



*Newsletter*

# Missouri Valley Chapter

## SOCIETY OF NUCLEAR MEDICINE

Iowa    Kansas    Missouri    Nebraska    North Dakota    South Dakota

July, 2003

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

#### **Newsletter General Information:**

Greetings!!! It is time again to provide you with some details that have occurred within the Missouri Valley Chapter since our last newsletter. In this edition we will update you on the recent development from the MVC Executive Council meeting in New Orleans and provide you with a variety of summaries from the Society of Nuclear Medicine Annual meeting that was held in New Orleans. In an attempt to keep our professional membership and those involved with Nuclear Medicine in our Chapter informed, we will have this Newsletter available through the Missouri Valley Chapter Website.

(<http://www.mvcsnm.org/newsletter.htm>)

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. This invitation includes our vendor friends and we hope that you will want to provide any news items that you would like to disseminate.

Please send any comments, suggestions or information for the Newsletter to either Phil Bruch ([pbruch@unmc.edu](mailto:pbruch@unmc.edu)) or Dave Perry ([ED@mvcsnm.org](mailto:ED@mvcsnm.org)).

#### **MVC Officers:**

Contact information for these individuals is available on the MVC website. 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:**

Janis Brule, CNMT – President  
Jeff Galen, CNMT – Secretary/Treasurer  
Peggy Squires, CNMT - National Council Delegate  
Carole South-Winter, CNMT – Immediate Past President  
Mark Wallenmeyer, CNMT – President Elect

##### **MVC Councilors:**

Karen Holdeman, M.D.            Subhash Paknikar, M.D.  
Lois Padellford, MS, CNMT    Kimberly McDaniel, CNMT  
David Perry, CNMT                Yusuf Menda, M.D.

##### **MVC Council Members:**

Michael Graham, M.D.            Bennett Greenspan, M.D.  
Tom Miller, M.D.                 Mickey Clarke, CNMT  
Nanci Burchell, CNMT            Phil Bruch, MS, CNMT

##### **MVC Executive Director:** Dave Perry, CNMT, FSNM

**MVC Historian:** Robert Cech, M.D.

## **Message from the Missouri Valley Chapter - Technologist Section President Janis Brule, CNMT**

Greetings to my colleagues in the Missouri Valley Chapter! As the very successful and informative 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Society of Nuclear Medicine in New Orleans, Louisiana comes to a close, it's time to turn our attention to our own Missouri Valley Chapter Annual Meeting. Preparations are being made to bring an exciting and informative scientific and educational meeting to St. Louis, Missouri on September 12-14, 2003 at the Sheraton Westport. The inclusion of informative topics along with excellent learning opportunities by experts in nuclear medicine and related fields will entice all attendees. We will have our second annual technologist track focusing on "cutting-edge" practical and scientific issues directed at working technologists. PET and PET/CT will be the primary focus with information about how this breakthrough technology is affecting patients, physicians and technologists. The consensus paper developed in July, 2002 by the Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologist Section, in conjunction with leaders of the ASRT, along with educators, physicians and regulatory agencies, clearly defines the challenges of this new technology. Questions related to the educational requirements and regulation of personnel operating the fusion imaging devices is at the forefront.

As the technology of medicine continues to advance, so will the need for highly qualified technologists to become adequately trained in their field of choice. The specialty examination developed by the NMTCB for Cardiology and the soon to be developed specialty examination for the PET technologist, demonstrates the desire to improve the quality and professionalism of the technologist. Unfortunately, many states do not require licensure of health care professionals performing these medical procedures, which leads to inconsistencies of patient care across the country. The CARE Act (Consumer Assurance of Radiologic Excellence), which would require states to adopt minimum standards for the education, certification and licensure for technologists engaged in medical imaging has never been more important. The new advances in nuclear medicine require that technologists are adequately educated in their application and have practical clinical experience to ensure the highest quality of patient care. The Society of Nuclear Medicine has launched an aggressive campaign leading to the CARE Act being introduced in both the House of Representatives and the Senate. This legislation currently has 25 co-sponsors from 16 states in the House of Representatives. A senate version of the bill was introduced on June 5<sup>th</sup> with 4 co-sponsors. But there is still a lot of work to be accomplished. Sample letters are available from the Society of Nuclear Medicine or leadership at the Chapter level to send to your representative or congressperson to help to ensure passage of the legislation this year. Sample letters will also be available at the fall MVC meeting. But even with possible passage of the federal CARE legislation the battle is not over. State licensure activities will become an important initiative and efforts must be made to ensure the language used in the state document is acceptable to the nuclear medicine community as well. So please consider helping with this very important issue as patient safety and quality medical imaging affects all of us as technologists and healthcare consumers.

Many other issues are facing our profession as we move to the future. Training for fusion imaging, entry-level requirements and advanced practice are but a few issues. In all, being a nuclear medicine technologist has never been more interesting and exciting than it is today with pathways for new technologists as well as those of us who have been around a while. So stay tuned and be involved. We need everyone's voice to be heard.

I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at the meeting this fall (keep the weekend of September 12-14 open) and enjoy the rest of the summer!! Thank you for your support!

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

**R.F. Cech, M.D.**

Lately members of the MVC/SNM have been thinking of "molecular imaging" as practiced in our discipline. An introduction to this discipline actually took place in our field with the use of Radioiodine in thyroid imaging and Physiology. A similar consideration would be the specificity of information provided by the technology of the field from the standpoint of diagnosis and related analysis of a disease process helping in the prognosis for the patient. In the February 2003 issue of the JNM, this issue was pursued by Dr. Tom Miller and a group from Mallinckrodt in St. Louis, presenting prognostic value of 18-F FDG with PET and a visual analysis of tumor characteristics in patients with cancer of the cervix. Another instance of the MVC/SNM being right on!

# **Society of Nuclear Medicine National News**

## **National Council Delegate Report – Technologist Section**

### **Peggy Squires, CNMT**

National Council Delegate Report  
Society of Nuclear Medicine – Technologist Section

National Council Meeting  
Thursday, June 19, 2003

Greetings to my colleagues in the Missouri Valley Chapter. I was very excited to attend the SNM 50<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. So much is happening with the Technologist Section: education, credentialing, re-organization to name a few. The Missouri Valley Chapter is pleased to be the home of yet another Technologist Section President; Nanci Burchell was elected President-Elect for 2003! Enclosed are items that I hope you find interesting and informative, please visit the Society of Nuclear Medicine website ([www.snm.org](http://www.snm.org)) or the Missouri Valley Chapter website ([www.mvcsnm.org](http://www.mvcsnm.org)) for more in-depth information.

**SNM President's Report:** Presented by Michael Gelfand, M.D.: Progress is being made towards reinvigorating SNM Committees and Councils to increase productivity and member involvement at the physician level. To further determine areas for outreach and education, a working group of industry leaders, in collaboration with SNM members has been formed. One of the major projects identified by this group was the FDA and the drug approval process for radiopharmaceuticals. Comments by SNM members on a recently released draft: Guidance for Radiopharmaceutical Drug Manufactures, were forwarded to the FDA just days prior to the June meeting. The new SNM Vice President-Elect, Dr. Mathew Thakur, gave a report on the activities scheduled for the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year, commencing with this year's June meeting. Patient outreach, brochures, public education and political exposure are just some of the tasks identified as ways to help commemorate the formation of the Society of Nuclear Medicine back in 1954.

**Government Relations for the SNM-TS:** You will want to meet up with a SHPL (pronounced "shiple") soon, this is the nickname for a group of "State Health Policy Liaisons", members of the Technologist Section and ACNP/SNM Government Relations Committee. Technologist liaisons will be primarily focused on moving the CARE Act through the legislative process. Twenty-four (24) states have been targeted by the group based on congressional representation in the House Energy and Commerce Health Subcommittee, which has significant influence on technologist licensure represented by the CARE Act. There is quite a bit of activity going on at the state level, as passing of the CARE Act at the federal level will impact individual states. In our own chapter, HB2274 was introduced into the Kansas House of Representatives in March. Language of the bill is acceptable for NMT's (an accomplishment in itself, as many states experience delays working out the specific definitions on training for individuals performing nuclear medicine procedures), and the TSGR (Tech Section Government Relations) committee is seeking support from Kansas' technologists to write to legislators in support of this bill. Log on to the SNM website, [www.snm.org](http://www.snm.org) for further info.

**Membership Renewal:** A special benefit this year: SNM and SNM-TS membership renewal comes with a bonus gift, a CD containing 15 program sessions will be sent to each member.

**Election Results:** Congratulations are in order for the following Missouri Valley Chapter members recently voted into position in the SNM-TS: Marcia West is a member of the Nominating Committee and William Hubble, Executive Board At-Large member. David Perry continues as Chairperson for the Publications Committee, and has accepted an appointment in a liaison position in Associated Sciences at the RSNA. He will facilitate the NM track at the RSNA meeting in November. Peggy Squires was elected to the SNM-TS Finance Committee, and **Nanci Burchell was voted as President-Elect**. Once again, the MVC-TS is well represented at the national level. Dave Perry's application for Fellow Status, as sponsored by the MVC-TS, was approved, acknowledging his commitment to the field and service to the organization.

**Advanced Practice Technologists:** The SNM-TS approved establishing a mid-level provider status in nuclear medicine. This is seen by the Technologist Section as providing an advanced practice career pathway and further educational opportunities for technologists. Advanced Practice Nuclear Medicine Technologists will be required to demonstrate a high level of autonomy, technical sophistication, in addition to advanced clinical knowledge and strong critical thinking and decision-making skills. They will be highly capable and motivated professionals, comfortable with the sciences, and completing education at a Masters level. Advanced Practice Nuclear Medicine Technologists will assume positions as team leaders under the general supervision of imaging or specialty physicians.

**VOICE Guidelines:** Additional educational sessions have been approved for VOICE credit: 120 minutes of laboratory time will be eligible for 1-CEU, 60 minutes of laboratory time with lecture will be eligible for 1-CEU. Members also approved a motion that a grouping of peer-review scientific paper sessions that are a minimum of 1 hour total length will be eligible for CEU credit. See the VOICE Guidelines at the SNM website for specific information and the guidelines for continuing education programs.

**PET/CT Technologist Certification:** The laundry list of basic tasks for technologist performing PET/CT procedures was developed and summarized in 2 lengthy titled outlines:

a) Content Specifications for Basic Computed Tomography and PET for Dual Modality Imaging

b) Content Specifications for Basic Nuclear Medicine and PET for Dual Modality Imaging

These were developed by leaders of the SNM-TS, ASRT, NMTCB, as well as educators in both nuclear medicine technology and radiologic technology, including Frances Keech and Bill Hubble. A PET examination is being developed by the NMTCB.

**NMTCB Update:** In addition to the PET exam mentioned above, the NMTCB is busy with a number of initiatives. An Ethics clause is currently being developed and will soon be published in Advance and the NMTCB newsletter. A continuing education requirement will also be debated this fall with initial indications suggesting a model that requires 24 credits in a 2-year period. The first computerized version of the Nuclear Cardiology exam will be administered this fall during the ASNC meeting and in various locations across the country (at the same time).

**Reorganization of the SNM-Technologist Section:** An initiative has been developed to reorganize our group (the SNM-TS) to better serve the membership. Based on the goals of the organization and the realization that we could do a better job fulfilling the goals in a timely manner, a proposed plan was presented to the National Council. The plan emphasizes flexibility by creating a smaller group making final decisions on policy, priorities and budget, and making the National Council meetings more productive by allowing more time for discussion of issues and concerns of the constituents. More information will be published as it becomes available.

For further information or if there are topics that you are interested in that I did not cover, please contact me at [psquires@metroheart.com](mailto:psquires@metroheart.com) or call (314) 997-6001 ext. 202.

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

Missouri Valley Chapter members are scattered through cities and towns of a large, multi-state swath of the Midwest. Though number-wise, we are small, the MVC has long been blessed with involved, talented professionals. This has produced a steady supply of leadership to the national organization, including many past and future presidents of the Society of Nuclear Medicine. As most of you know, this has been a particularly successful year for the MVC in this respect. This double-edged sword gives us representation at the highest levels, but extracts capable, involved leaders who have guided our chapter in recent years, and directs their attention to national responsibilities for some time to come.

We are now at a point that some good, young, involved members are needed to step forward, become active in the chapter and begin to gain experience and knowledge of chapter affairs so they might accept leadership roles in the future. This is particularly urgent in the physician-scientist category, where we need a little more quantity to compliment the quality already present. I have contacted several scientists and physicians, urging them to become active in our chapter, and I have made a pointed effort to persuade them to attend our annual meeting this year. Please do the same if you have the opportunity.

Dr Littlefield has organized an excellent educational program for the meeting this September, some fun is scheduled, and the location sounds great! See you there.

**Visit the Missouri Valley Chapter Website**

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

# **Missouri Valley Chapter Executive Director Report**

Nanci Burchell, BS, CNMT, RT(N), FSNMTS

David Perry, CNMT, FSNMTS

*TO: Missouri Valley Chapter Members*

*FROM: Nanci A. Burchell, BS, CNMT, RT(N), FSNMTS*

*RE: Executive Director position*

*DATE: July 4, 2003*

It has been my privilege to serve as your Executive Director for the last three years. There are many wonderful things I have learned (how to apply 750 stamps quickly) and I appreciate the opportunity for professional growth I was given. I have now been entrusted with a new job, President-Elect of the Society of Nuclear Medicine Technologist Section. As such, I must tender my resignation as Executive Director of the Missouri Valley Chapter. Many of the experiences I have gained will enable me to be a better leader. I thank you for the opportunity to have served as your representative. I could not have asked to work with a finer group of professionals. The Executive Committee has decided to place this job in the very capable hands of David Perry. I'm sure he will do a fantastic job. Please give him your support, cooperation, comments and complaints, as you have done for me. I look forward to seeing all of you in St. Louis in September. Thank you again.

*FROM: David Perry, CNMT, FSNMTS*

Congratulations to Nanci who was recently voted as the new SNMTS President-Elect and continues a long line of excellent national leaders from the Missouri Valley Chapter. As Nanci mentioned, I have been asked to take over the duties of Executive Director as she looks forward to a very busy next few years. While the election results are excellent news for Nanci, they present some challenges to the MVC during the busiest time of our fiscal year. Most notably, it is time to elect new officers for several MVC and MVC-TS positions and we have our Annual Meeting coming up rapidly.

Elections are a very important function for our chapter as we choose officers who will lead us forward through the next several years. We are busily attempting to fill the MVC slate and have at least one excellent candidate for each of our offices. Likewise, the MVC-TS is finishing up their slate as well with the hopes that, in both cases, the election bulletin and ballots will be enclosed with this mailing. Also included in the ballot for MVC voting members will be proposed Bylaws changes. These are important for several reasons. First, the MVC must change its Bylaws in order to be compliant with the Charter of the SNM. Second, there are several functional sections of our Bylaws that are out of date and very difficult to follow, especially in a timely manner. Some of the proposed changes will streamline the operations of the Chapter so that we will not encounter as many timeliness issues in the future. Finally, there are proposed changes that more clearly define the legal status of the Chapter and its obligations. A more thorough description of the proposed revision is included for consideration by MVC voting members. These changes have been thoroughly reviewed and approved by the Executive Council and they ask for your support.

The MVC Annual Meeting is the single largest gathering of nuclear medicine professionals in the Missouri Valley Chapter and one of the most important benefits to our members. This year's meeting is at the Sheraton Westport in St. Louis, which is conveniently located at Page Avenue and I-270, just a few miles south of the I-70/I-270 interchange. The hotel also has a free shuttle from the airport should attendees choose to fly to St. Louis. Though I am coming into this process a little late, we are putting the finishing touches on the program and hope to include it in this mailing as well. In addition to many exciting physician talks, the Technologist Section is again putting on a separate track for Saturday afternoon that promises to be informative and educational. As usual, most talks should be approved for both VOICE and Iowa continuing education credit and the physician talks should be approved for CME as well. Registration information will be included with the program or can be downloaded from the MVC website at <http://mvcnsm.org/meetings.htm>.

Lastly, I would like to thank the MVC for the opportunity to serve as Executive Director. Though there will be quite a time crunch during the next couple of months, I will do my best to carry forward the excellent work of my predecessors and serve the MVC to the best of my ability. Should you wish to contact me with your questions or comments, I can be reached by email at [ED@mvcnsm.org](mailto:ED@mvcnsm.org), by telephone at 314-362-1597 or by fax at 314-362-2808. Thank you.

# Gateway to Molecular Imaging – Preliminary Program

Missouri Valley Chapter Annual Meeting

Sheraton Westport, St. Louis, MO

September 12-14, 2003

## Friday, September 12, 2003

5:00-7:00 PM On-Site Registration  
6:00-7:30 PM Ice Breaker in Exhibit Area  
7:30-10:00 PM MVC Executive Council Dinner/Meeting

## Saturday, September 13, 2003

7:00-7:45 AM Continental Breakfast in Exhibit Area  
7:50-8:00 AM Welcome and Opening Remarks  
8:00-9:00 AM Beyond FDG  
9:00-10:00 AM Head & Neck PET  
10:00-10:30 AM Break  
10:30-11:30 AM PET in the Brain  
11:30-12:00 Abstract Presentations  
12:00-1:30 PM Lunch and MVC/MVC-TS Business Meetings

### **Physician/Scientist Track**

1:30-2:30 PMPET and CT  
2:30-3:30 PMPET Added Value  
3:30-4:00 PM Break  
4:00-5:00 PMPET/CT

### **Technologist Track**

CT101 & Physics  
CT and the Patient  
Break  
PET to PET/CT

6:00-??PM Social Event

## Sunday, September 14, 2003

8:00-9:00 AM Zevalin  
9:00-10:00 AM Octreoscan  
10:00-10:15 AM Break  
10:15-11:15 AM Part 35 Update  
11:15-12:15 Parathyroid Imaging  
12:15-12:30 PM Closing Remarks

**MISSOURI VALLEY CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING  
REGISTRATION FORM**

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Name and Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Institution \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_  
SNM Membership Number \_\_\_\_\_ (must be included to receive member registration rate)

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Pre-Registration Rates Available until **August 29, 2003.**

Make check payable to: **MVC or Missouri Valley Chapter**

Mail a **copy** of this completed form to: **2021 Sandfield Drive, St. Louis, MO 63146**

	<u>Pre-Reg.</u>	<u>On-Site</u>	<u>Fee</u>
<b>MD/PhD – SNM Member</b>	<b>\$ 90.00</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>	_____
<b>MD/PhD – SNM Non-Member</b>	<b>\$115.00</b>	<b>\$125.00</b>	_____
<b>Residents</b>	<b>\$ 30.00</b>	<b>\$ 35.00</b>	_____
<b>Technologist – SNM Members</b>	<b>\$ 65.00</b>	<b>\$ 75.00</b>	_____
<b>Technologist – SNM Non-Member</b>	<b>\$ 80.00</b>	<b>\$ 90.00</b>	_____
<b>Technologist Student</b>	<b>\$ 10.00</b>	<b>\$ 15.00</b>	_____
		<b>TOTAL</b>	_____

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**HOTEL RESERVATION FORM**

Sheraton Westport Hotel  
900 Westport Plaza  
St. Louis, MO 63146  
1-800-325-3535

314-878-1500 (p)/314-434-0140(f)

**You must contact the hotel directly for reservations.**

Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_

Rate: **\$99 single or double**  
Reservation cut-off date: **August 12, 2003**  
Group Reservations Under: **Missouri Valley Chapter  
Society of Nuclear Medicine**

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of nights \_\_\_\_\_  
Single or Double \_\_\_\_\_  
Non-Smoking or Smoking \_\_\_\_\_  
Confirmation Number \_\_\_\_\_

Directions:

1. From the airport: Take I-70 West to I-270 South. Exit at Dorsett Road. Turn left on Dorsett. Get in right lane, go one block, turn right on Progress Parkway. Proceed one mile on Progress Parkway to stop light. Continue straight into Westport Plaza.
2. From I-70 East (coming from Columbia, Kansas City, or Western Kansas): Take I-70 East to I-270 South. Follow directions above from that point.

If you have a disability that requires special accommodations, please advise us of your needs at least two weeks in advance.