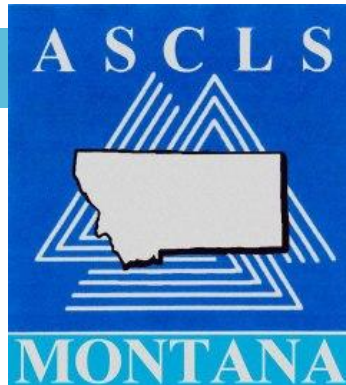


Montana Laboratory News



Spring 2010

Missoula to Host ASCLS-MT Spring Meeting



Exploring the Rivers of Change is the theme of this year's annual ASCLS-MT spring meeting, April 14 – 17, 2010. Wine and cheese with exhibitors will kick off the activities on Wednesday evening, plus student posters will be displayed for your review.

On Thursday, **J.R. Constance**, ASCLS Region VIII Director, will be the first speaker, informing us about issues that affect the laboratory community and providing ASCLS updates. A full slate of speakers is planned, allowing attendees to garner a full 15 credits of Continuing Education.

The annual ASCLS-MT business meeting will be held during this meeting; everyone is invited to attend. There will be a silent auction, and proceeds this year will be split between the Children's Miracle Network, the designated charity of ASCLS-MT, and the scholarship fund for the Montana Medical Laboratory Science Training Program.

The Friday evening social event will include a walking tour of historic downtown Missoula, followed by dinner at The Doubletree Inn, and ending with entertainment by "Bits and Pieces", a Missoula Improv Troup.

The meeting will conclude Saturday after an additional half-day of educational programs.

The beautiful Edgewater Inn in Missoula has been selected as the site for this year's annual ASCLS-MT Spring meeting. A reduced rate room block is available for meeting attendees from now until March 31 or until sold out. Driving directions and details are on the next page.



The Planning Committee consists of **Dot Ahler**, General Chair, **Lana Hamilton**, **Cara Ryan**, **Lori Monahan**, and **Carrie Biskupiak**. They have been working hard to provide a great spring meeting experience. Room reservation information, the registration form and program information is available online at <http://ascls-montana.asclsregionviii.org/annualmeeting2010.htm>

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★ Doubletree Hotel Missoula/Edgewater
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River view rooms at the meeting Doubletree Edgewater Hotel are available for \$85.00/night until March 31 or until the room block is sold out. Reservations may be online at www.missoulaedgewater.doubletree.com or by calling **406-728-3200** and mentioning that you are with the ASCLS-MT group.

2010 Award and Scholarship Opportunities

Consider submitting a paper or nominating someone for an award (or apply yourself)

ASCLS-MT Paper of the Year

\$150 award
Submission deadline: March 29, 2010

ASCLS-MT Member of the Year

Cash and plaque
Nomination essays from nominator and nominee due March 29, 2010

Nomination Forms and Information are available from Awards and Scholarships Committee Members:

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Awards and Scholarships, (Continued)

Don't forget to check out the ASCLS website for Awards and Scholarships available, including the Alpha Mu Tau Education and Research (E&R) Fund with awards and scholarships in a variety of categories.

Silent Auction Items Wanted

The Missoula Planning Committee would like anyone having items they would be interested in donating to the Children's Miracle Network/MUS MLS Scholarship Fund silent auction to contact either Lana Hamilton or Dot Ahler.

Lana Hamilton

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Dorothy "Dot" Ahler

Missoula, MT
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Remember, bring your checkbook, support our students and our kids!!

MEET THE 2010 CANDIDATES

President Elect: Amy Steinmetz

Amy completed her undergraduate at Montana State University receiving a Bachelors of Science in Microbiology. She was accepted into the University of North Dakota Medical Technology Program in 1999 and did her internship at the Billings Clinic. Soon after graduation she began working at the Billings clinic as a generalist on the evening shift. Since then she has had many roles including day shift generalist, Education Coordinator for UND Students and Education and Training Coordinator for new employees at Billings Clinic. She currently works as a System Specialist for the LIS department at the Billings Clinic. She became active in ASCLS as a member of the nominations committee in 2005 and has held this position for 4 years becoming the chairperson in 2009. She was also appointed as the Student Liaison helping to get students involved in the organization. She has attended many ASCLS functions including the national meeting in Chicago and Washington DC as well as Leg Days. She is still a very active member of the board.

Secretary: Chelsea Wallace

Chelsea received her B.S. in Medical Technology from the University of Minnesota before beginning her career at the Billings Clinic Laboratory. She has recently transitioned out of the lab and into a consultant position for Billings Clinic Operational Excellence using Lean & Six.

Chelsea Wallace – *(continued)*

Sigma tools to improve processes. She still stays connected to the laboratory world through her involvement with ASCLS. She has filled roles as: State Student Rep (MN), Program Chair (MT state meeting 2009), State Secretary (MT), and Regional New Professional Rep (Region VIII). She has been a member of the following committees: State Board of Directors (MN and MT), Regional Board of Directors (Region VIII), New Professional Committee (National) and Promotion of the Profession Committee (National).

Board of Directors:

Denise Higgins

Denise is currently a Laboratory Manager at the Montana Public Health Laboratory, overseeing Serology and the Newborn Screening Program. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Medical Technology from Illinois State University in 1992, completing her clinical internship at the University of Chicago, Louis A. Weiss Memorial Hospital. As a Clinical Laboratory Scientist, Denise has worked as a generalist mainly in Chemistry and Hematology around Montana and Illinois. She has been employed with the Department of Public Health & Human Services for 10 years. Denise has been a member of ASCLS-MT for 5 years and chaired the 2008 Spring Meeting in Helena. Outside of the laboratory, Denise is the Board President for Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies-The Montana Coalition. She has 2 children that keep her busy and she tries to get some tennis in when she can.

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Board of Directors:

Ashlee Ketchum

Ashlee is a generalist working at Holy Rosary Healthcare in Miles City for the past 10 years. She first received her Associates of Science (MLT) degree through Bismarck State College and earned her ASCP/BOR certification. After working for a few years she decided to go back to school while working full time and received her Bachelor of Clinical Science (MLS) from University of Cincinnati and earned her ASCP/BOR certification. She is very active in Spirit of Women through Holy Rosary promoting woman's health. Ashlee is actively involved with promoting the laboratory's Lab Check (Direct Access Testing) program, Love Your Heart activities and Day of Dance, with public speaking, community events and radio ads. Within the lab Ashlee is very involved with career day by speaking and demonstrating the career of laboratory medicine to high school sophomores looking for a career path to follow. She actively sits on a LEAN committee within the laboratory working to streamline flow between the laboratory and inpatients. Ashlee was fortunate to attend the ASCLS-MT Spring Meeting in Billings and IMSS and has been very impressed with the professionalism and passion of ASCLS members. She hopes to contribute to the advancement of the society and clinical laboratory professionals by serving on the Board of Directors.

Awards and Scholarships:

Rebecca Hamilton

Rebecca Hamilton graduated from the University of Wisconsin-La Crosse with a bachelor of science in Microbiology in 1998 and worked as a Food Microbiologist at Land O' Lakes. Deciding to pursue her career in the healthcare industry, she accepted a position at Mayo Clinic - Immunology Laboratory and later went on to receive a Bachelor of Science in Clinical Laboratory Science. It was her internship that brought her to Montana where she fell in love with the beautiful state and also met her husband. Her work experience has carried her as a Clinical Laboratory Scientist from American Red Cross to the State of Montana Public Health Laboratory to Mayo Clinic - Molecular Laboratory. She has currently settled back into Great Falls at American Red Cross where she is very happy to be working in blood banking again. The wide range of work experiences, committee involvement, volunteer work and memberships has helped her grow as a professional in the clinical field. She enjoys hiking, rafting, traveling around Montana and spending time with friends and family. She has one son and currently expecting another child in June.

Friday Night Social Event at ASCLS-MT

- Walking Tour of Historic Missoula
- Dinner at the Doubletree Inn
- Entertainment by a local improv group

Reserve your spot now!



Audit and Finance:

Debbie Gibson

Debbie Gibson is from Helena, MT and is a Carroll College graduate with a degree in Combined Science (Chem/Biology) and Medical Technology. She is currently pursuing her Masters of Public Health through the University of Montana. Debbie has been employed at the Montana Public Health Laboratory as a Clinical Laboratory Scientist for twelve years and spent nine years on the bench performing testing. She was recently promoted to Microbiology and Molecular Laboratory Manager at the end of June 2009. She is married with two beautiful girls ages 8 & 10 and has a special passion for distance running in her spare time.

Nominations District II:

Rhona D'Antuono

Rhona received a BS in Microbiology from Montana State University and a MS in Management from Troy State University. She completed her Clinical Laboratory Science internship at Columbus Hospital in Great Falls. She has been employed with the American Red Cross for 15 years and has been Laboratory Manager for 5 years. If elected this will be her second term on the Nominations Committee. She is married with 2 beautiful daughters who keep her very busy. She enjoys playing golf, traveling and spending time with friends and family.

Non-ASCLS Members: Do you know that if you join ASCLS now, you can register for the Spring Meeting at member rates? Visit www.ascls.org

Celebrate National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week, April 18-24, 2010



Laboratory Professionals

Get Results

Nominations District IV:

Karen Clark

Karen graduated with a B.S. in Microbiology from Montana State University in 1989. She spent one year at St. James' Hospital's Medical Technologist program in Butte, MT, and became certified by ASCP in 1990. She was hired by Family Practice Associates in Bozeman, August 1990, and has been the Lab Director there ever since. Karen has been a member of ASCLS since 1991 and was licensed by the State of Montana Board of Clinical Laboratory Science Practitioners in 1994.



Remember that your professional license must be renewed by May 1.

To renew you will need

- The postcard mailed to you with your P.I.N. and renewal instructions.
- 14 credits in Continuing Education since May 1 2009.
- \$60.00 in check or credit card.

Education and P.A.C.E.®

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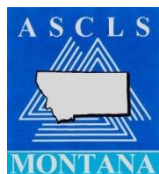
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Calendar of Events

April 14, 2010	ASCLS-MT Board Meeting, Missoula, MT
April 14 - 17, 2010	ASCLS-MT Annual Spring Meeting, Missoula, MT
April 18 – 24, 2010	National Medical Laboratory Week
July 27 – 31, 2010	ASCLS 2010 National Meeting, Anaheim, CA
September 8– 11, 2010	Intermountain States Seminar, Jackson, WY
October 13 – 16, 2010	Northwest Medical Lab Symposium, Portland, OR

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