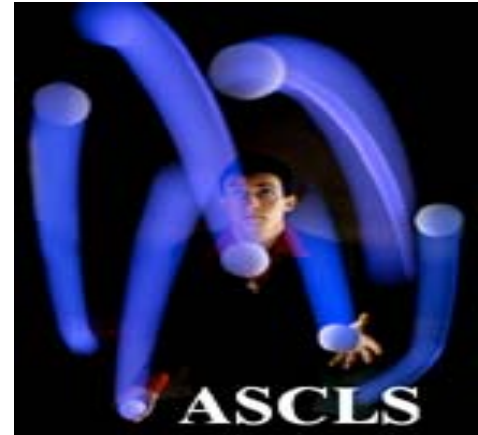
Being a delegate was fun and easy. The night before, several of us went shopping so we'd have plenty of customerage during the meeting. That's

Being a delegate was fun and easy. The night before, several of us went shopping so we'd have plenty of sustenance during the meeting. That's right, this meeting follows formal procedure, but you can still pass the M&M's and enjoy the licorice. We discussed and voted on resolutions as needed. One of the topics is the Doctoral Program for CLS. We will hear more about this in the near future. The meeting wrapped up with a variety of recognitions and national awards. I would certainly serve as a delegate again and would encourage others to come forward and take advantage of this unique opportunity.

The Art of Successful Juggling In a 3-Ring Circus!

Lezlee Koch; ASCLS Region V Director

Every year when I attend Region V State Society meetings and then the national ASCLS meeting I am “WOWed” by all the clinical laboratory science practitioners that are 3-Ring Circus shining stars because they master the “Art of Successful Juggling” and find time to give of themselves for ASCLS, their profession and their states!

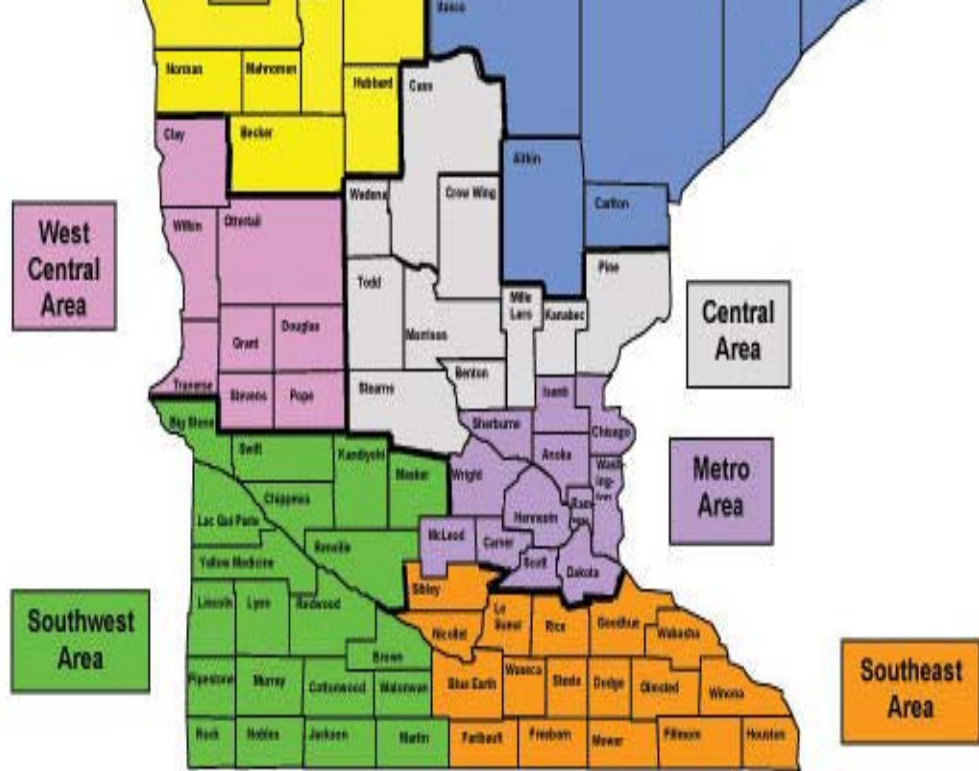


ASCLS’s voice, value and vision are ALIVE in REGION V. A sincere thank you to each of you that are currently serving or have served ASCLS at the local, state, regional, and national levels. It is through the giving of yourselves that ASCLS is what is today and what it will be in the future... you are the face, the heart and the strength that will allow us to make a difference in healthcare one step at a time.

Now on to the “Art of Successful Juggling”! When you balance or successfully juggle the meaningful things in your life, you're able to achieve maximum value from all. In our whirlwind society, many of us find ourselves juggling family, friends, work, professional involvement and personal time. When all of these are in perfect balance, we achieve more, grow more, and feel more fulfilled, powerful and effective. But if our juggling act crashes to the ground, it leads to feeling frustrated, anxious, apathetic, unhappy with work, and we begin to feel we are the victim of circumstances out of our control. It is at this moment that we need to realize that something in our life is out of balance and it's time to take action on the imbalance. This imbalance may not be from taking on another project or task, it may merely be that we have “dropped an essential ball” and that ball may be how we reinvest or nourish our personal and professional self because we are consumed with caring for the needs and wants of others.

So if you find yourself in the middle of a 3-Ring Circus, sitting on the floor

So if you find yourself in the middle of a 3-Ring Circus, sitting on the floor with all your juggling balls laying on the ground around you.... It's not too late... just start successfully juggling again! Begin each new day with the urgency that you would if it were your last. Focus your efforts while keeping your spirit confidently relaxed. Value and enjoy all those around you while taking full responsibility for yourself and your professional growth. Take time to be professionally involved in ASCLS and your profession through networking and sharing of your God given talents. Allow yourself to become the best you can be. Remain open to new ideas and find a new meaning to happiness in giving when you share your knowledge with co-workers and professionals across the nation. Remember, you were born to do great things in clinical laboratory science. Live each moment with balance, enthusiasm, passion and purpose... and you will once again master "the art of successful juggling".



West
Central
Area

Central
Area

Metro
Area

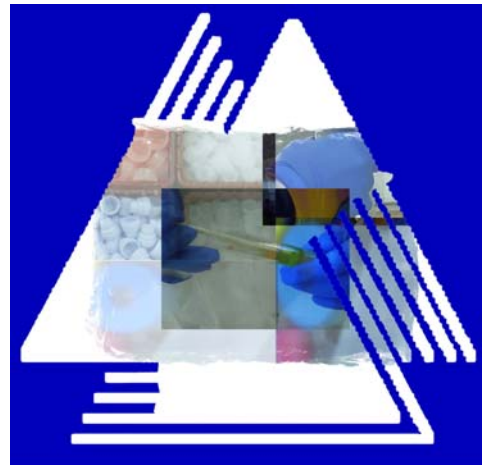
Southwest
Area

Southeast
Area

Area Reports

Lois Anderson Southeast Area Senior Director

When I was asked to become an area director, my first reaction was to decline. I had all the usual thoughts: "I am too busy", "There has to be someone better for this job", and "Was I ever in the wrong place at the wrong time". Then a friend sent me the following email called "Tater People."



Some people never seem motivated to participate, but are just content to watch while others do the work. They are called "Speck Taters". Some people never do anything to help, but are gifted at finding fault with the way others do the work. They are called "Comment Taters". Some people are very bossy and like to tell others what to do, but don't want to soil their own hands. They are called "Dick Taters". Some people are always looking to cause problems by asking others to agree with them. It is too hot or too cold, too sour or too sweet. They are called "Aggie Taters." There are those who say they will help, but somehow just never get around to actually doing the promised help. They are called "Hezzie Taters". Some people can put up a front and pretend to be someone they are not. They are called "Emma Taters". Then there are those who love others and do what they say they will. They are always prepared to stop whatever they are doing and lend a helping hand. They bring real sunshine into the lives of others. They are called "Sweet Taters".

I accepted the position and am very excited to serve the Southeast Minnesota Area for ASCLS. I am currently a biology instructor and the advisor for the medical technology, cytotechnology, and cytogenetics programs at Minnesota State University, Mankato. Jeremy Caddell from Mayo Clinic will serve as the Southeast Minnesota ASCLS Junior Director. Laurie Bjerklie has volunteered to join our southeast team and is currently the MLT Program Coordinator at Rasmussen College in Mankato. Our mandate is to promote ASCLS and clinical laboratory science in southeast Minnesota. We are willing to be your support group and would appreciate

Minnesota. We are willing to be your support group and would appreciate your input. We are in the initial planning stages and will update you on any upcoming activities in the near future. We hope to be your “Sweet Taters”.

Metro Area Report

Renee Burke; Metro Area Senior Director

Hello All ! As I am watching the rain and leaves fall onto my yard, I am wondering where did the summer go so quickly?. But, with the closing of another summer, I am welcoming another Scientific Assembly season. This year, I am very excited to be the Metro Area Senior Director (formally known as Area III). Supporting me in my duties is the Metro Area Junior Director, Jessica Peters. We, along with the Scientific Assembly planning committee have been busy this past month brainstorming and putting together the continuing education sessions. The Scientific Assembly planning committee is still in the process of establishing exact dates and speakers for some of the meetings. But, a few items you can jot down on your calendar are . . .

Student Night -

Student night this year will be held on Tuesday, October 21st at Argosy University in Eagan.

January Workshop -

The January workshop will be held on Saturday morning, January 31st at Allina, downtown. This is the same place it was held as last year.

The items which we are still working on are but have not established exact dates or locations are . . .

The Kickoff Meeting -

The Kickoff meeting will be held in November.

Scientific Assemblies –

There will be two more Scientific Assemblies held next spring, one in March and one in April.

Once the meeting dates, locations, and speakers have been established they will be posted on the ASCLSMN website.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone again.

Central Area Report

[Trish Roehrl, Central Area Jr. Director](#)

[Cathy Bengtson, Central Area Sr. Director](#)

Welcome to Trish Roehrl as the new junior director for the central area. Trish is from Albany and is a Clinical Lab Scientist at the St. Cloud Hospital.

Fall is upon us and like the kids we've had our summer vacation and now need to start focusing on education.

We are planning an ASCLS-MN Central Area educational event with two speakers for the evening of Tuesday, October 28th at the CentraCare Health Plaza. The first presentation will be on "Factors Influencing the Relationship Between Transcutaneous and Serum Bilirubin." This presentation will describe the importance of measuring bilirubin in neonates and will also list laboratory and clinical variables that impact the relationship between transcutaneous and serum bilirubin. Dr. Bradley Karon from the Mayo Clinic will also speak on how these variables impact the utility of transcutaneous bilirubin in predicting the risk of severe hyperbilirunemia. The second presentation is titled "To Diff or Not Diff" and it will focus on how to set good review criteria and the use of a truth table study to help determine the appropriate review criteria for the lab. This presentation will be given by a Beckman-Coulter representative. The topics we have picked should suit both hospital and clinic personnel well.

ASCLS-MN Wins National Award

Jo Ann Nickles; President—ASCLS-MN

Congratulations! ASCLS-Minnesota was selected as the 1st place recipient of the “Committee of Professional Affairs” award at the 2008 ASCLS National Meeting in Washington, DC. This award recognizes the state that has made the most contributions to charitable organizations within their state.

ASCLS-MN members raised money for Children’s Miracle Network (proceeds sent to Gillette Children’s Hospital in St. Paul), Ronald McDonald House (University of Minnesota), New Beginnings Women’s Shelter in St. Cloud, plus individual donations made to charitable organizations by our members. The total amount was over \$4,300.00.



Last year Minnesota was 2nd only to Georgia but this year you were even more generous. Special Thanks is extended to Liz Panning, Cindy Nelson, and Rick Panning who work very hard organizing the Silent Auction held every year at the Spring Collaborative Meeting; and to the members of Fairview and CentraCare laboratories for their efforts. These people do not give of their time and energy in order to be recognized or win awards but they deserve a huge thank you.

ASCLS encourages members to help people in our own State and to work on community projects whenever the need arises. Thank You to all members and attendees of our meetings who donate toward these great causes.

2008 ASCLS-MN Awards

Paula Snippes; ASCLS-MN Communications Committee Chair

At the annual ASCLS-MN business meeting, held during the Clinical Laboratory Collaborative each spring, awards are given out to certain

At the annual ASCLS-MN business meeting, held during the Clinical Laboratory Collaborative each spring, awards are given out to certain dedicated members of ASCLS-MN. The following is a description of the awards and the awardees. Congratulations to all who received these awards.



Service Award:

This award is given to a member of ASCLS-MN who has contributed significantly to the field of clinical laboratory science and to the Society and who has, by outstanding example, inspired others.



This year's very deserving award winner goes to **Wayne Lundeen** as the editor of the award-winning MCLS Newsletter. Wayne's passion and dedication to the newsletter over the years has been a true inspiration and example of hard work and an exemplary member of ASCLS-MN. The MCLS Newsletter won many ASCLS National Publication Awards for best printed newsletter over the years, thanks to Wayne's excellent work and commitment.

Key to the Future Award:

This award is given to deserving individuals who have demonstrated outstanding leadership within the first three years of membership or who are members that have taken on increased leadership roles in ASCLS-MN. The 2008 "Key to the Future" awardees are:

- Cathy Bengston (Area Sr. Director – Central Region)
- Sharon Pendergrass (Government Affairs Co-Chair).

Omicron Sigma Award:

This award is the ASCLS President's honor roll for outstanding service. It provides lasting recognition of those dedicated members who volunteer their personal resources, time and energy to ASCLS. Recognition is at

their personal resources, time and energy to ASCLS. Recognition is at the national, regional and state levels; awarded by the ASCLS President (Rick Panning), Regional Director (Lezlee Koch), and Society President (Jillene Collins), respectively. This years' worthy recipients are:

National: Cindy Johnson, Cheryl Kraft, Deb Rodahl, Jean Bauer, Kathy Hansen



Petersen, Jillene Collins, JoAnn Nickles, Tom nann

State: Cary Bengston, Jeff Radle, Jan Frericks, Renee Burke, Christine Williams, Julie Freidhoff, Denise Miller, Carol McCoy, Paula Snippes

ASCLS-MN Membership Certificates:

These certificates are given to those individuals who have been members of ASCLS-MN for 25 years and for every 5 year increment beyond. The following is the list of individuals and their years of membership.

40 years: Jacquelyn Radichel

35 years: Susan Pederson, Dorinne Peratalo

30 years: Mary Wilson, Mary Lou Mohn

25 years: Roger Madson, Wanda Clark

THANKS to all for your years of support to ASCLS-MN.

New Leaders for 2008

Paula Snippes; ASCLS-MN Communications
Committee Chair

Every year at the annual business meeting, a slate of candidates are presented and voted on, see e-LABorate newsletter, April 8, 2008

www.asclsmn.org for list of

nominees. Due to the adoption of a new by-law to expand the working ASCLS-MN areas of the state into seven areas from the previous three, our leadership positions have dramatically increased. Following are the positions and names of our new leadership. Please welcome and support your new leaders of ASCLS-MN.



President: Jo Ann Nickles (Health East)

President-Elect: Bobby Kochevar (Children's Hospital & Clinics)

Southeast Area Sr. Director: Lois Anderson (MN State – Mankato)

Southeast Area Jr. Director: Jeremy Caddell (Mayo Clinic)

Southwest Area Sr. Director: Erin Schreader (Sanford Hospital – Luverne)

Southwest Area Jr. Director: Terri Zinda (Sanford Hospital – Luverne)

West Central Area Sr. Director: Lois Greisen

West Central Area Jr. Director: Wanda Haberer (Alexandria Technical College)

Northwest Area Sr. Director: Paula Bowman (First Care Medical Services)

Northwest Area Jr. Director: VACANT*

Northeast Area Sr. Director: Nancy Barnes (Virginia Regional Medical

Northeast Area Sr. Director: Nancy Barnes (Virginia Regional Medical Center)

Northeast Area Jr. Director: Steve Mattson (St. Mary's Duluth Clinic)

Central Sr. Area Director: Cathy Bengston (CentraCare Health Services)

Central Jr. Area Director: Trish Roehrl (CentraCare Health Services)

Metro Area Sr. Director: Renee Burke (VA Medical Center – Mpls.)

Metro Area Jr. Director: Jessica Peters (Hennepin County Medical Center)

***Northwest Area Jr. Director** position is currently vacant; if you live or work in the Northwest Area and are interested in learning more about this position, please contact ASCLS-MN President, Jo Ann Nickles at: jnickles@healtheast.org

Delegates to the National Meeting:

Bobbi Kochevar

Kathy Hansen

Jean Bauer

Deb Rodahl

Tom Massmann

Carol McCoy

Vickie Larson

Renee Burke

Cindy Johnson

Alternate: Dan Olson

ASCLS-MN Scholarship Awards

Carol McCoy; Scholarship Chair

ASCLS-MN awarded \$5,500 in scholarships this year. Included in the scholarship award is a year's student membership in ASCLS. The awardees for the CLS Scholarships are:



Carisa Allen received \$1000 from the **Claussen Fund**. Carisa is a native of Coon Rapids, MN and will graduate from North Dakota State University following completion of Fairview's Clinical Laboratory Science program. Carisa's future goals include specialization in cytogenetics.



Angelia Blom received \$500 **Minnesota Society of Pathologists**. Angelia grew up in Thief River Fall, MN and will receive her degree from Minnesota State University-Mankato following completion of Fairview's Clinical Laboratory Science program. Angelia would like to continue her at a future date and obtain a master's degree.



Chad Thompson received \$1000 from **ASCLS-MN**. Chad is from Bemidji, MN and is a student in the University of Minnesota's Clinical Laboratory Science program. Chad is a firefighter/paramedic, holds a paramedic certificate, has worked as a phlebotomist and is president of

Laboratory Science program. Chad is a firefighter/paramedic, holds a paramedic certificate, has worked as a phlebotomist, and is president of his class. In addition, Chad is conducting research at the Hennepin County Medical Center's Emergency Department.

Remish Woldearegay received \$500 from the **Claussen Fund**. Remish is a student in the University of Minnesota's Clinical Laboratory Science program.

Kristy Felske was awarded \$1000 from **Fairview Foundation**. Kristy will receive her degree from Minnesota State University at Mankato. She is a student in Hennepin County Medical Center's Clinical Laboratory Science program.

Kassandra Schleis was awarded \$1000 from **North Central Red Cross**. Kassandra will receive her degree from Minnesota State University at Mankato. She is a student in Hennepin County Medical Center's Clinical Laboratory Science program.

One CLT scholarship of \$500 from **ASCLS-MN** was awarded to **Zehara Wahila**. Zehara is a student at Hennepin Community College CLT program.



A big **THANK YOU** to the generous scholarship contributors.

For a list of available scholarships and applications go to www.asclsmn.org and click on Student Info. (then put a line space and continue

Message from the Student Forum Chair

Mallory Yelenich; ASLCS-MN Student Forum Chair

My first experience with ASCLS was the National Meeting in Washington, D.C. What an introduction! Between the Student Forum meetings, seminars, job expo, and other informational and delegate meetings, I was

D.C. What an introduction! Between the Student Forum meetings, seminars, lab expo, and other informational and delegate meetings, I was awash with information. Everyone was so enthusiastic and proud of their careers. After attending the convention, I felt confident in choosing CLS as my major and was looking forward to a year of promoting the profession as the Minnesota Student Forum Chair. In addition to state responsibilities, I was also elected the National Student Forum Secretary.

The coming year looks to be a busy one. I have entered Year 4 of the CLS program at the University of Minnesota and am continuing to work part-time at Regions Hospital in St. Paul as a surgical assistant. At the national level, the Student Forum is working to increase the involvement of student members and increase numbers overall. We are working to update the official national ASCLS student forum web site <http://www.ascls.org/student/StudentForum.asp>, and have started a group on the internet social-networking forum, Facebook. (Search for "ASCLS Student Forum" once there). The goal is for every state to have its own Facebook group, as a means to increase communication and easily transmit ideas. Minnesota will have its own group shortly.

For students looking to become involved, there are many national committee openings available. I am also in the process of starting a few statewide projects, and would be grateful for help. One goal is to have a student contact at every lab science program within the state of Minnesota, encompassing both the two- and four-year programs. There is a metro-area student night planned for Tuesday, October 21st [link](#).

I wish everyone good luck with their classes and clinicals, and look forward to working with many students and professionals throughout the state. If anyone has questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at asclsstudents@gmail.com.

Clinical Laboratory Collaborative 2008 A Great Success

Christine Williams; CLC 2008 Co-Chair

The CLC 2008 was a great success. There were 630 total registrants with 209 being ASCLS members. The planning started last September with co-chairs Sue Iddings of MIMA, Edith Tefft representing AMT, and a great mix of experienced as well as new committee members.



CLC 2008 Social Event attendees enjoying the Twins game.

A baseball theme was developed highlighting the laboratorians' role as team players in patient care. At a new site for 2008, the Crowne Plaza in St. Paul, the committee aimed to keep favorite activities as well as develop some new ones. Back by popular demand were the silent auction, society meetings, exhibits, and a diverse educational program. New to the meeting were extended exhibit hours to include Friday, the social event to the Twins game on Wednesday, "Spring Training" in the exhibit hall, and an all day microbiology workshop. Another new "twist" was our successful attempt at going "Green" with the speaker handouts being posted on the ASCLS-MN website.

We were also supported generously by Labs are Vital (www.labsarevital.com) which displayed clinical laboratory scientist posters at a variety of bus stops in St. Paul for the meeting. By far my favorite activity had to be the Twins game and winning the Circle Me Bert contest with our 'Labs are Vital' poster on Fox Sports Net. Our very own Paula Snippes could be seen on TV talking about our meeting and accepting a prize.

As I look back over the time leading up to the CLC and the meeting itself, I think about what a great journey it was personally and professionally. We really have a special thing in Minnesota when members from 8 different societies can work together to provide a robust and fun meeting for all. I am more than proud of the hard work and dedication of the committee members who put on this successful meeting. We are truly lucky to have such wonderful clinical laboratory



of the committee members who put on this successful event are truly lucky to have such wonderful clinical laboratory colleagues in this state.



Clinical Laboratory Collaborative 2009

The CLC 2009 will be hosted at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN from May 4th—6th. The planning committee had it's kick off meeting on September 9th. The next planning meeting is scheduled for October 7th from 6:30-8:00PM at the Rochester Methodist Hospital Eisenberg Building Dining Room 6. Anyone interested in volunteering to plan this event may contact Linda Iverson or Julie Freidhoff. Visit the [ASCLS-MN](#) website for more details.



Calendar

Give us your feedback.

The ASCLS-MN Communications Committee is looking to create a user-friendly product. Please contact us at asclsmn@asclsmn.org and let us know your comments on the new look of the newsletter.

October 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Schedule of Events

- ◆ 10/07/08—**CLC 2009 Planning Meeting.** 6:30PM. Rochester Methodist Hospital, Eisenberg building, Dining Room 6.

[More details...](#)

To contact us:

Email: asclsmn@asclsmn.org

- ◆ 10/11/09 — **Fall Board Meeting.** 9:00-12:00 PM. Health East Woodwinds Hospital, Conference Room A 1925 Woodwinds Drive, Woodbury, MN 55125

[More details...](#)

- ◆ 10/21/09 — **Student Night.** 5:30-8PM. Argosy University. Eagan, MN.

[More details...](#)

