

Spring 2005



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## President's Message-Karla Smith MT(ASCP)SBB

It is an honor to have the opportunity to serve as President of KABB. I look forward to the following year. I would like to encourage all KABB members to take an active role within the association to help build KABB back to the high standards set by our predecessors. There are many ways we can accomplish this; however, we cannot do this without the help and support of all of you. If you know anyone interested in blood banking, please encourage him or her to become a member or to plan to attend one of our meetings. Our education committee is always looking for suggestions of topics for the meetings that would be of interest to members of the blood banking community. If you have any suggestions, ideas for further educational

topics, comments or would like to become more involved in KABB please contact me at [karla@disneydog.com](mailto:karla@disneydog.com).

The Fall 2005 Meeting will be held at General Butler State Resort Park in Carrolton. There will be a hospitality reception Friday, September 23, 2005 beginning at 8 pm. The meeting will be Saturday, September 24, 2005 with breakfast and registration beginning at 8 am. The deadline for room reservations will be Tuesday, August 23, 2005. For more details about the fall meeting along with a brochure and registration information, please check our website [www.kabb.org](http://www.kabb.org). It will be updated as more information becomes available.

The Spring 2005 Meeting was held at the Holiday Inn in

Louisville on March 22 and 23, 2005. This was the fifth year we co-sponsored the event with KSCLS. The theme for this year's event was Quest for Quality. There was a wide range of topics presented for all to enjoy. I'd like to thank everyone involved with planning and working on the meeting, our speakers, exhibitors, and sponsors, as well as our participants. Without all of your support we could not have had such a wonderful meeting.

I would also like to thank Danny Thacker and ARC River Valley Region. It is with their support that this issue of Channels and past issues have been published.

See you in the fall!

## SPECIAL THANKS!

The KABB would like to say a very special THANK YOU to all of those who helped make this year's SPRING 2005 Meeting a great success. We had multiple companies, hospitals and organizations donate items and monetary support for the meeting such as : Lockwood and Associates, American Red Cross, Terumo, Baxter, Immucor Gamma, Vital Care, Ortho, Amtek, Lab Supply Co., Helmer, Olympus, KODA, Baptist Hospital East, Kindred, Norton, T J Samson, Western Kentucky Blood Center, Hardin Memorial, Kentucky River, Floyd Memorial, Williamson Appalachian Regional, Caritas, The Kentucky Center for the Arts, Kentucky Railway Museum, Louisville Bats, Louisville Star, First and Farmers Bank, Kentuckiana Fitness Magazine, Kentucky Living Magazine, Kentucky Society of Clinical Laboratory Science, Various Drug Companies and many others. I would also like to apologize to anyone that I have forgotten to mention in the above list.

# THANK YOU ALL VERY MUCH!!!



## News from King's Daughters Medical Center, Ashland, Ky.

### Construction update:

The King's Daughters campus continues to grow to meet the needs of our most important customers... our patients. With four major projects, the campus is growing like never before. Following is a brief update on each new building.

#### Medical Plaza B:

Medical Plaza B is progressing on schedule and will open this Spring. When completed, this new medical office building will be four stories (expandable to 10 floors), with more than 77,000 square feet, and will house several physician offices and KDMC services.

#### 23rd Street Parking Garage:

A new five-story parking garage is being built next to the medical center on 23rd street. The parking garage will open at the end of February, and a skywalk will be constructed to connect it with Medical Plaza B. The garage will feature:

- \* 5 stories, expandable to 8 floors
- \* 526 parking spaces
- \* twice the size of existing parking facility
- \* skywalk to Medical Plaza B

#### Hospitality House at King's Daughters:

This building's foundations are in the beginning phases. When completed, it will provide families-especially those with limited resources-a warm, inviting place to stay. The Hospitality House will have a traditional-style home setting that will offer guests the opportunity to share their stories with one another. It will be on the corner of Central Ave. and 22nd Street. Guests will be able to rely on staff members and volunteers to ensure a worry-free environment. The Health Foundation must raise \$2.3 million to complete the house, and a fund raising campaign is ongoing. The 12,000-square-foot house will feature:

- \* 13 guest rooms, with private baths
- \* common kitchen
- \* dining area
- \* living room
- \* laundry facility
- \* reception area

#### Heart and Vascular Center:

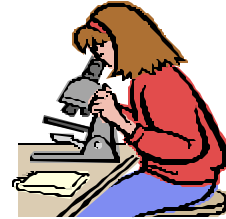
After much preparation, the foundation for this 120,000-square foot building is almost in place. In a few weeks, you will be able to see the beginning of the exterior structure rising on the KDMC campus. The medical center's biggest project to date, the Heart and Vascular Center, begins construction in October as well. The building will be the home to our outpatient heart and vascular services, and will open in Spring 2006, with 3 stories (expandable to 10 floors). Independent National Study Recognizes King's Daughters Heart and Vascular Center for Clinical Quality Excellence. King's Daughters Medical Center has received five-star ratings for clinical quality and performance excellence in the treatment of heart attack and congestive heart failure, according to a new study released by HealthGrades, the nation's leading healthcare quality company. King's Daughters ratings place it among the Top 15 percent in the nation for these services. "We're very pleased to be recognized with these outstanding HealthGrades quality ratings, which validate our commitment to clinical excellence," said Fred Jackson, KDMC's President/CEO. "Top ratings from an independent, objective national source demonstrate the quality care that our physicians, nurses and staff deliver to the patients and families in our community every day." As part of its seventh annual Hospital Quality in America Study, HealthGrades independently analyzed 5,000 hospitals in all 50 states and the District of Columbia for its 2005 ratings, objectively assessing their clinical outcomes, performance and quality. The HealthGrades ratings measure whether patient outcomes for each of more than two dozen procedures and diagnoses are better than expected (5-Star), as expected (3-Star) or worse than expected (1-Star). Earning a 5-Star designation indicates that a hospital has scored in the Top 15 percent or better in the nation for clinical quality.

#### KDMC Chest Pain Center receives National Accreditation:

In other KDMC Heart and Vascular Center news, its Chest Pain Center has received accreditation from the Society of Chest Pain Centers, making it the third accredited Chest Pain Center in Kentucky and the 78th in the nation. Through this accreditation, King's Daughters' Chest Pain Center has demonstrated its expertise and commitment to quality patient care by meeting or exceeding a wide set of stringent criteria, and completing on-site evaluations by a review team from the Society of Chest Pain Centers. Key areas include assessing, diagnosing and treating patients quickly, having protocols that promote optimal patient care, ensuring personnel competency and training, and continually seeking to improve processes and procedures. KDMC Named a Top 100 Company for Working Mothers For the second consecutive year, King's Daughters Medical Center was honored by Working Mother magazine as one of the "100 Best Companies for Working Mothers." King's Daughters is the only Kentucky business among the "100 Best," which includes industry leaders such as Citigroup, Dupont, Ford Motor Company, General Electric, IBM, Kraft Foods, Microsoft, Morgan Stanley and Verizon Wireless. "It is an honor to be featured among such an elite group of American companies," said Fred Jackson, KDMC president/CEO. "We are proud of the quality care our 2,800 team members provide to our customers each and every day and we are committed to providing a workplace that supports their efforts to balance work and life."

Information provide by  
Cheryl Bennett  
KDMC

# STUDENT PERSPECTIVES OF THE KABB/KSCLS SPRING 2005 MEETING



On March 21-23, the KABB and KSCLS held their joint conference in Louisville this year. I eagerly waited to attend this year after hearing my Professor speak of the lecturers she had obtained. Half of our class attended this year in a show of support for how hard our Professor had worked. As a freshman in the Clinical Laboratory Science program, I had attended last year's conference and found most topics a little above my head. This year however was very different. The speakers really went out of there way to approach topics on many different levels so as to appeal to the beginner, as well as the seasoned veterans. They carefully weaved in information I could comprehend, as well as provide new information to the professionals, without losing me. I was a kid in a candy store, gobbling up every morsel of delicious, new information I could grab on to. At this time, I would like to express that the vendor's did a wonderful job show casing their products to make the lab a more productive place.

I was asked to choose one seminar that I liked, and write about what I learned. This is extremely hard so I spoke to fellow students who attended, to get their opinions. We very much enjoyed Dr. George Garratty. He spoke on Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia. It didn't hurt that our next test was over a lot of the material he covered. The lecture from Colin Clark was very useful because the hospital I am working at is planning on switching from the Tube System to the Gel system this fall. It taught me about the difference in the two methods and the benefits to choosing Gel Technology so that I could be an informed member at our Lab's discussion on improving the new Lab. I was most interested in the Fetal Maternal Workups as this was a stumbling block in my education; something wasn't clicking; not for the lack of our Professor trying. I was trying to get from point "A" to point "B" in a straight line, but when to give Rhogam is really a winding path with many questions to be asked. Thank you to Lisa Cecil, and our group effort, for helping me see how to manage the curves.

The last day, I attended the Adverse Transfusion Events by Dr's Lockwood and Nadeem. As the doors closed I was scared to death as I appeared to be the only student attending with very experienced Blood Banking people. I thought I was in over my head, but Dr. Lockwood started out with statistical information that I understood. Then he threw in terms about the different reactions, all stuff I had been learning about, so I started to relax. He then kicked it up a notch and added other lab results to correlate these reactions. Wow, that makes so much sense now. I had not thought of someone with Hemolytic Anemia or Hemoglobinopathies as one who could have a reaction. I knew they could receive blood transfusions to treat them, but not that this could predispose them to having a reaction. He then got into the meat and potatoes of it and tossed in some dessert to leave me wanting more. Is one type of reaction more prevalent to a particular sex, age or race? After Dr. Lockwood's presentation, he turned it over to Dr. Nadeem to present the case studies. He did a superb job.

I would have to say that the Reaction seminar was my favorite. I came away with a deeper understanding and thirst for more knowledge on how to become a better Lab Tech and to give more for my patients. We were asked for suggestions for topics to address at next years conference. I believe women's health issues would be a good topic. With the life expectancy increasing, should changes be made in normal values to correlate with age? Is there something that should be done differently in Blood Banking for women?

By Katheleen Pierce  
Somerset Community College

I really enjoyed the KABB meeting in Louisville, Ky. this year. Not only did I enjoy the social gathering, my favorite lecture was from George Garratty, PhD, FRCPath. I found it very informative and interesting. His section was about the pathology of Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia. Some was a review to me as I am in my last semester of school. However, there was a lot that I did not realize I had forgotten. The most interesting part to me was the discussion of the complement activation pathways. I have always had trouble associating everything and putting it all together. It finally became clear to me how it all ties in and why. Since I am a person who needs to know why to know how then I actually found that I understood what he was speaking of. I am looking forward to attending future meetings and hope to learn more about the surprises the blood has to reveal. I would like to know more about antibodies and their reactions. That's fascinating.

By Norma Aker  
Sophomore student  
Somerset Community College

# SBB SCHOOL

By Karen Jacobi, MT(ASCP)SBB Technical Coordinator, Blood Bank  
Clark Memorial Hospital, Jeffersonville, In 47130



When I was just a baby Med Tech back in the 70's, I dreamed of going to SBB School. Back then, after getting a certain amount of experience, you had to go for a year or two to a place where you worked part time and went to school part time, and when you were done, you took your test and that was it. Marriage and babies waylaid those plans. After 16 years of retirement, I found myself back in the Blood Bank ball game. I felt the need for additional education. I couldn't find a Master's program locally that suited my wants and abilities. One night, playing around on the internet, I discovered you could go to school online, and fulfill the requirements to sit for the ASCP SBB certification. I contacted the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and talked to Janet Vincent, their director. I had just missed their cutoff for application for the Class of '04 that started in August, 2003. But she thought that another place near her was starting a program. She promised to forward my application to them. A few months later, she contacted me to say that they were starting another class at UTMB in March of 2004 and was I interested? I had to go through a screening process and got accepted along with 14 other Blood Bankers.

We arrived at Galveston for a mandatory week of classes including Immunology, Math, Research Writing, and other classes that they wanted us to have in person. We were taught how to use the university's software program, given a binder of requirements with explanations and sent on our way. We had a series of checklists we had to complete relating to different areas like components, apheresis, stem cells, where we had to arrange to go to other labs or facilities, if our own job didn't include those areas. We had lessons to learn on our own through Power Point presentations. About every three weeks we had a test to take online. Then we would start the next segment. We had homework or labs to do with many of the lessons. We also had a "wet" midterm of 5 specimens, as well as a comprehensive midterm and final. We each had to do a project or write a research paper. We took the final at the end of February, and after we finished all the course requirements, we could sit for the ASCP test.

I knew from my own uncompleted projects at home, that I needed the structure of a program like this. With tests every few weeks, you had validation that you were learning what was needed. Meeting the other class members, and being able to ask them for help and moral support was wonderful, too. And you can't beat the knowledge that Janet Vincent and her staff have and are eager to give. Janet was always there for us when we had questions or problems.

The cost for me was \$1800 tuition, plus the travel expenses to go to Galveston for 6 days. Most hospitals will reimburse you for the tuition. The tuition fee was increased for the class that started in March of 2005. Other costs were books for references. Our lab library is almost nonexistent, so I had to buy several reference books. I used lots of paper and ink for my printer. I preferred to print out my lessons, but you could store the lessons on your computer and avoid that cost.

I combined the Gamma Tutorial and Gulf Coast's Last Chance Review with a second trip to Texas to attend graduation at UTMB. This was optional, but 11 of us were able to get back for some or all of those events. I have made 13 friends from all over the country. It's great to have someone else to run things past when you have a question, in your studies, or at work.

Gulf Coast Blood Center, Houston, Florida Blood Services in St Petersburg and University of Illinois, Chicago, also have online SBB programs. The Houston and St. Petersburg schools are affiliated with UTMB. The school at Galveston has been in business a long time, and has a very good pass rate for the ASCP test. As of this writing, 6 of 14 who completed the program have taken the test and passed. As you can see from my signature, I am one of those who passed.

You can contact Janet Vincent at UTMB. Her address is [jvincent@utmb.edu](mailto:jvincent@utmb.edu)  
If you have questions for me, [kajacobi@insightbb.com](mailto:kajacobi@insightbb.com)



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[www.ortho-wire.com](http://www.ortho-wire.com) .

# TRANSFUSION MEDICINE WORD SEARCH

BY SHARON NOBLE

FIND THE WORDS BELOW:

D O N O R J O P L A S M A I N  
T A U K E L L S R O T C A F A  
T R L L E W I S T F I C I N H  
E E A B F A Y D O B I T N A L  
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ALBUMIN  
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ANEMIA  
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FICIN  
GELCARDS  
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LEUKOCYTE

LEWIS  
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