

ASCLS-NE President's Page  
Submitted by Kevin McGuire, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

Happy Winter!!

I hope you have stayed warm as the weather continually goes from one extreme to another this year. This is a very busy and exciting time of the year for ASCLS-NE. The Spring Meeting is less than two months away. The meeting will be held April 8 - 10, 2015 at the La Vista Conference Center in La Vista, Nebraska. It will be a joint meeting with ASCLS Nebraska, ASCLS Iowa, CLMA Great Plains Chapter, ASCP, and the Philippine Association of Medical Technologies-USA, Inc Nebraska Chapter. The Planning Committee has been hard at work to make this event a success. Be sure to mark your calendars and register to attend this meeting for great networking and continuing education opportunities. More information can be found at: <http://ascls-ne.org/2015springmeeting.html>

Medical Laboratory Professionals Week will be April 19 - 25, 2015. This week is a great opportunity to increase public understanding and appreciation for clinical laboratory personnel. For some ideas on how to celebrate, please visit: <http://www.ascls.org/mlpw-promotion-ideas>

The theme of Lab Week this year is: Not All Heroes Wear Capes, Some Wear Lab Coats. I encourage you to go out and provide the face of our profession.

Finally, if you would like to become more involved within the society please let me know. ASCLS-NE is always looking for volunteers to help within the society. Each contribution no matter how big or small is greatly needed and appreciated. We are advocates for the laboratory and those who work in the laboratory. Feel free to contact me at [president@ascls-ne.org](mailto:president@ascls-ne.org) with any questions, comments, or suggestions. Thank you for being a member of ASCLS-NE!!

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Page.....	1
Spring meeting info.....	2-3
Awards info.....	4
Scholarship/MLS insight.....	5
Election info.....	6
Board meeting minutes.....	7-10
Treasurer report.....	11-12



***Medical Laboratory  
Professionals Week will be  
April 19 - 25, 2015.***

# 2015 Spring Meeting



Great Plains Chapter  
**CLMA**  
THE RESOURCE FOR LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS



## OUR PASSION, OUR PROFESSION

**April 8 - 10, 2015**

**La Vista Conference Center  
12520 Westport Parkway  
La Vista, NE 68128**

**[ascls-ne.org/2015springmeeting.html](http://ascls-ne.org/2015springmeeting.html)**

**OUR PASSION OUR PROFESSION  
ANNUAL STATE MEETING UPDATES**

Roxanne Alter, Senior Board Member and General Meeting Chair

**WEDNESDAY APRIL 8, THURSDAY APRIL 9 AND FRIDAY APRIL 10  
MEETING PLACE IS LAVISTA CONVENTION CENTER 12520 Westport Parkway, La Vista, NE  
68128.**

Please join me at our State meeting to celebrate my/our passion; clinical laboratory science and the practice of laboratory medicine. Nothing gives me more pleasure than to get the result or to see the difference in a patient outcome because of what I do. Let's celebrate our contribution to health care. And remember not every super hero wears a cape! We are having a joint meeting with **ASCLS-Iowa** and **Great Plains Chapter - CLMA** so we will look forward to a variety of talks involving the professional practice and management of that practice.

**Highlights for this year are:**

**On-line registration** is NOW open - <http://www.ascls-ne.org/2015springmeeting.html>; Discounts for ASCLS members and discount prices are available until March 25, 2015 after that the price of the meeting registrations increases.

**Consider donating your expertise by being a Moderator** for a talk. It is a great way to get involved in the state meeting. This volunteer activity includes introduction of the speaker of which is printed in the moderator packet. The evaluation forms are passed out to all the attendees and are collected at the end of the talk. The moderator also gives the PACE code at the end of the session so that the attendee can go to the ASCLS website and enter that code. You will tally the evaluations on the form included in the moderator packet. Then you drop off the packet at the registration desk. All of these evaluations are needed for ASCLS-NE to grant PACE continuing education credit to our attendees. There will be a schedule available to registrants to sign up to moderate a talk. If you have any questions about volunteering you can email [ralter@unmc.edu](mailto:ralter@unmc.edu).

**Consider volunteering to help with the registration desk.** Picking up your name tag and packet at the registration desk does not just happen. Many people volunteer their time to help man the registration desk. We are always looking for help during the meeting. The registration desk is open from 7:00am to 5:00pm and time slots will be available to fill. Please consider giving your time and talent to help make the state meeting successful.

**Meal ticket Collection** - We will be passing out meal tickets with each name badge or institutional pass. We are looking for volunteers to collect meal tickets at the door for lunch. This task helps us plan for meals and keep track of our costs. Last year at the State Meeting in Lincoln on Friday we paid for 148 meals but only 85 tickets were collected. Somehow our meal counts were off and that is an expense that we really want to monitor. Our average lunch meal is typically 20 dollars for the food but we pay 21% service charge and 7% state tax. In 2014 each lunch we were charged a 2.3% occupational cost mandated by the city of Lincoln. So the real cost of that 20 dollar lunch is 27 dollars. Sounds like an expensive lunch but we pay that so that we can have the meeting at a hotel. It is just the cost of doing business and it is not cheap. Those box lunches might seem to be a good idea but you end up spending more for the box lunch or the buffet that is why you will see more plated lunches. It is easier to control costs.

**Tuesday April 8** we will be organizing our registration packets and alphabetizing the name tags. Please consider coming in the evening to help with this task. Depending upon how many volunteers we get it could be an hour or two. We would love to get new folks to help with this task.

**Hotel accommodations are at the Embassy Suites** for \$139 per night for single or double - this includes a full breakfast and a cocktails and food in the evening for several hours. The deadline to get the ASCLS-NE price is March 25.

**Thursday, April 9** is our annual **Social event** to be held at Mama's Pizza at 96 and Giles. Pizza and appetizers are free for full meeting registrants, Thursday full day registrants and for current students in the laboratory profession. We will begin the fun at 5:30 and continue until 8:30. UNMC Alumni Association is helping us sponsor this event. Thanks **Megan Brown**- The social chair for all your hard work.

**Sarpy County Chamber of Commerce** - is making our name tags and helping us promote our profession. They are also supplying free items for our registration bags. **Chelsea Reischl** is providing bags for registration items such as the meeting pocket guide. Thanks Chelsea.

Laboratory professionals often cite “lack of recognition for a job well done” as one of their primary job frustrations. The ASCLS-NE 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 Awards Luncheon on Friday, **April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014** at the Embassy Suites in Omaha, Nebraska.

All nominations must be received by **Friday March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2015** to be considered. The ASCLS-NE Officers will determine the winners of each award, based on the application information. Send completed applications to the Awards Chairperson:

**Lynnett Paneitz**  
3278 Prairieview Dr.  
Lincoln, NE 68504  
[awards@ascls-ne.org](mailto:awards@ascls-ne.org)

The following awards are available this year:

#### **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 ASCLS-NE. 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 ASCLS-NE. 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.

#### **Filter Award**

This award goes to an outstanding ASCLS-NE member who has made a significant contribution to our society. Nominations are based on the member's activities during the current year, as well as a summary of that person's contributions to the Clinical Laboratory Science profession. Officers of ASCLS-NE are not eligible.

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

This award is given to recognize and reward newly active members of ASCLS-NE 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 ASCLS-NE are not eligible.

#### **Shirley Noble Award**

This award was established to recognize an ASCLS-NE member who actively promotes the laboratory profession. The member has acted as a positive role model and mentor to members of the society or to MLS/MLT students just as its namesake Shirley Noble did.

#### **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 ASCLS-NE. Factors to be considered may be the number of years exhibiting at the Spring Meeting, donation of funds for an ASCLS-NE Award, contributions to continuing education, or demonstration of alternate support.

**Attention Students!!**

Applications are being accepted for personal loans from the Frieda Oltmanns trust. Ms. Oltmanns very generously donated the remainder of her estate to establish a trust for Nebraska MLS students. If you need a personal loan, please contact Andrea Jones for an application at [scholarships@ascls-ne.org](mailto:scholarships@ascls-ne.org). Also, scholarship applications are now being accepted. Visit the ASCLS-NE Website at [www.ascls-ne.org](http://www.ascls-ne.org) for more information and for submission requirements.

## Medical Laboratory Scientists: Heard, but Not Always Seen

Megan Brown, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

Each profession in health care must fulfill the needs of the patients to improve patient outcomes. An important profession in the healthcare team is the Medical Laboratory Scientist. Laboratory professionals are individuals who work “behind the scenes,” and we often never meet the doctors, nurses, or patients we serve. Thus, we have historically been “heard, but not always seen.” Despite our low visibility, we remain focused on the patient behind every sample we analyze. In fact, it is predicted upwards of upwards of 70% of healthcare decisions are based on laboratory results.

When I began my educational journey into becoming a Medical Laboratory Scientist, I had many questions about the profession. I had the same question everyone in college had regarding their proposed major: what do I do when I graduate? As it turned out, my degree was a direct correlation to the perfect career for me. As a student, I learned the theory behind each subject in the laboratory. Also, I was encouraged to participate in ASCLS and attended multiple educational conferences. When I landed my first job, I put my knowledge into practice. Thanks to my excellent colleagues, I became a better Medical Laboratory Scientist. I have also discovered the many areas of the laboratory I could work in, I have been fortunate to work in an academic medical center, where I have been able to inform other health care professionals about my profession. Various medical professional students rotate in the laboratory to learn how a laboratory operates. Each time a student is present, I make sure I inform them of as much of my profession as I can. My interactions with medical professionals are key for quality patient care. I do not meet the patients I serve, but my results aid further care and decisions toward the improvement of patients’ health. Although I am heard, but not always seen, I am enthusiastic about my career to anyone who asks. After a few years of working, I began to remember the fun I had as a member of ASCLS. At each educational meeting, I was surrounded by other laboratorians, professors, and company representatives who advocated for the teaching, advancement, and enthusiasm towards the laboratory profession. As a member of this organization, I am proud to participate in educational opportunities and be among other professionals who are passionate about the profession. I encourage all laboratorians to participate in ASCLS. The ASCLS Nebraska chapter Spring meeting is April 8-10, 2015 at the LaVista Conference Center. If you would like to attend the meeting, visit the ASCLS-NE website at [www.ascls-ne.org](http://www.ascls-ne.org)

**2015-2016 ASCLS-NE Board Elections**

Submitted by Linsey Donner, ASCLS-NE Leadership Development Chair

The 2015-2016 ASCLS-NE board elections will be held on-line via email ballot this year. An email will be sent to all members. All current ASCLS-NE members are encouraged to vote via private ballot.

The following Board open positions will be voted on this April:

- President-Elect
- Secretary
- Junior Board Member
- First Year Professional

In addition, we have non-voting appointed leadership positions involved in ASCLS-NE. These include:

- Membership Development Committee
- Leadership Development Committee
- Filter Editor
- Government Affairs/Political Action Chair
- Bylaws Chair
- Spring Meeting Planning Committee
- Fundraising Committee
- PACE Chair
- Awards Chair
- Website Development Committee
- Promotion of the Profession Committee

If you would like to nominate a candidate (including yourself) or you are interested in becoming involved in ASCLS-NE leadership, please contact me at [leadership@ascls-ne.org](mailto:leadership@ascls-ne.org)!

**ASCLS-NE Winter Board Meeting  
January 25, 2015 at 1:30 PM (CST)  
The Egg & I (3605 N. 147th Street, Ste. 106)  
Submitted by: Donna Kruger-secretary**

**Members Present:** Past-President and Junior Board Member-Chelsea Reischl (call in), President and former Senior Board Member-Kevin McGuire, Treasurer-Ashley Collins, Secretary-Donna Kruger, President-Elect-Brad Hays (call in), Senior Board Member and GAC/PAC-Roxanne Alter, Membership Chair-Marnie Imhoff, Leadership Development Chair-Linsey Donner, Promotion of the Profession Chair-Megan Brown, PACE Chair-Shanna Jensen (call in)

**1. Board Meeting**

a. Board Leadership Reports

i. President-Kevin McGuire

Motion to move that ASCLS-NE requires the President to cosign the Facility and Spring Meeting Contract along with the Senior Board Member (these are ones that are bonded). Marnie seconded.

Open for discussion: Roxanne (Senior Board Member and Spring Meeting Chair) shouldn't just be one person reviewing this contract. It should be multiple people to ensure that nothing gets missed (include people that understand the contract). Organization (ASCLS-NE) is responsible for all costs. Points that should be looked at...meeting place fees, food, filling of hotel space, etc. GPC- CLMA ASCLS-IA and PAMET-USA-NE share the cost responsibility.

Kevin suggested including Senior Board Member and Junior Board Member along with President.

Lindsey stressed the need to include mentoring for these people to ensure good understanding.

Marnie stated that she would be hesitant to sign a contract if she wasn't bonded. Maybe this is a question for our lawyer?

Move to vote by Kevin. Motion passed (10 Ayes and no Nays)

ii. Treasurer-Ashley Collins

No concerns or Requests for action

Roxanne had question for Ashley about putting money back into account to cover meeting (\$4000)? Ashley had not but will take care of this.

iii. Secretary

No concerns or Requests for action

- iv. Senior Board Member-Roxanne Alter  
See Concerns #1 and #2 on submitted report  
See Requests for Action on report: Discussion followed:  
No formal audit was performed for Region VI. We send \$1400 to region VI and we need to be good stewards of this money.
  - v. Junior Board Member-Chelsey Dockins-Reischl)  
No concerns or Requests for action  
Need location suggestions for 2016 Spring Meeting  
(because of mistake on this year's meeting with LaVista).
  - vi. First Year Professional-Sara Ewing
  - vii. Student Forum President-Kevin Nicholson
  - viii. Student Forum Advisor-Lynnett Paneitz  
See Concern on submitted report  
No Requests for Action
- b. Other Leadership Reports
- i. Membership  
No Concerns or Requests for Action  
Current members-113  
We are sharing booth with CLS Alumni but our booth is free (Booths at meeting for state societies are \$650/booth).
  - ii. Leadership Development-Lindsey Donner  
No Concerns  
Requests for Action: See report for the following:
    - Let Brad or I know if you are interested in a position for next year or if you know of someone that might be good.
    - Still need to work on Leadership handbook...
    - Need to create a committee for what Megan is doing (Promotion of the profession).
    - FYI about Leadership Academy
    - Creating an on-line ballot for next year so people all across the state can vote. This will be only portal for voting. Probably will keep voting in April or May.
  - iii. PAC/GAC-Roxanne Alter  
See Concerns and Requests for Action on submitted report  
Still concerned about funds

Currently setting up appointments with Congress representatives. Making sure Congress is in session before deciding to go to Legislative Symposium (March 16-17). Roxanne and Kevin going...See report for more.

- iv. Website-Ashley Collins and Martin Steinbeck  
Any problems with ASCLS-NE email let them know. The new update has been causing issues with attachments.
- v. Filter-Nicole Smith  
No Concerns or Requests for Action  
Submission deadline for Winter edition of Filter is February 15, 2015
- vi. Scholarships and Loans-Andrea Jones  
See Concerns and Requests for Action for more details on submitted report regarding Frieda Oltmanns loan.
  - Methodist's program would apply.
  - Think about now: Board discussion at a later date when we see a copy (Tabled until April meeting).
  - Only dire financial need? Can we tell all CLS students? Can we offer for Nebraska MLTs? Might need to have a discussion with the trustee (First National Bank of Omaha, NE).
- vii. PACE-Shanna Jensen  
No Concerns or Requests for Action  
Currently gearing up for Spring Meeting. Anyone that needs a list of speakers let her know.
- ix. Promotion of the Profession-Megan Brown  
Concerns: Megan would like help reaching out to members outside of Lincoln and Omaha. Ideas presented were canoe trip as in past, set up an evening at a set place for meeting of members that is consistent, CME events out in western Nebraska were successful in past (Rex Famitango with Pamet organization in Scottsbluff area has helped in the past with this).  
  
No Requests for Action  
  
See Report for current activities.
- x. Fundraising  
No Concerns or Requests for Action

c. Spring Meeting-Roxanne Alter

- Megan is organizing the Spring Meeting Social. It will be at Mamma's pizza (96<sup>th</sup> and Giles).
- Spent approx. \$400 last year.
- Megan to check on gratuity policy for this year.
- Jan Frerichs (IA) working on exhibits and registration.
- Christi Nickel (CLMA) working on speakers, moderators, moderator packets.
- ASCLS-NE are doing the Social, meeting audio/visual, food, PACE and website.  
We have to come up with 10 speakers. Want to get a Doctor for keynote on Ebola.
- Costs: pipe and drape cheaper this year (\$30 vs. \$50).
- Minimum of \$16,700 which includes audio/visual and food.
- Kathy Trudell has offered to organize food. Donna will talk to Kathy about helping her if needed.
- Tuesday night before meeting help needed for getting things ready. Need a packet person (to put together packets for attendees).
- All registration prices raised to \$390 this year. Students are \$25 with Thursday night free (social). March 25<sup>th</sup> is the magic deadline for late registration, hotels, etc.
- Venders are all day Wednesday and into evening (7pm) and half day on Thursday.
- Awards: Friday lunch for NE  
                  Thurs. lunch for IA  
Lynette will be sending out nomination forms next week.
- Save the date email to all lab managers will be sent by Kevin

d. Awards

Motion to adjourn by Kevin. Donna seconded.  
Meeting adjourned at 3:10

**Yearly Treasurer's Report Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements, 1 July 2014-30 Sept 2014****Submitted by Ashley Collins, MLS(ASCP)<sub>CM</sub>**

Money Market Balance 30 June 2014	25,327.17\$
-----------------------------------	-------------

## Cash Receipts

Money Market Interest Income July 2014-Sept 2014	6.38\$
--	--------

Spring Meeting Income 2014	-\$
----------------------------	-----

ASCLS Membership Sept 2014	-\$
----------------------------	-----

Total Money Market Cash Receipts	6.38\$
----------------------------------	--------

## Disbursements

Transfers to checking account	-\$
-------------------------------	-----

Total Money Market Disbursements	-\$
----------------------------------	-----

<b>Money Market Account Balance 30 Sept 2014</b>	<b>25,333.55\$</b>
--	--------------------

Checking Account Balance - 1 July 2014	772.62\$
--	----------

## Cash Receipts

Order of Draw Charms Fundraiser	75.00\$
---------------------------------	---------

Transfers from Spring Meeting (In addition to MM acct)	3,200.00\$
--	------------

Total Checking Account Cash Receipts	3,275.00\$
--------------------------------------	------------

## Disbursements

ASCLS National Meeting Attendance July 2014	1,738.49\$
---	------------

ASCLS-NE Board Meeting	-\$
------------------------	-----

ASCLS National Meeting Silent Auction Neb Donation	50.00\$
--	---------

Region VI Assessment Aug. 2014	1,300.00\$
--------------------------------	------------

Treasurer and President Bonding Aug. 2014	99.00\$
---	---------

Total Checking Account Disbursements	3,187.49\$
--------------------------------------	------------

<b>Checking Account Balance 30 Sept 2014</b>	<b>\$860.13</b>
--	-----------------

## ASCLS-NE SUMMARY OF ASSETS:

Money Market Balance 30 Sept 2014	25,333.55\$
-----------------------------------	-------------

Checking Account Balance 30 Sept 2014	\$860.13
---------------------------------------	----------

Scholarship CD Balance 31 Dec 2013	15,203.63\$
------------------------------------	-------------

Legislative CD Balance 31 Dec 2013	5,335.51\$
------------------------------------	------------

Savings CD Balance 31 Dec 2013	11,704.05\$
--------------------------------	-------------

<b>ASCLS-NE TOTAL ASSETS 30 Sept 2014</b>	<b>58,436.87\$</b>
---	--------------------

**Yearly Treasurer's Report Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements, 1 July 2014-31 Dec 2014 Submitted by Ashley Collins, MLS(ASCP)<sub>CM</sub>**

Money Market Balance 30 June 2014	25,327.17\$
-----------------------------------	-------------

## Cash Receipts

Money Market Interest Income July 2014-Dec 2014	14.91\$
---	---------

Spring Meeting Income 2014	9,408.07\$
----------------------------	------------

ASCLS Membership Sept 2014	-\$
----------------------------	-----

ASCLS Membership Oct 2014	495.00\$
---------------------------	----------

Total Money Market Cash Receipts	9,917.98\$
----------------------------------	------------

## Disbursements

Transfers to checking account	-
Total Money Market Disbursements	-
<b>Money Market Account Balance 31 Dec 2014</b>	<b>35,245.15\$</b>
Checking Account Balance - 1 July 2014	772.62\$
Cash Receipts	
Order of Draw Charms Fundraiser	75.00\$
Transfers from Spring Meeting (In addition to MM acct)	3,200.00\$
Pampered Chef Fundraiser	178.49\$
Total Checking Account Cash Receipts	3,453.49\$
Disbursements	
ASCLS National Meeting Attendance July 2014	1,738.49\$
ASCLS-NE Board Meeting	-
ASCLS National Meeting Silent Auction Neb Donation	50.00\$
Region VI Assessment Aug. 2014	1,300.00\$
Treasurer and President Bonding Aug. 2014	99.00\$
Website Maintenance	52.38\$
Total Checking Account Disbursements	3,239.87\$
<b>Checking Account Balance 31 Dec 2014</b>	<b>\$986.24</b>
ASCLS-NE SUMMARY OF ASSETS:	
Money Market Balance 31 Dec 2014	35,245.15\$
Checking Account Balance 31 Dec 2014	\$986.24
Scholarship CD Balance 31 Dec 2014	15,241.68\$
Legislative CD Balance 31 Dec 2014	5,348.87\$
Savings CD Balance 31 Dec 2014	11,733.37\$
<b>ASCLS-NE TOTAL ASSETS 31 Dec 2014</b>	<b>68,555.31\$</b>



Fun cells!