

# The Filter

Winter 2004

## Newsletter of the Nebraska Society for Clinical Laboratory Science

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### NSCLS 2003 – 2004 BOARD

President	Roxanne Alter
President-elect	Pending
Past President	Courtney Olson
Treasurer	Karen Keller
Secretary	Martin Steinbeck
Senior Board Member	Sandy Latshaw
Junior Board Member	Amy Stanley

For contact information of officers and committee chairs, check the leadership directory at <http://nebraska.ascls.org>.

If you are interested in any committee positions or in an office for next year, please contact Roxanne Alter at [ralter@unmc.edu](mailto:ralter@unmc.edu).

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### FILTER DISTRIBUTION

The best way to ensure that you get The Filter is to be a NSCLS member. If you want a copy to be sent to a particular address that currently is not receiving the Filter, please contact Shirley Noble – [snoble@alltel.net](mailto:snoble@alltel.net) OR 402-423-3050.

Please submit information for The Filter. You can let us know of activities in your area, new occurrences in your laboratory, or an unusual event or case.

Spring Filter

Deadline March 26, 2004

**National Medical Laboratory Week**  
**April 18 – 24, 2004**

## GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Kathy Hansen, ASCLS government affairs committee chair, thanked those members who took the time to contact their members of Congress concerning the laboratory co-pay provision that was dropped from the recent revisions to Medicare.

All members may access the leadership mailings by going to the [www.ascls.org](http://www.ascls.org) web site and choosing member section.

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## LAPSED MEMBERS

Third notices have gone out to lapsed members. If you are not receiving information from ASCLS ( newsletter, journal), you may have allowed your membership to lapse. Please check with ASCLS.

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## CLEC

The Educator's Conference will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, February 26 – 28, 2004. There are plans to put the program on the website at [www.ascls.org](http://www.ascls.org).

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## 2004 ANNUAL MEETING

The theme for this year's annual meeting is "Clinical Science Investigation: Los Angeles." You should have received a flyer with the ASCLS newsletter. It will be July 27 – 31, 2004. If you plan to go, please contact Roxanne Alter at [ralter@unmc.edu](mailto:ralter@unmc.edu). She will be looking for people to attend the House and to represent Nebraska.

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## 2004 LEGISLATIVE SYMPOSIUM

Leg Day is scheduled for March 22 and 23, 2004 in Washington, DC. CLMA will again join ASCLS on the hill to visit legislators. The Medicare Reform Bill and the need for more funding for clinical laboratory science education programs will be two topics taken to the senators and representatives. Workshops are planned on Monday to discuss talking points and then Tuesday is the day to meet with legislators and/or their aids. This is a great opportunity to see government in action and to present the society's concerns. If you can go, please contact Roxanne at [ralter@unmc.edu](mailto:ralter@unmc.edu). Kathy Leinenkugel and Courtney Olson have attended in recent years and would share their experiences.

## EDUCATION SESSIONS

### **NSCLS 2004 Spring Meeting**

Make plans now to attend the 2004 Spring Meeting, held in conjunction with CLMA and ASCP April 14 – 16, 2004. The Hilton Omaha hotel is attached to the new Omaha convention center at 1001 Cass Street. A block of rooms has been reserved and may go quickly. The deadline for hotel reservations is early so don't forget to make those reservations. The conference rate is \$99.00 + tax per night.

The theme for the combined organizations is "Back to the River". Exhibits will be held on Wednesday evening. There will be at least two sessions that evening as well. Thursday will end with a dinner at the Upstream restaurant for an additional charge. Hope to see you there.

Information provided by Roxanne Alter

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#### NSCLS

February 10, 2004 Brain Natriuretic Peptide. Greg Post, PhD Community Blood Bank  
84<sup>th</sup> and O Street, Lincoln, Nebraska 7:00 PM

March 23, 2004 Cytogenetic and Molecular Testing for CML – Diagnostic and Disease  
Monitoring. Warren Sanger, PhD . Novartis is sponsoring dinner and the  
speaker. Country Inn and Suites 5353 N 27<sup>th</sup> Street. 5:30 PM It is necessary to  
RSVP by March 12 to Shirley.

If you need directions to these events or to RSVP (for March 23), contact Shirley.  
402-423-3050 [snoble@alltel.net](mailto:snoble@alltel.net)

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#### MLT Scholarship Winner

Congratulations to Kyle D. Walbridge, a student in the Medical Laboratory Technician Program at Southeast Community College in Lincoln, NE. Kyle is the recipient of a \$1,000 American Society for Clinical Pathology Associate Council Student Scholarship. Her application was chosen from over 150 entries by the Associate Council Scholarship Committee because she has shown excellence in academic achievement, professional goals and leadership abilities.

Submitted by Janis Bible

## 2004 NSCLS AWARDS

Laboratory professionals often cite “lack of recognition for a job well done” as one of their primary job frustrations. The NSCLS Awards Program is a way for **you** to recognize the outstanding contributions by individuals in your laboratory and professional society. Please consider nominating individuals you believe are worthy of these awards!

Winners will be announced at the 2004 NSCLS State Meeting, April 14-16 at the Omaha Hilton. All nominees will be recognized at the Awards Luncheon on Friday.

The following awards are available this year (criteria for each are listed below):

1. Award of Excellence
2. Technical Support Award of Excellence
3. Filter Award
4. Key to the Future Award
5. Exhibitor Appreciation Award

All applications must be received by March 1, 2004 to be considered. The NSCLS Officers will determine the winners of each award, based on the application information.

Applications are available at the NSCLS website at <http://nebraska.ascls.org/>. Completed applications should be sent to the Awards Chairperson:

Sandy Latshaw  
4720 Faulkner Court  
Lincoln, NE 68516  
[slatshaw@alltel.net](mailto:slatshaw@alltel.net)

### **Award of Excellence**

This award was established to recognize a Medical Technologist/Clinical Laboratory Scientist or Medical Laboratory Technician/Clinical Laboratory Technician who has made a significant contribution to that person’s profession, institution and community. The nominee does not need to be a member of NSCLS. A laboratory may nominate only one individual, who must have been employed at that facility for at least one year and must be certified by a national certifying agency. Notify your lab manager/administrator if you would like to nominate an individual.

### **Technical Support Award of Excellence**

This award was established to recognize a person who supports the laboratory profession (i.e. phlebotomist, lab assistant, secretary, client services rep, etc.) and has made a significant contribution to that person’s profession, institution and community. The nominee does not need to be a member of NSCLS. An institution may nominate only one individual, who must have been employed at that facility for at least one year. Notify your institution if you would like to nominate an individual.



### **Key to the Future Award**

This award is given to recognize and reward newly active members of NSCLS who have demonstrated leadership potential by their contributions to our organization. Directing a task force/project or chairing a committee with significant tasks, the outcome of which is considered to be outstanding, creative or of high quality may be used as a guide to determining leadership potential. Officers of NSCLS are not eligible.

### **Exhibitor Appreciation Award**

This award was established to show appreciation for an exhibitor/salesperson/technical representative who has shown outstanding support educationally and/or financially to the field of Clinical Laboratory Science and NSCLS. Factors to be considered may be the number of years exhibiting at the Spring Meeting, donation of funds for an NSCLS Award, contributions to continuing education, or demonstration of alternate support.

Submitted by Sandy Latshaw

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### **NSCLS Board Meeting Minutes October 17, 2003**

Attending: Roxanne Alter, President; Karen Keller, Treasurer; Martin Steinbeck, Secretary;

Absent: Courtney Olson, Past President; Sandy Latshaw; Amy Stanley, Jr. Board Member

Others Present: Robbie Peetz, Barbara Miller, Kathy Leinenkugel, Melissa Helligso, Shirley Noble

#### **Presidents Report:**

- President elect has resigned. Replacement is needed. Roxanne volunteered to continue for another year.
- State meeting:
  - Will be a joint meeting with ASCP and CLMA
  - Speakers have been mostly arranged for
  - Keynote speaker – Tom Osborne
  - Evening speakers/functions
  - The Hilton requires liability insurance (no more than \$400)
  - Save the date card
  - CLIA list – Beth
  - Program – Martin will put info into excel
  - Students will design cover for the program
- Association Name change – under advisement

**Treasurers Report:**

- Papers were signed for bonding of the Treasurer and President
- Reviewed and discussed budget items
- Total Assets as of September 30, 2003 is \$45851.46
- Discussion of income/expenses from the 2003 IA/NE Spring Meeting. \$8751 from Spring meeting will appear in next treasurer's report.

**Membership Committee:**

- Many expired memberships
- Discussed calling members and encouraging renewal

**Filter:**

- Discussed possibility of new name
- Discussed items for inclusion

**Scholarship/Loan Committee:**

- Only one scholarship was given to an MT student
- There were no scholarships awarded to MLT students

**Other:**

- Kathy shared a thank you letter from Children's Miracle Network for our \$210 donation on May 9.

Martin Steinbeck  
Secretary

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SCHOLARSHIPS

The Alpha Mu Tau Fraternity (AMTF), the ASCLS Education & Research Fund, and Forum for Concerns of Minorities provide scholarships to deserving undergraduate and graduate students each year. For information on these and other available scholarships, visit <http://www.ascls.org/education/index.asp> and click on "Scholarships."

**CHECK THE DATES AND DEADLINES INSIDE. GET THEM ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!**

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NSCLS BOARD MEETING

The NSCLS Winter Board Meeting will be held Friday, March 12, 2004 at University Medical Center Wittson Hall 4053 from 11:00 – 1:00. Lunch will be served. Come for part or all. Awards and other issues will be on the agenda. Please RSVP to Roxanne [ralter@unmc.edu](mailto:ralter@unmc.edu)

Submitted by Roxanne Alter