



November, 2001

## Missouri Valley Chapter – Society of Nuclear Medicine General News Items

### **Newsletter Returns:**

Hello once again, and welcome to the newest edition of the Missouri Valley Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine Inc. Newsletter. This edition will provide you with information that you can use to get updated with happenings that are occurring within the Chapter (MVC) and within the Society of Nuclear Medicine (SNM).

In an effort to provide as much information to our professional membership and those involved with Nuclear Medicine in our Chapter, we will have this Newsletter available through the Missouri Valley Chapter Website. (<http://www.mvcsnm.org>).

In addition, we welcome any news items that you may want to have communicated to the membership. This includes local or regional meetings, special announcements, interesting news items and general information that will make this publication informative and useful.

Please send any comments, suggestions or information for the Newsletter to either Nanci Burchell ([NANCIBUR@aol.com](mailto:NANCIBUR@aol.com)) or Phil Bruch ([pbruch@unmc.edu](mailto:pbruch@unmc.edu)).

### **2001 Missouri Valley Chapter Annual Meeting Highlights:**

The 2001 Annual meeting was held at the Ramada Inn Conference Center, in Columbia, Missouri on October 5-7<sup>th</sup>. The conference, entitled "2001 – A Functional Imaging Odyssey" was attended by nearly 200 members, vendors and guests. Session I, which started off the meeting, emphasized on information relating to PET, Solid State Gamma Camera detection and Radiation Safety with positron emitters. Session II had presentations relating to Coronary Artery Disease, Behavioral Communications and information regarding Nuclear Medicine Programs in the MVC region. Session III, concluded the meeting with topics relating to Thyroid Diseases and Thyroid treatment options. All of the sessions were very informative and related up-to-date information that would be useful in clinical situations throughout the Nuclear Medicine community. Special thanks are extended to those speakers and presenters who took time out of their schedules for this meeting.

### **Special Recognition: Barry Siegel, M.D. "Ralph Robinson Memorial Lecture"**

Dr. Siegel presented the talk, "Oncologic FDG-PET – Artifacts, Variants and Benign Lesions Simulating Cancer." Dr. Siegel was presented with the commemorative plaque for his lecture by Dr. James Littlefield.

### **2001 Annual Meeting Comments and Suggestions:**

If any of the meeting attendees has any comments or suggestions that would aid in the development of topics or the general flow of the meeting, please forward that information to Nanci Burchell at her e-mail address listed previously. We are always looking for ideas, topics and volunteers to coordinate these annual meetings. We appreciate all the help that we can get. Thank you.

**2001 MVC Meeting Lecture Sponsors:**

Digirad Corporation: William L. Ashburn, M.D., "Early Clinical Experience with the World's First Solid State Gamma Camera."

DuPont Pharma(Bristol Meyers Squibb): Timothy Blackburn, M.D., "When Evaluating Known or Suspected CAD – Be Careful What You Ask For."

Genzyme General Therapeutics: James R. Etzkorn, M.D., "Therapy of Graves Disease.", and Perry Grigsby, M.D., "I-131 Therapy and Follow-up of Well-Differentiated Thyroid Carcinoma."

Mallinckrodt Imaging: Mark Kumming, RN, MA, "DiSC – Behavioral Communication."

**2001 MVC Meeting Vendors/Exhibitors and Unrestricted Grant Donations:**

**Unrestricted Grants supplied for the reactor tours and breaks:**

Siemens Medical Systems                      PETNet                      Great Plains Nuclear Services

**Exhibitors:**

Technology Imaging Services	GE Medical Systems	Mallinckrodt, Inc.	Digirad Corp.
Siemens Medical Systems	Nycomed-Amersham	Bracco Diagnostics	
PETNet Pharmaceutical Services	Marconi Medical Systems	IBA/Eastern Isotopes	
Great Plains Nuclear Services	ADAC Labs	Syncor International	
DuPont Pharma	Omaha Central Pharmacy	Mobile PET Services	

*We would like to thank these vendors for their support and attendance at the meeting.*

**\*\* 2002 Missouri Valley Annual Meeting \*\***

**Please mark your calendars for next year's annual meeting. The meeting is tentatively scheduled for the first weekend in October (4-6<sup>th</sup>) in Kansas City, Missouri. Final dates will be confirmed in future newsletters.**

**MVC Officers & Election Results:**

For your information, here is the listing of the MVC Executive Council. Please feel free to contact these individuals with questions or concerns regarding the Chapter or Society of Nuclear Medicine.

**MVC Officers:**

John Floyd, M.D. – President  
Henry Royal, M.D. - Secretary/Treasurer  
James Littlefield, M.D. – President Elect  
Mark Wittry, M.D., FACC – Immediate Past President

**MVC-Technologist Section Officers:**

Carole South-Winter, CNMT – President  
Jeff Galen, CNMT – Secretary/Treasurer  
Peggy Squires, CNMT - National Council Delegate  
Mary Moreau, CNMT – Immediate Past President

**MVC Councilors:**

Keith Fischer, M.D.                      David Perry, CNMT  
Phil Bruch, MS, CNMT                      Mark Mintun, M.D.  
Kimberly McDaniel, CNMT                      Subhash Paknikar, M.D.

**2001 Election Results:** MVC-TS Results:

President Elect:                      Janis Brule, CNMT  
Secretary/Treasurer:                      Jeff Galen, CNMT  
National Council Delegate:                      Peggy Squires, CNMT

**MVC Council Members:**

Michael Graham, M.D.                      Bennett Greenspan, M.D.  
James Fletcher, M.D.                      Henry Royal, M.D.  
Mickey Clarke, CNMT                      Nanci Burchell, CNMT

**MVC Executive Director:** Nanci Burchell, CNMT

NOTICE: 2-open MVC Councilor positions (to replace the expiring terms of Dave Perry, CNMT and Mark Mintun, M.D.) will be voted on. Ballots will be forthcoming for this election.

**Special Thanks to David Perry, CNMT and Leisje Dotson, CNMT for providing their time and services as National Council Delegate and Secretary/Treasurer.**

## Message from the Missouri Valley Chapter - President John Floyd, M.D.

I have the privilege of serving as the President of the Missouri Valley Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine for the coming year. Some members probably don't know me well and might appreciate a thumbnail sketch. I have practiced sequentially as a general internist, a "pure" nuclear medicine practitioner and a "nuclear radiologist". For the past 15 years I have been Director of Nuclear Imaging for Radiology Consultants of Iowa, a 29-physician group in Cedar Rapids, Iowa ([iowaimaging.com](http://iowaimaging.com)). In addition to SNM activities, I work in nuclear activities for the American College of Radiology. The nuclear medicine departmental directors with whom I have been fortunate to practice (Rod Mann at Mercy Medical Center and Mary Moline at St Luke's Hospital), have provided me with leading edge equipment, a patient-oriented environment and generally kept me out of trouble for more than a decade now.

The 2001 MVC annual meeting was a financial success, and I believe it was an educational success as well. The only "downer" was some uncontrollable noise contamination from a meeting in the adjacent conference room. However, that meeting is now behind us and we all look forward to the 2002 MVC annual meeting in Kansas City. The local arrangements committee is in the process of selecting a meeting site. The meeting date is provisionally set for the first weekend in October 2002, assuming a meeting hotel can be secured for that date. **MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!** There are already some great ideas taking shape that should make this an exciting, educational, and fun meeting (see the message from Carole South-Winter, President of the Missouri Valley Chapter Technologist Section elsewhere in this newsletter).

Because we are one of the smaller chapters of the SNM, participation of the membership in our activities is critical. I feel the path to successful, growing chapter is through addressing the practice and education needs of technologists and physicians at the local level. The executive council of the chapter has spent many hours debating issues of membership, benefits for the membership, and attendance. If you have suggestions that would make the MVC a more meaningful, useful organization for you personally, please send your ideas to me at my "public" e-mail address, [johnlfloyd@yahoo.com](mailto:johnlfloyd@yahoo.com). I will make sure your thoughts are shared with the chapter leadership.

The coming year will have challenges, not the least of which is dealing with the technologists and physician shortages in the Midwest. Still, I look forward to excitement and professional opportunity for myself and for all our members in the upcoming New Year.

John Floyd, MD

### **??? DID YOU KNOW ???**

**Compared to other Chapters within the Society of Nuclear Medicine,  
Membership dues that represent your participation in the MVC  
are one of the lowest!!**

***JOIN THE SNM & MVC!!! WE WANT YOU!!!***

#### **2001 Membership Report:**

Technologist Members:	367
Physician, Scientist, Associate, Affiliate and Emeritus Members:	312

(Note: Technologist – Voting Members: 39 \*-we would like to see this be a larger percentage)

**Visit the Missouri Valley Chapter Website**

[www.mvcsnm.org](http://www.mvcsnm.org)

## **Message from the Missouri Valley Chapter - Technologist Section President Carole South-Winter, M.E.d., CNMT, RT**

Greetings colleagues and welcome to the Missouri Valley Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine. The Missouri Valley Chapter is made up of six Midwestern states; Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, South and North Dakota.

I am Carole South-Winter and I have the honor of serving this Chapter as President of the Missouri Valley Chapter Technologist Section for the 2001-2002 year. I reside in South Dakota and have been a nuclear medicine technologist for nearly 20 years. My current position is Program Director of Nuclear Medicine Technology at Southeast Technical Institute in Sioux Falls, S.D. This has proven to be a very rewarding career for me; our program graduates 25-30 students each year making it one of the largest programs in the United States. Our students have a documented uncanny reputation for passing the registry exam along with great employer satisfaction surveys, which are off the charts. I am very proud of them!

The most critical issue facing Nuclear Medicine Technology today is the near epidemic level of technologist shortages. Our profession is facing stressful times because of the lack of people-power. Technology in the areas of PET, therapy and diagnostic imaging is changing and improving on a daily basis across our chapter as well as our nation, yet the implementation is strained because of this shortage. I am committed to the concept of welcoming and involving our technologists-in-training and the newly certified technologists into our society and chapter to grow and support these future leaders and increase employee retention. Retention and attrition are common discussions on our campus, especially with a program of 60+ students. For the past 11 years as program director, I became convinced that involving students with each other, society members, other programs and future employers not only increases our programs' retention but also decreases first-job attrition rates.

My goal for the upcoming year is to help our technologists-in-training feel connected and valuable in our chapter. I have several thoughts on this and I am very open to your brainstorming as well. First, our annual meeting must offer course material that is pertinent for all levels of experience and knowledge. To encourage our young technologists to continue professional pride through direct involvement in our chapter and encourage pursuit of positions of leadership. I would like to consider a second track geared toward the technologist and/or student looking to understand or review the fundamentals of nuclear medicine. I would like to see them participate in round robin discussions, presentation of papers and projects, or get a glimpse of changing technology and concepts from a less technical approach. Second, I would like to have a "game show" type opener on the Friday evening as part of our annual meeting reception. Teams would consist of experienced technologists, managers, students, newly certified technologists, educators and physicians. The "team" would be a mix of states, campuses, hospitals and clinics. Of course, prizes would be awarded...see how this would involve everyone, with even the vendors!

I am anxious to serve the membership in the most effective way, as an educator committed to this profession, based on the route known to me through my students. Through student involvement...our membership will grow and our chapter will strengthen. Please let me know of Subchapter meetings and I will try to attend as many as possible, and do not hesitate to contact me regarding your thoughts or concerns [scls@dtgnet.com](mailto:scls@dtgnet.com) or [carole.south-winter@southeasttech.com](mailto:carole.south-winter@southeasttech.com). Thank you for your support I look forward to a very educational year.

### **2001 SNM Membership Award – Top Students:**

This MVC-TS award is presented annually to the top academic graduating student from each of the Nuclear Medicine Programs within the Chapter. The MVC-TS will pay the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Chapter dues for the first year. This year's winners are:

Audrey Hare	Research Medical Center; Kansas City, MO
Nikki Adair	University of Iowa Hospitals, Iowa City, IA
Diane Westendorf	Southeast Technical Institute, Sioux Falls, SD
Elaine Johnson	Kansas University Medical Center, Kansas City, MO
Marcia Young	St. Louis University, St. Louis, MO
Abbe O'Shea	University of Missouri, Columbia, MO
Roxy Ocker	University of Nebraska, Omaha, NE

## Society of Nuclear Medicine National News

**SNM Name Change:** The SNM is considering a modification of its name in recognition of the increasing importance of Molecular Imaging. The most prominent proposal to date would be "Society of Nuclear and Molecular Medicine (SNMM)".

**ICANL:** The SNM endorses and supports the Intersocietal Commission for the Accreditation of Nuclear Laboratories (ICANL) as the nuclear medicine department accrediting organization. More and more third party payors are requiring accreditation in order to qualify for reimbursement. Laboratories seeking accreditation are encouraged to use ICANL.

**CARE Act:** The Consumer Assurance of Radiologic Excellence (CARE) Act has been introduced in the House of Representatives and has 22 sponsors. Senator Kennedy (D-Mass) is currently giving consideration to introducing a similar bill in the Senate in the first part of 2002.

**Scope of Practice:** The SNM-TS is nearing completion of a Scope of Practice document. Once the CARE Act passes and state legislators will be required to enact some form of licensure, they will be able to refer to this document as a "definition" of what is reasonable to expect from a nuclear medicine technologist. The Scope of Practice will be presented to the National Council in February 2002 for approval.

**Gateway III:** Mickey Clarke, SNM-TS President, has formed a special task force due to meet at the end of October. This task force is made up of technologists, educators, administrators, and physicians, and will consider two questions: What are the appropriate minimum entry level requirements for a nuclear medicine technologist? and What criteria might constitute an advanced practice level of nuclear medicine technology? Many other organizations are also at various stages of developing position papers on one or both of these topics for their respective modalities/membership.

**Executive Director:** Bill Bertera, Executive Director of the SNM has announced his intent to leave the Society effective October 5, 2001. Virginia Pappas has been appointed Acting Executive Director while a search committee, comprised of leadership from the SNM and SNM-TS, seek to fill the position permanently.

**Research & Education Fund:** At the Annual Meeting in June 2001, the SNM-TS voted to develop a new fund to help support research and education efforts in nuclear medicine. This fund might be used for technologist research projects, establishing new NMT educational programs, or scholarly pursuits in the field of imaging or education. A task force has been established to define criteria for building and administering this fund. This new fund will be administered completely separately from the E&R Foundation to which members can contribute as part of their annual membership bill.

**Quality Management Exam:** The ARRT has agreed that CNMT's can be eligible to sit for the ARRT Quality Management exam.

**NMTCB Cardiology Exam:** 58 candidates sat for the NMTCB Cardiology Exam during the SNM Annual Meeting. To learn more about this exam, visit the NMTCB web site at [www.nmtcb.org](http://www.nmtcb.org)

**Fellow Award:** Congratulations to Sheila Rosenfeld, a MVC member, who was recently elected a Fellow of the SNM-TS.

**House of Delegates:** Congratulations to Nanci Burchell, a member of the MVC, who was recently elected to represent the SNM-TS at the SNM House of Delegates.

**Uptake:** The SNM-TS has voted to continue its bi-monthly publication of *Uptake* through an editorial board. Mickey Clarke of the MVC had served for six years as the Editor of *Uptake*. When her final term ended, the SNM-TS Publications Committee found it very difficult to recruit an individual with the time and energy to produce six issues each year. Hence, an editorial board was created consisting of technologists with oversight by the Publications Committee Chair and the help of an editor on the SNM staff. Members of the current editorial board include Danny Basso, Valerie Cronin, Frances Neagley, David Perry, and Richard Tetrault. The Publications Chair is Kathy Thomas, and the Managing Editor is Kira Mayrides.

**JNMT:** The JNMT is in need of original articles and scientific papers for publication in the Journal.

**SNM Annual Meeting:** The Toronto meeting was very successful. The next Annual Meeting will be in Los Angeles, 2002.

## **A MISSOURI VALLEY CHAPTER HISTORICAL NOTE**

Though much had been in place for application of the radiotracer method to the diagnosis and treatment of human ills prior to the inclusion of the work of the members of the Plains State Chapter of the Society of Nuclear Medicine in 1960 and later the Missouri Valley Chapter in 1969, there have been significant achievements of this chapter to the field which became Nuclear Medicine. Keeping in mind that a list may omit some deserving people and their work, nevertheless, some of these highly contributive members have been:

**Gary Ehrhardt**, et al, at the University of Missouri in Columbia established a nuclear reactor allowing for onsite results of neutron activation analysis, chemistry projects of graduate students, and radionuclide production.

**Michael Ter Pogossian**, Washington University, St. Louis installed a cyclotron and established the usefulness of positron annihilation detection in his PET scanner for the study of human physiology.

**Ralph Robinson**, University of Kansas, Kansas City contributed by his research with Strontium-89 localization in bone with metastatic cancer to manage bone pain.

**Michael J. Welch**, Mallinckrodt Institute, St. Louis established some frontiers in basic science research.

**James Fletcher**, St. Louis showed the usefulness of sending information by telecommunication in Nuclear Medicine.

**Wynn Volkert**, Columbia, Missouri has been involved in the development of chemistry in the field.

**Richard Holmes**, Columbia, Missouri used new chemistry to gather information in neurology and additionally demonstrated the value of leadership.

**David Preston** in Kansas City. Kansas showed the value of unique applications of radiopharmaceuticals in the demonstration of human abnormalities.

**James Littlefield** of St. Louis showed the value of standardization by creating order in various studies.

**Tom Miller** has clarified the knowledge of radiation detection instruments by the use of knowledge in physics.

**Richard Peterson** in Iowa City did research in body composition using a water shield low-radiation background whole body counter for the detection of intrinsic trace radio-elements as well as low-dose administered radionuclides.

**Frank Cheng** of Iowa City contributed much early work with radioimmunoassay.

**Peter Kirchner** of Iowa City showed the value of radionuclide detection to obtain unusual test information in altered human physiology.

**Mark Wittry** applied computer techniques in various types of information gathering.

**Henry Royal** of Mallinckrodt Institute gathered information in the difficult field of the influence of low-level radioactivity in human subjects.

**Nanci Burchell** has demonstrated the role of the administrator in juggling several jobs and still maintaining order in the field of Nuclear Medicine.

Numerous technologists have demonstrated their functional expertise in the maintenance of order in their laboratories and in the exams that encompass their field of expertise.

Respectfully submitted: **R.F. Cech, M.D. Historian**

October 15, 2001

**The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Oncology Conference**  
**Sponsored by the Ellis Fischel Cancer Center, University of Missouri**  
**April 19-21, 2002**  
**Hyatt Hotel at Union Station**  
**St. Louis, Missouri**

**This meeting will include a Scientific Session entitled “Cancer Specific Radiopharmaceuticals”, with this session being held on Friday, April 19<sup>th</sup>. Speakers include Drs. Barry Siegel, Michael Welch and David Piwnica-Worms from the Mallinckrodt Institute of Radiology, Washington University and Drs. Susan Deutscher, Thomas Quinn, Wynn Volkert, Michael Lewis and James Wooldridge from the University of Missouri-Columbia.**

**For further information, please contact the CME Office at 573-882-0366 or [walterssj@missouri.edu](mailto:walterssj@missouri.edu).**