

NORTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF BLOOD BANKERS, INC.

NEWSLETTER

ANGELA MAHATHEY, MT(ASCP), EDITOR

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rebecca Bullock, MT(ASCP)SBB

Why **NCABB**....*Why Now?*



Active NCABB members have no problem answering the above questions. On the evaluation forms we receive following Spring Workshops and **Annual Fall Meetings**, attendees tell us the **presentations are excellent** and their attendance invaluable.

If you ask long-term NCABB members, they will tell you the organization is more than a source of continuing education. NCABB also provides **networking opportunities** and **resources for those times they have questions**, and need to talk to someone who knows the language of blood banking. Members form **long term friendships** with other blood bankers in the state, and have the chance to **interact with some of the most accomplished speakers** in our field.

On a recent NCABB survey, in response to a question concerning the future of continuing education, we were told, "I think that more continuing education is moving to digital media, with a self-paced, individualized focus. I do appreciate conferences though, for the networking opportunities and the ability to **interact with peers across many health systems**; it is wonderful to share ideas and best practices." As a long-term NCABB member myself, I know that I often call on peers and colleagues I've met through NCABB. The world of medicine is held to high standards; **knowing best practices** is vital.

This is not to say that on-line Continuing Education is not important or valuable. Funding is tight and many on-line programs are free or very inexpensive. On-line CEs from reputable organizations are great ways to stay current. But when you face a real challenge, an on-line CE program cannot give you advice, share how it resolved a similar situation, or **rescue you from a confounding problem**. We all need friends and **professional friends can be lifesavers**.

The founders of NCABB knew the value of professional association. They chose the name **North Carolina Association of Blood Bankers** rather than **Blood Banks**, because they knew the value of people-to-people interaction. **NCABB has a lot to offer. Now would be a great time to join.**

WWW.NCABB.ORG

THE NEW NCABB WEBSITE HAS LAUNCHED AND
YOU CAN NOW JOIN OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ON-LINE!

Highlights of the 43rd Fall Meeting

The 43rd annual NCABB Fall Meeting was held September 21-22, 2015 at the Carolina Inn in Chapel Hill, NC. The meeting opened with an inspiring keynote address from Coach Sylvia Hatchell and ended with a moving account of a patient experience. Both served as reminders of the important role blood bankers and transfusion therapy play in caring for patients. Attendees enjoyed two days of distinguished speakers presenting on a variety of subject matters. Topics included: managing generational differences in the clinical laboratory workforce, pediatric and neonatal transfusion protocols, normalizing deviance within the laboratory, explaining the qualifications of installing equipment, cellular and platelet therapies, transfusion-associated circulatory overload, and technical problems in blood bank testing. Again this year, the presentations were videotaped and they are available for purchase as a DVD set. If you are interested, please visit the NCABB website for more information.

Exhibitors from the following companies also attended and/or sponsored the Fall Meeting:

American Red Cross, Ashland, Inc., Bio-Rad, Community Blood Center of the Carolinas, Duke Medical Laboratories, Fenwal, Haemonetics, HemoBioscience, Immucor, Kedrion Biopharma, Kol, Laboratory Corporation of America, Ortho Clinical Diagnostics, Quotient, and UNC McLendon Clinical Laboratories. NCABB

recognizes the tremendous role all the exhibitors and sponsors play in our ability to host the annual meeting. Our gratitude is extended to them for their continued support.



The NCABB Board would like to thank **Lindsay Suber** for photographing the NCABB events. He expertly captures the spirit of meetings and events.



NCABB is ASCLS P.A.C.E.® approved! The board was very excited to offer P.A.C.E.® approved CE credits for the Fall Meeting, as this was requested by the NCABB members and meeting attendees. The board reviews meeting evaluations carefully and makes every effort to incorporate attendees' helpful suggestions to improve the meetings each year. While the Fall Meeting is a great way to obtain continuing education credits, it also serves as an excellent opportunity to network and exchange ideas with colleagues from across the region. We hope you will plan to attend the 2016 meeting in Wilmington and discover what NCABB has to offer.



Thank you to **Ronda Gooch** for working with the Carolina Inn on the arrangements again this year. Her expertise in planning is invaluable!

*Join us for the 2016 Fall Meeting in Wilmington, NC
September 18th – 20th*

Awards at the Fall Meeting...



Petteway-Shepherd Recipient,
Paul Ness, MD

During the fall meeting, NCABB takes the opportunity to honor individuals who have contributed to transfusion medicine as well as the NCABB organization. The Petteway-Shepherd Award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to the field of transfusion medicine, and whose prominence is well established nationally. This is certainly true for the 2015 recipient, Paul Ness, MD. Dr. Ness is director of the Transfusion Medicine Division at The Johns Hopkins Hospital and professor of Pathology, Medicine, and Oncology at The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He has been a member of the AABB Board of Directors for many years and became President in 1999. He served on the editorial boards of Transfusion and AABB Press and became editor of Transfusion in July, 2003. He has written over 200 articles for medical journals and has reviewed manuscripts for many journals. He is a co-editor of two comprehensive texts in transfusion medicine, The Scientific Basis of Transfusion Medicine and Blood Banking and Transfusion Medicine, Basic Principles and Practice. Dr. Ness also has extensive experience in transfusion related research with emphasis upon transfusion related complications. His presentation was entitled, "Continuing Controversies in Platelet Transfusion Therapy."

The Frances K. Widmann Service Award honors those members who have given generously of their time and energy in support of NCABB. This year we honored a very dedicated and hard-working member, Caroline Immel. Caroline stepped into the President Elect role after serving on the board for only 1 year. She served as NCABB President in 2014. During her time as President she initiated the change to enhance the NCABB website, which among many things, allowed for on-line membership renewal and meeting registration. Caroline has helped with the Spring Workshop program and arrangements for 2 years and she also arranged the surprise keynote speaker, Sylvia Hatchell, at the 2015 Fall Meeting. Thank you to Caroline for her dedication and leadership.



Frances K. Widmann Service Award Recipient, Caroline Immel with past-president, Tara Moon.



Elizabeth "Kizzy" Moore Gabriel Memorial Scholarship Recipient, Rebecca Cerajewski.

Thank you again to our Fall Meeting Program Chairs: Elaine Frye Jones, Linda Soles, and Shauna Hay!

Join us at the Spring Workshop on April 12, 2016!
Check the website and the next mailing for registration.
We look forward to seeing you at Davidson County Community College!

Opportunities Abound in 2016!

Career Opportunities

Are you looking to make a difference in the job you do? If so, we invite you to join us at the **American Red Cross**! We provide blood to hospitals across the region. Nationwide, we collect over 6.5 million units of blood annually and the need grows!

2nd Shift Position Available (Louisville, KY)

The **Medical Technologist II**- will perform basic and advanced donor and patient tests and interpret results to determine donor-recipient compatibility. Resolve compatibility problems; provide complex reference and consultation services to hospitals and transfusion services. Perform automated and manual test procedures on blood samples. Perform advanced manufacturing and processing procedures, as applicable. Adhere to explicit standard operating procedures and interpret test results in accordance with the applicable regulatory requirements.

Qualifications:

MT(ASCP) or BB(ASCP) /equivalent with 4 years experience, bachelor's degree with major in biological science or chemistry plus 6 years blood banking experience, or MLT (ASCP) certification plus 4 years blood banking experience. MT (ASCP) and/or BB(ASCP) or equivalent preferred. State license may be required where applicable.

To Apply please visit;

www.americanredcross.apply2jobs.com

Search for the following Requisition numbers **BIO61996**

Laboratory Technologist II

Duke University Health System, a progressive facility located in the heart of North Carolina, currently has a full-time position available for a **Certified Medical Technologist** on third shift in Transfusion Service. Applicants must possess a desire to become an integral member of a team providing blood products at a level 1 trauma center to patients in a safe, efficient manner.

Strong interpersonal, written and verbal communication skills as well as the ability to solve problems are a must. Applicants must have a Baccalaureate Degree (preferably from a Clinical Lab Science program) and certification by a nationally recognized agency at the technologist level. Technologists perform complex serological testing using solid phase technology and prepare blood components for a diverse patient population.

**New grads welcome to apply.
Relocation assistance is available.**

Duke University Health System offers an excellent working environment with a competitive salary and comprehensive benefits package. The Raleigh/Durham/Chapel Hill area offers broad academic, cultural and leisure opportunities.

For more information, contact Mary Lee Campbell via e-mail at mary.campbell@duke.edu or call 919-668-2236. More information is available on our website: www.hr.duke.edu.

Duke University is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.

Upcoming Meeting and Educational Opportunities

2016 Date

Feb 6

April 7-9

April 12

April 24- 30

Meeting

NCABB Board Meeting, Winston-Salem, NC

Carolinas Clinical Connection, Chapel Hill, NC

NCABB Spring Workshop, DCCC Campus, Thomasville, NC

National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week



Missed the 2015 NCABB Meeting?

**Available
Now!**

**2015
Fall Meeting
DVD Sets**

NEVER FEAR...THE DVDS ARE HERE!

DVDs are a cost effective way to stay current and provide CE for staff. Attendees wrote it was a “Great Meeting” with “Excellent Topics and Speakers”.

Check out the **NCABB** website www.ncabb.org for more DVD information:

- ✓ Titles of included talks and speakers
- ✓ Priced right at only **\$125.00** for **11.0** hours of CE
- ✓ Easy instructions for *on-line* purchase

NCABB SPRING WORKSHOP

April 12, 2016

“Inspections and Audits: Getting Ready and Staying Ready”

- Speakers will cover the following topics:
 - Top 10 Non-Conformances
 - The **DOs** and **DON'Ts** of Inspections
 - Inspection Readiness
- Free for NCABB Members
- Easily accessible and centrally located at Davidson County Community College, Thomasville, NC
- P.A.C.E. ® approved CE credits

**SAVE
THE
DATE
April 12**

Join NCABB!

North Carolina Association of Blood Bankers Membership Form 2016

(Please note: Membership spans the calendar year, January – December 2016.)

NCABB is an affordable professional organization open to interested individuals. It offers opportunities for continuing education, networking, and reduced registration fees at the spring workshop and fall meeting.

☐ New Membership \$35.00

☐ Renewal \$35.00

Name: _____ Certifications: _____
Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Place of employment: _____

Preferred Email : _____

☐ Please check here if you prefer that your email address not be shared with educational organizations or vendors.

Please complete all information so that we may have current contact information. Return this form with payment for \$35.00 to:

NCABB, Inc.
P.O. Box 34213
Charlotte, NC 28234

NEW!

**You can also join or renew membership online at
ncabb.org!**

Please contact the NCABB Membership Chair (Linda Soles) or Treasurer (Lindsay Suber) for questions regarding membership or for notification of change of address.

Linda Soles: Linda.Soles@redcross.org

Lindsay Suber: Lindsay.suber@gmail.com

Thank you for your support of the North Carolina Association of Blood Bankers!

NCABB, Inc. Board of Directors

The NCABB Board is comprised of volunteer members of the NCABB. Each board member was nominated and invited to join. The length of tenure varies with responsibilities. The board meets 3-4 times per year and plans the continuing education provided in the spring and fall workshops. The board hopes to bring together interested individuals for networking and professional enrichment. The current nominating committee is Angela Mahathey, Kelly Shirley, and Lindsay Suber. Please contact any board members with questions, concerns or let us know if you are interested in becoming more involved in the organization.

The 2015-2016 directory of NCABB officers and board members is:

Past President	Tara C. Moon, PhD, MLS(ASCP) ^{CM} UNC Chapel Hill	tmoon@med.unc.edu
President	Rebecca Bullock, MT(ASCP)SBB Quotient Biodiagnostics	Becky.Bullock@quotientbd.com
President Elect	Angela Mahathey, MT(ASCP) Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center	ammahathey@NovantHealth.org
Secretary	Kelly Shirley, MAEd, MLS(ASCP) ^{CM} SBB ^{CM} Carolinas College of Health Sciences	kelly.shirley@carolinas.org
Treasurer	Lindsay Suber, MLS(ASCP) ^{CM} Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center	Lindsay.Suber@gmail.com
Membership Chair/Social Network Chair	Linda Soles, MT(ASCP)SBB American Red Cross, Durham IRL	Linda.Soles@redcross.org
Education Chair	Amanda Miner, MLS(ASCP)SBB ^{CM} Carolinas Healthcare System, Charlotte	amanda.miner@carolinas.org
Vendor Chair	Christina Pipgras, MLS(ASCP) ^{CM} Novant Health Presbyterian Medical Center	clpipgras@gmail.com
Website Chair	Melissa Dugenske, MLS(ASCP) ^{CM} SBB ^{CM} UNC High Point Regional	melissa.dugenske@unchealth.unc.edu
1yr Board Member	Jeff Davis American Red Cross, Carolinas Region	jeffrey.davis@redcross.org
1yr Board Member	Jodi Iarossi, MLS(ASCP) ^{CM} SBB ^{CM} UNC Hospitals	jiarossi@gmail.com
2yr Board Member	Khou Vang Moua, MLS(ASCP) ^{CM} Community Blood Center of the Carolinas	kns moua@gmail.com
2yr Board Member	Courtney Robinson, MLS(ASCP) ^{CM} Carteret Healthcare	cbrobinson@ccgh.org
3yr Board Member	Roxanne Clark, MLS(ASCP) ^{CM} Duke University Hospital	roxanne.clark@dm.duke.edu
3yr Board Member	Julie Jackson, MT(ASCP)SBB ^{CM} Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center	jjackson12374@yahoo.com
Mentor	Linda Braddy, MT(ASCP)SBB Moses Cone Health	Linda.Braddy@conehealth.com
Mentor	Elaine Frye Jones, MLS(ASCP) LabCorp	fryee@labcorp.com

Join NCABB today! Membership provides discounted rates for the Fall Meeting and free registration for the Spring Workshop