



Volume XXV No. 1 AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE –WASHINGTON
Winter 2010

The 2009-2010 year has gone by very quickly. ASCLS-WA is still saddened by the loss of two ASCLS-WA Leaders, **Don Kuhn** and **Joyce Behrens**, this fall. Both Don and Joyce were active in local and state ASCLS committees and activities. They Co-Chaired the 2007 Northwest Medical Lab Symposium (NWMLS), both had served as ASCLS Washington State President, and President for the Seattle Society for Clinical Laboratory Science. We miss them greatly and their support, encouragement, and dedication to the profession that they had a passion for, and took time to share with others. As many of us worked on the 2009 NWMLS, these two mentors and leaders left us with a legacy mission and big steps to fill.

The ASCLS-WA Board, at its meeting in October, decided to set up a **“Don Kuhn Memorial Scholarship”** and a **“Joyce Behrens Memorial Scholarship.”** **These scholarships will support ASCLS-WA members to attend continuing education.** Donations can be made to the individual memorial funds. Checks should be made payable to “ASCLS-WA”. Send donations to **Mike Gaulke**, ASCLS-WA Treasurer, 5205 South Bermuda, Kennewick, WA 99338.

Children’s Miracle Network (CMN) is an organization that ASCLS nationwide has supported. **Lisa Stolte** is CMN Chair, and is planning a fun raffle at the 2010 Spring Seminar in Lynnwood, WA.

In spite of the economy, Americans have always donated from their heart. I encourage members to donate any amount to any organization that is helping people in **Haiti** following the earthquake. You can direct your contributions to medical supplies, food or shelters.

Part of the ASCLS Vision is to support and encourage continuing education in clinical laboratory medicine. The **2009 NWMLS** at SeaTac presented a great program and included a series of Core Lab sessions. **Lisa McDonnel**, Program Chair, teamed up with many new people to work on the program.

The **2010 Spring Seminar**, April 22-24, 2010, will be in Lynnwood, WA at the Lynnwood Convention Center. **Sue Seegers** is the General Chair of the meeting. If you wish to help, please contact Sue at sseegers@shoreline.edu

It’s not too early to think about your summer plans. “The Magic Kingdom of Knowledge Awaits You.” at the annual **ASCLS Conference** in Anaheim, CA from July 27-31, 2010. At last an opportunity to relax and have fun at Disneyland. For more information go to <http://www.ascls.org/conferences/2010AM/index.asp>

As President this year, I encourage you to take part in continuing education, district ASCLS society and community activities.

Molly Morse, President ASCLS-WA

Spring Seminar 2010

Mark your calendars!! The ASCLS-WA Spring Seminar will be held April 22-24, 2010 at the Lynnwood Convention Center. We have a variety of sessions in all areas of the laboratory which should interest everyone. The conference program is posted on the website www.asclswa.org and you should have already received the program packet in the mail.

The Lynnwood Convention Center is located at 3711 196th Street SW, Lynnwood, WA 98036. A block of rooms are reserved at the Best Western Alderwood Hotel in Lynnwood and will be available until April 7, 2010. You need to request the ASCLS -Washington group to receive the conference rates.

Lunch is included if you sign up for a morning and afternoon session on the same day. There are special rates available for phlebotomists and students.

The deadline is March 31, 2010 for mail in registration. Looking forward to seeing everyone there.

Sue Seegers

sseegers@shoreline.edu

2010 Spring Seminar General Chair

THANK YOU TO THE ACTIVE ASCLS-WA MEMBERS!

We have a wonderful group of active ASCLS-WA members who are keeping this organization together – helping to put on educational seminars, leading the organization, giving scholarships, raising money for worthy causes, and making sure that educational seminars are approved for your continuing education. These individuals work tirelessly behind the scenes. If you see their names in this newsletter or in Spring Seminar or NWMLS booklets, don't hesitate to thank them for their efforts.

Where to get information on your organization?

State News:

Check out the www.asclswa.org website – **Brenda Kochis** works hard to keep this up to date for the state organization.

Check out the new job tab on www.asclswa.org!

National News:

Check out the www.ascls.org website for national news.

Check out the websites to get ASCLS News! See above.

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In Memoriam

As many of you know, we lost two ASCLS-WA friends this fall, Joyce Behrens and Donald Kuhn. Don and Joyce had each been battling cancer and passed away within hours of each other over Labor Day weekend. Both were outstanding leaders, mentors, and role models to many of us. The ASCLS family grieves the loss of these true laboratory professionals.



Don Kuhn & Joyce Behrens
General Co-Chairs NWMLS 2007



For those who are interested, donations can be made to the Don Kuhn ASCLS-WA Memorial Scholarship and/or the Joyce Behrens ASCLS-WA Memorial Scholarship, which sponsor opportunities for colleagues to attend continuing education. Checks can be made payable to ASCLS-WA and can be sent to: Mike Gaulke, ASCLS-WA Treasurer, 5205 S. Bermuda, Kennewick, WA 99338.

In addition, a MT student scholarship has been established in Joyce's name at the University of Washington. For more information about making contributions to the Joyce A. Behrens Endowed Scholarship in Medical Technology, please contact Caroline M. Anderson in the UW Foundation office at cmanders@uw.edu.

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Government Affairs Committee

One of the benefits of your membership in ASCLS is advocacy for the profession in Congress and the legislative arena. The Government Affairs Committee (GAC) has been keeping a close eye on the discussion on health care reform in Washington, D.C. To find out what has been going on in this area, check out the section on “ASCLS Advocates for You” on the www.ascls.org website. Look along the right hand side under Quick Links on the home page. This link will send you to a wealth of information leading to what is happening in the legislative arena. You can access position papers from ASCLS, send messages to your legislators using a simple program called CapWiz, and review Capitol Hill basics. Check it out!

Donna Reinbold

GAC Region IX and ASCLS-WA Chair

2010 LEGISLATIVE SYMPOSIUM

March 15-16, 2010

Washington, D.C.

Come and hear in person about the issues with other laboratorians from CLMA, AMT and ASCP. On Tuesday, March 16, we go to discuss these issues with our legislators. Come to D.C. - learn and advocate!

PAC

The acronym PAC stands for “Political Action Committee,” a voluntary non-profit organization created to provide financial & educational support for the election campaigns of responsible candidates for Congress. All PAC’s are legal, ethical, and strictly regulated by federal law, which limits the amount of individual contributions and requires full and regular disclosure. ASCLS/PAC offers members a simple, convenient way to influence the elections process and actively participate in the federal decision-making process. Through the PAC, ASCLS members are able to unite together to gain the attention of candidates for national political office. In another sense, your support and generous contributions to the ASCLS/PAC represents your P-ositive A-ction and C-ommitment.

From the ASCLS website

Lisa Stolte is the Region IX PAC Chair – look for donation bins in the registration area at our regional and state meetings. This is a worthy cause and helps our profession in many ways.

MEMBERSHIP

Thanks to our members – ASLCS-WA has the second largest membership in the country! Thank you for your continued support and if you have any questions, please contact the Membership Chair, **Linda Breiwick**. Questions, please contact Linda at Linda.brei@comcast.net or 425-778-5313.

What is CMN and what does it have to do with our organization?

ASCLS-WA has chosen Children's Miracle Network as a worthy organization to sponsor, so during the year, you will see **Lisa Stolte** around the registration area of the Spring Seminar and the Northwest Medical Laboratory Symposium with all kinds of auction items to bid on. At the Fall NWMLS, \$500 was raised for this well-deserved cause.

Congratulations to the Student Scholarship Winner

Michael Doyle is the ASCLS-WA Scholarship Recipient reports **Margie Vaccaro**, Scholarship Chair. He is a Medical Technologist student at Providence Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane, WA. Congratulations, **Michael!**

Calendar

ASCLS Legislative Day
Partners – AMT, ASCP, and CLMA
Washington, D.C.
March 15-16, 2010

Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference
Biloxi/Gulfport, MS
February 25-27, 2010

ASCLS-WA 2010 Spring Seminar
Lynnwood Convention Center
April 22-24, 2010

ASCLS Annual Meeting
“The Magic Kingdom of Knowledge Awaits You”
Anaheim, CA
July 27-31, 2010

2010 Northwest Medical Laboratory Symposium
Holiday Inn, Portland Airport
October 13-16, 2010

Note: The LabOratory is a newsletter dedicated to communication to the members of the ASCLS-WA organization. If you have any suggestions or comments, please contact Donna Reinbold at Drein1542@aol.com.

Thank you for your support of your professional organization – this is an attribute of a true professional!