

TECH'S TALK

DIVISION OF MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

UMAA Celebrates Its 100th Birthday

The University of Minnesota Alumni Association (UMAA) celebrated its 100th Birthday on January 30th with the birthday party of the century, and the celebration will continue

through May 6th when contemporary composer and University alumnus, Yanni, will perform and receive an honorary degree. During the January party, the new University of Minnesota musical cheer,

"Go Minnesota!" was unveiled with the help of the Gopher cheerleaders and pep band. The cheer, written by University alumnus Brad Stokes, was the winning entry in a contest held by UMAA. The cheer, which goes "Go Minnesota! Fight Minnesota! Win Minnesota! Rah! Rah! Ski-U-Mah!" can be heard on the UMAA web site, <http://www.alumni.umn.edu>.

The phrase Ski-U-Ma has been used in the Minnesota Rouser and John Phillips Sousa's "Minnesota March," but hardly anyone could explain its meaning, which compelled Alumni Association President Margaret Carlson to research the origin of the phrase. The story she found explained that in 1884, the new football coach, formerly from Princeton, would divide the team into two competing squads for practices, and yell "Sis-Boom-Ah Princeton" when the squad he favored would score. To even the score, John W. Adams, class of 1886 and his roommate, "Win" Sargent, made up a cheer they thought was characteristic of Minnesota. They came up with "Ski-OO," which Adams recalled as a Sioux Indian cheer of success called out following athletic victories. Adams added "Mah" to the cheer to rhyme with rah and Minnesota. By 1885, the phrase appeared in a University publication called "Ariel" as Ski-U-Mah, and the rest is history.

To help celebrate the UMAA 100th birthday, the Medical Technology Alumni Association is bringing the Annual Spring Banquet back to campus. This year, the Medical Technology Alumni Spring Banquet will be held in the newly renovated Campus Club within Coffman Memorial Union on Monday, April 26th. The Spring Banquet is organized by the Medical Technology Alumni Association Committee, which meets about four times a year. They would welcome any new faces to assist in planning future events. If you are interested in joining this group of volunteers, please call the Medical Technology Office at 612-625-9490.

By joining the Alumni Association and the Medical Technology Alumni Society, you support both the University and the Medical Technology program. Membership supports a variety of programs:

- Collegiate alumni societies like the Medical Technology Alumni Society and chapters nationwide bring alumni together to network, play an active role in supporting the University, and share camaraderie.
- Mentor and community programs connect alumni with students to enrich their education.
- UMAA's Legislative Network links alumni with their legislators to advocate for their college and the greater University.
- Awards programs honor alumni, students, and faculty for outstanding achievement.
- Members receive a subscription to Minnesota magazine and money-saving discounts on Gopher merchandise, campus events, and more.

Joining is easy - just call 1-800-UM-ALUMS or visit www.alumni.umn.edu.

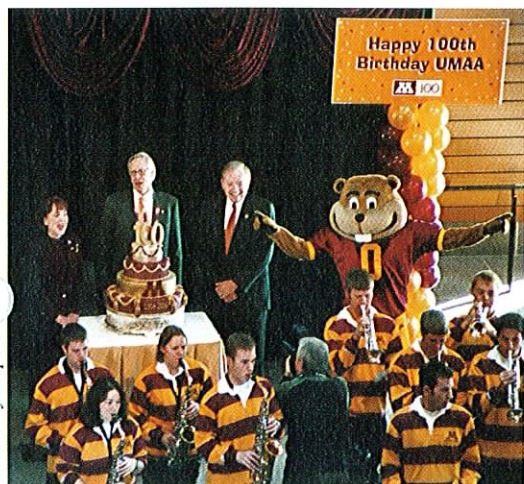


Photo by Hope Ti

Goldy leads the crowd singing "Happy Birthday"

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From the Director's Desk



This academic year got off to an exciting start for the Division of Medical Technology. About the time our new senior students arrived on campus, we were contacted by a news reporter from KSTP, a local television station. KSTP wanted to do a news segment on the shortage of laboratory professionals and its effects on bioterrorism preparedness. I was interviewed along with Kathy Hansen from Fairview University Medical Center, and our senior students were filmed during one of their chemistry labs. The segment highlighted the severity of the shortage of medical technologists/clinical laboratory scientists and the important role the laboratory plays in identifying infectious agents and treatment of patients. Several clinical laboratory programs around the country are now using this news clip as a recruitment tool. If you didn't get a chance to see the broadcast when it was aired, it can be viewed online. There is a link to the segment on our newly redesigned web site, <http://medtech.umn.edu>.

Many of you have asked if we have any information you can use when you speak in your children's classrooms for Career Days, or for you to provide to your local high school science teachers and career counselors in order to educate them and their students about the professions in the clinical laboratory. Among the other new features you will find on our web site is a PowerPoint presentation which you can view and/or download to assist you in explaining how laboratory testing works to aid the diagnosis of diseases. The presentation also includes descriptions of the professions found in the clinical laboratory, including information on job duties, salaries, and where educational programs for each occupation are offered in Minnesota. We are making this presentation available on a CD for high school teachers, career counselors, and others who would like to help recruit young people into the clinical laboratory professions.

Other features on our new web site include Medical Technology Program information, such as up-to-date program brochures, a brief history of the program, scholarship information, and information about the Rohwer Endowed Chair and Cooke Endowed Professorship. You can even find an electronic copy of the last issue of Tech's Talk!

The internet has become the principal method for acquiring information by many of our students and prospective students. Computer-generated multimedia presentations allow us to teach students in new and exciting ways. The generous support of the Medical Technology alumni and friends have helped us obtain the tools needed to provide a quality educational experience for our students, whether it be through new digital imaging capabilities, or new light microscopes for the students laboratories. On behalf of the Division, I would like to say thank you for all you do for the University of Minnesota's Division of Medical Technology!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Donna".

CLS Graduate Students Win High Honors

Petter Woll, a recent graduate from our Clinical Laboratory Science (CLS) Graduate Program, won first place in the National American Association of Clinical Chemistry (AACC) Student Research Award Poster Contest at the National AACC / ASCLS Convention in Orlando, Florida. Elizabeth Wagenmaker, also a recent graduate of our CLS program, was awarded fourth place in the same contest. Petter and Elizabeth competed against other graduate students, college-level trainees, and post-doctoral fellows in clinical chemistry. Their posters were evaluated on scientific quality, clarity, and an oral presentation before several judges.


Petter's poster was titled "Effect of Two Common Polymorphisms in the ATP-Binding Cassette Transporter A1 Gene on Plasma HDL-Cholesterol Levels." Elizabeth presented her poster titled "The Role of Cholesteryl Ester Transfer Protein (CETP) R451Q Polymorphism in HDL Cholesterol Regulation." Dr. Michael Tsai and Naomi Hanson advised Petter and Elizabeth on these projects.

Petter and Elizabeth were also recipients of a Richard Marshall Travel Award given by the Midwest Section of AACC. This travel award is given on a competitive basis to Midwest Section AACC members who submit posters at the national meeting.

Petter, a transfer student from Norway, graduated from the University of Minnesota Medical Technology Program in 2000 before entering the CLS program. He received his master's degree in 2002, and is now working on his Ph.D. in the Microbiology, Immunology and Cancer Biology Program in the Stem Cell Institute at the University of Minnesota.

Elizabeth obtained her undergraduate degree in Biochemistry from Alma College, Alma, MI, and completed her M.S. in Clinical Laboratory Science in 2003. She is currently employed as a Research Assistant at Michigan State University.

Congratulations, Petter and Elizabeth!



**TECH'S
TALK**

Editor:
Donna J. Spannaus-Martin

Contributors:

Claire Bjorklund	Andrea Johnson
Nancy Brunzel	Karen Karni
Salli Clysdale	Jan Lorenz
Nancy Coley	Pat Solberg
Joanna George	Cheryl Swinehart
Naomi Hanson	Mary Jane Yue

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New Edition of Brunzel Textbook Published

March, 2004 was the debut for the 2nd edition of *Fundamentals of Urine and Body Fluid Analysis*, a textbook written by Nancy Brunzel, MS, CLS (NCA), an instructor and clinical chemistry course coordinator in the Division of Medical Technology. This widely accepted and popular textbook published by W.B. Saunders Company is renowned for its clear writing style, organization, and depth of content. This reference encompasses the collection and analysis of urine, fecal specimens, vaginal secretions, and other body fluids such as cerebrospinal, synovial, seminal, amniotic, pleural, pericardial, and peritoneal fluids. It features 475 illustrations with more than 200 photomicrographs, extensive diagrams and tables, as well as pedagogical elements such as chapter outlines, learning objectives, key terms, study questions, and case studies.

A new and unique feature that should set this text above the competition is the Urine Sediment Image Glossary. This glossary contains over 100 high quality photomicrographic images to serve as a visual reference for identifying cells, crystals, casts, and other sediment elements at the microscope. In addition, these images are almost exclusively of unstained sediment using Brightfield microscopy--the technique most frequently used in clinical laboratories.

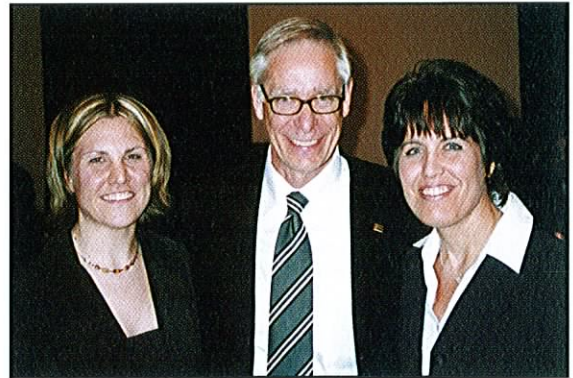
Alumna Receives President's Award

Anna Abt, a 2002 Medical Technology graduate, was a recipient of the 2003 President's Student Leadership and Service Award (PSLSA). Each year, about one half of one percent of the student body receives this award in recognition of exceptional leadership and service to the University of Minnesota and the surrounding community. Awards were presented at a banquet at Coffman Memorial Union on May 3, 2003. University President Robert Bruininks, personally congratulated recipients.

Anna was recognized for her outstanding service while president of the Executive Council of the Center for Health Interdisciplinary Programs (CHIP). Jenny Meslow, Assistant Director for Student Support Services and CHIP Director, nominated her for the award. When Meslow needed to be away due to her son's illness, Anna stepped up to take charge and lead the council through a busy season of service and student support. The CHIP Executive Council consists of representatives from each class and school within the Academic Health Center. The students work together to create opportunities for their colleagues to interact at a professional and social level in order to foster relationships and understanding across health care disciplines. The council hosts an annual interdisciplinary panel discussion with dinner, and Anna led the council in organizing a benefit concert for Youth Link, a program that benefits homeless children.

After graduation, Anna worked in the Fairview University Hospital Virology Laboratory until last fall, when she started graduate school in Public Health Administration. After completing her master's degree, she wants to work on global health issues and is planning a summer internship in Ghana for 2004, to work on HIV education.

While Anna is modest about her award and credits an active council for getting the work done, her Medical Technology instructors know her to be not only an outstanding student, but also a "go-getter" who would like to make the world a better place. As she brings her Medical Technology education into the public and global health arena, she exemplifies the caliber of student that the program strives to attract. We salute Anna for this accomplishment and wish her the best in the future.



Anna Abt, University President Robert Bruininks, and Jenny Meslow

Help Us Save Postage

Each year quite a few Tech's Talk newsletters are returned because the addressee is "Temporarily Away." If you escape winter by leaving town for a few months and know you will be gone when Tech's Talk is mailed in early March, please notify us to not mail you a copy, or provide an alternate address where you would like us to send it. This helps us save postage and keeps your home safer by not letting everyone know you are gone for an extended period of time. Also if you have moved and Tech's Talk has been forwarded to you, please notify us of your new address.

Do you have an e-mail address? If so, we would appreciate your sharing it with us. It would provide us with a more cost-effective and faster way of communicating with you. Please send us an e-mail at medtech@umn.edu or complete the Let's Keep In Touch form on page 10. If you've changed your e-mail address, please give us your new one.



Student Profiles



Timberann Klapper grew up in Wisconsin with her younger brother. After graduating from Kewaskum High School, she went on to receive an Associate of Arts and Science Degree from University of Wisconsin, Washington County. She wanted to become a medical technologist because she loves the lab and helping people. Having been a patient, she wants to help bridge the gap between the laboratory and patients. Timberann's hobbies include reading, biking, dancing, crocheting, sewing, cooking, and rollerblading. After graduation, she is looking forward to moving to a warmer climate.



Rolando Gonzalez is from Puerto Rico, where he completed a previous B.S. in Industrial Microbiology and an M.S. in Food Science and Technology at the University of Puerto Rico-Mayaguez. His leadership skills and academic accomplishments landed him internships at the U.S. Departments of Commerce and Agriculture in Washington, DC, and at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, TN. Rolando has strong convictions about the importance of the clinical and public health laboratories in detecting and preventing emerging infectious diseases and events of bioterrorism. For these reasons, he is currently pursuing his B.S. in medical technology while completing his Ph.D. in Environmental Infectious Diseases from the School of Public Health.



Emily Stratton has a twin brother in addition to a younger sister and brother. She graduated from Anoka High School before coming to the University of Minnesota. She discovered Medical Technology by chance in one of her classes, but considers the discovery to be the beginning of one of the best opportunities of her life. In her spare time, Emily enjoys running and cross-country skiing. She also inherited her father's incredible talent of doing detailed drawings. She hopes to eventually go on to graduate school.



Rachel Bjerketvedt was raised near Morris where her family operates a farm in rural Minnesota. She has five siblings, including her twin sister. She graduated salutatorian of her high school class in May, 2000. She attended St. Cloud State University as part of the Honors Program, and has come to the University of Minnesota to complete her degree in Medical Technology. She has been active with Habitat for Humanity and also enjoys playing intermural sports. Rachel is newly married, and her husband, Adam, is also completing a degree at the University of Minnesota.

Silent Auction Items Requested

Attention - all you creative and giving persons! The Medical Technology Alumni Society is re-instituting its Silent Auction during the Annual Spring Meeting and Banquet April 26. Alumni and friends of the program are most welcome-and encouraged-to provide items for the auction. All proceeds will be donated to the Medical Technology Alumni Society Scholarship Fund for our students.

Examples of auction items donated in the past include: baby and adult quilts and afghans, tickets for U of M or professional sports events, a three- or four-day weekend at a lake home, potted flowers or plants, individualized painted or photographed note cards, various sports apparel and memorabilia, hand-knit socks, special coins, baked goods, as well as a few "silly things." Medical technologists are marvelously creative, and many have given back to the program. Therefore we ask your support for this worthy activity.

Persons with auction items should contact Claire Bjorklund (612-625-9490 phone, or bjork005@umn.edu e-mail) to arrange delivery to the Medical Technology Office. Please include the retail value of the item along with your donation. For tax purposes, deductibility is based on actual (retail) value of the item. Thus, for the provider, if he/she offers 4 sports tickets, valued at \$200, this is the deductible value. For the buyer, only amounts above the stated value can be deducted. Thus, if the successful buyer bids \$240 for these tickets, he/she can deduct \$40.00.

In the past, the Spring Banquet Auction has generated conviviality and competition among attendees, and a wonderful addition to the Medical Technology Alumni Student Scholarship program. So make a donation! And, for you attendees, "Bid up!"

Can You Help Us?

Incorrectly addressed mail has been returned to us on a number of individuals. Below are the names and years of graduation for some of them. If you know the current address for these individuals (or any other alum who has not been receiving Tech's Talk), please call or write to Claire Bjorklund (see page 2).

Van Hong-Thi Le '00
Ian Gamble '99
Tze Ting (Iris) Ng '99
Kimberly Wold '98
Janell Stiles Gazdecki '94
John Richard Burton '93
Paula Zwiefelhofer '92
Patrick Rossback McMahan '78
Marilyn C. Gunlaugson '67
Diane Pilarski '67
Lois Latts Eil '42

2003 Graduation Ceremony

The twenty-nine members of the 2003 graduating class of the Division of Medical Technology held their commencement exercises on September 20, 2003. Senior class president Kristin Rouse delivered the welcome. Mauri Bruggeman, class vice president, presided over the ceremony held at the St. Paul Student Center. Kim Sue Tudor, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in the Division of Medical Technology delivered the commencement address.

Naomi Lange, Kristin Rouse, Mauri Bruggeman and Amy Wilson created the senior slide presentation. Karoline Hong delivered the slide show during the ceremony. Joanna George, Teaching Laboratory Manager and Instructor, announced awards and led the Medical Technology Oath, introducing each class member as they signed the oath. Amanda Virnig was awarded a special gift in recognition of achieving the highest grade point average in the professional program. Donna Spannaus-Martin conferred the degrees. Nancy Coley from the Medical Technology Alumni Society welcomed the new graduates as alumni of the University of Minnesota. The Student Center Terrace was the reception site.



Medical Technology Class of 2003

Front row (left to right)

Jennifer Goosen, Glenwood City, WI
Cheryl Young, Cottage Grove, MN
Mauri Bruggeman, Wausau, WI
Andinet Teferra, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Brenda Verhaagh, Maplewood, MN
Uma Sharma, Brooklyn Park, MN
Rebecca Anderson, Minneapolis, MN
Breanne Larson, Minneota, MN

Not Pictured:

Donald Lettner, Fountain City, WI
Marguerita Palmer, Cologne, MN
Chantal St. Claire, St. Paul, MN
Amin Yousuf, Minneapolis, MN
Christopher Zaun, Mendota Heights

Second row (left to right)

Robin Donner, Platteville, WI
Van Dao, Plymouth, MN
Amy Wilson, Burnsville, MN
**Kristin Rouse, South St. Paul, MN
Naomi Lange, Fort Atkinson, WI
Michelle Bezek, St. Paul, MN
Karoline Hong, Madison, MN
*Stacy Linn, Albany, MN

* distinction - Cumulative grade point average of 3.75-3.9
** high distinction - Cumulative grade point average of 3.9-4.0

Back row (left to right)

Dawn Christianson, Minneapolis, MN
Christopher Gettler, Bloomington, MN
Elizabeth Krause, Rock Rapids, IA
Jeremy Nelson, Minneapolis, MN
Nick Schimmel, Watertown, SD
Gugo Kwot, Mankato, MN
Zewdu Worku, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
**Amanda Virnig, Pierz, MN

Photograph by :
Anita Sime Jader (Class of 1977)

2003 Major Contributors

The following contributed \$100 or more to the Division of Medical Technology in 2003:

Over \$100,000

Carl Rohwer

\$5,000 - \$25,000

Ruth E. Hanold

Verna E. Mallek

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Todd C. and Mary E. Jacobson

Howard A. and Billie Anne Juni

\$500 - \$999

Richard and H. Isobel Brown
Lorna H. Canfield

Mary Jane Eaves-Raich and
John Raich
Charles and Julie Grudzinskas

Karin J. Libby
Ella M. Spanjers
Thomas M. Vesely

Verne E. and Phyllis J. Weiss
Mitsue Y. Yamaguchi

\$300 - \$499

Elizabeth Bixby
Steven A. Carlson
Cigna Foundation

Larry M. Davidson
Jean S. and Ronald D. Halvorson

Nathan P. Hauber
Karen R. Karni

Toni D. Okada
Travelers Co. Foundation Inc.

\$100 - \$299

Grace E. Anderson
Fritz and Carol A. Arnason
Joanne S. and Lee W. Arvid
Marcia L. Bell
Cheryl A. Bertz
George and Ruth Brauer
Marilyn T. Budge
Malcolm K. Campbell
Caroline J. Carlin
Bruce M. Carlson
Kathie Casey
Caterpillar Foundation
Ruth G. Chamberlain
Gerry M. Cochran
Robert A. Dahl
Elaine M. Dooley
Sally J. Economon
Grace Mary Ederer
B. Laurel Elder
Joyce A. Ells
Beverly J. Fiorella
Janet M. Flemming
Catherine L. Foster
Linda L. Fredrickson
Muriel French
Emmy M. Fung
Margaret and Thomas
Gabrik
Margaret M. Gay
Nancy A. Geier

Mardie G. Geiser Wollenhaupt
General Mills Foundation
Georgia-Pacific Corporation
Stephen T. Gott
Ingrid B. and Lars U. Graff
Phyllis E. and Robert R. Grainger
Christina M. F. Gramlich
Karin J. Grossman
Joyce A. Gunderson
Marilyn R. Haglund
Harris J. and Helen M. Hallgren
Carol Luck Harris
Jacquelin A. Heggernes
Carol and Mark Hill
Robert P. Hirte
Becky L. Huebner
Karen and Richard Huff
Phyllis Jacobs
Dorothy K. Karlen
Cheryl A. Kaup
Elizabeth M. Kearney
Barbara M. Koblinski
Patricia L. Koors
George Kuprian
Frances G. Larson
Jean J. Linné
Maureen A. Lynch
Kay M. Malerich
Catherine G. Manlove
Joetta G. McClintock

Betty L. McMartin
Barbara G. Melamed
Diane M. Michalik
David H. and Barbara J.
Moser
Gerald R. Mulcahy
Sara M. Mensing
Shirley A. Michel
Russell and Mary Lou
Mohr
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Carol A. Mulder
Jean H. Mulvahill
Patrice Nadeau
June F. Ney
Judy A. Olein
Clarice J. Olson
Kay N. Olson
Bonita Paetznick
Lou Ann Page
Marjorie E. Papermaster
Diane M. Patty
Elizabeth H. Perry
Marisa E. Peterson
James H. and Elberta L.
Prestegard
Kathryn L. Rantala
Anne M. Ringgenberg
Debra C. Rodahl

John L. Roesler
Vincent J. Rogalski
Ruth M. Rosendahl
Laura G. Rude
James G. Ruggles
Margaret C. Rutherford
Margaret S. Saetre
Melicent E. Schmidt
Paul C. Schreckenberger
Kathleen B. Standing
Phyllis F. Stapel
Joanne E. Stemper
Patricia L. Solum
Kathleen P. Tekautz
Naomi M. Thompson
3M Foundation Inc.
Kay S. Townsend
Aija K. Vikmanis
Bethany J. Walters
William W. and Grace P.
Wagnild
Karen H. Wasson
Mary K. Weimer
Kristi L. Werdin
Shirley J. Werner
Joyce M. Wian
Donna J. Wieb
Joan L. Yasmineh
Andrew R. Yue

Alumni News

Jennie Doris Roberts Holderreed (1934) passed away on August 7, 2003 at the age of 102. She became a medical technologist because her father would not let her major in music. She worked in hospitals in Minnesota and Montana, but continued her interest in music by becoming an accomplished pianist, church organist, in addition to being a certified brailist, avid golfer, and sports fan.

Helen Johnson Osborne (1938) worked at the Salt Lake Clinic and Intermountain Clinic in Utah in the 1940s. When her two daughters were in junior high, Helen went back to work, ending up at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, MD, from which she retired in 1967. She currently resides in Kirkland, WA.

Arlene Faulds Adolphson (1942) recently met **Helen Johnson Osborne (1938)** in Edmonds, Washington after a few years of correspondence without ever having met before. The two had a delightful afternoon comparing notes on respective careers and histories. Arlene worked in a laboratory at the University of Utah and finished her career in Bellingham, WA where she now resides.

Helen Ashenbrucker (1943) recently celebrated her 88th birthday. Helen worked with **Arlene Faulds Adolphson (1942)** at the University of Utah and now resides in St. George, Utah.

Eileen Jorgensen Nienaber (1945) passed away on June 13, 2003. Eileen was always very proud of her career as a medical technologist. In her memory, her family requested that memorials be sent to the Medical Technology Scholarship Fund.

Betty Dieter Pond (1953) lives in Centennial, CO. She did graduate work and was employed at the UCLA Medical School in the Departments of Infectious Diseases and Nuclear Medicine. She then worked with her husband, Donald, at their company, Ponds Associates, for several additional years. She has one daughter, one granddaughter, and has become a successful watercolor painter.

Joan Zittleman Yasminah (1958) passed away on February 27, 2004. Joan had many medical technology friends, and remained very supportive of the University of Minnesota's Medical Technology Program.

Bonnie Ferrian Scimeca (1968) is still a Federal employee with CLIA and has been in the Army for twenty years. She currently resides in Lindenhurst, IL.

Ellen Dorshow-Gordon (1968) resides in Independence, MO where she recently started a new job at the Jackson County Health Department as the first epidemiologist they have had. She is setting up a disease surveillance system, making contacts in the community, meeting with professional

colleagues from other counties and the State Health Department, and working on bioterrorism planning.

Jackie Battis (1969) was instrumental in saving a patient's life by following lab protocol. The patient was admitted to the hospital with a high white count and normal platelets. The white count subsequently dropped and the platelet count dropped to less than 100/ μ L. At this point, the patient was on a respirator with illness unknown and a poor prognosis. A slide was made to check the platelet count because the platelets were so low. Another tech doing the platelet estimate asked Jackie about some unusual polymorphonuclear leukocytes (PMNs). Jackie suspected Human Granulocytic Ehrlichiosis (HGE) and got the pathologist to confirm the diagnosis. (HGE involving the PMNs was first described in our own backyard at the Duluth Clinic Ltd in the early 1990s. Prior to this time, described infections by *Ehrlichia species* involved monocytes and/or macrophages - human monocytic ehrlichiosis or HME.) Appropriate antibiotics were started and the patient improved quickly. Jackie says this is all in a good day's work, but we know it was good work and quick thinking on her part. Good job !!!

Nancy Geier (1975) and **Susan Klein Iisakka (1980)** were recently recognized by Beckman Coulter as the first LH Key Operators in the U.S. On June 9, 2003, Beckman Coulter presented them with beautiful plaques and gift certificates in recognition of their outstanding troubleshooting abilities and advanced knowledge of the LH. Linda Fogg, Beckman Coulter service rep spoke at length on their accomplishments, stating "Nancy and Sue go above and beyond anyone; we've been all over the country and have never seen anyone like them -- they are so knowledgeable yet easy to work with. They are always willing to share and teach. They're great! Phenomenal!"

Victor Gromoff (2001) was featured on the front page of the Minneapolis Star Tribune on December 14, 2003 in an article titled "Faith in a New Land." Victor's family moved here from Moscow ten years ago. The article features two pictures of Victor at home with his father, mother and two sisters, and two pictures of him at church in the choir and advising a youth group. Religion and family are important to the close-knit community of Russian Christians which supports eighteen Russian language congregations in the Twin Cities area. It was this supportive religious community and the educational opportunities for their five children that brought the Gromoffs to the Twin Cities. It's rewarding to see the leadership roles he plays in his community. Way to go, Victor!

Vivian Mai (2002) married Duy Xuan Luong on May 24, 2003.

Jack Lund (2002) is currently working at Fairview Riverside Medical Center in Minneapolis. Jack and his wife, Jill, were married on June 7, 2003.

Karen Karni Named Distinguished Alumnus for 2003

The Medical Technology Alumni Society of the University of Minnesota selected Karen Soderberg Karni (B.S. 1963, Ph.D. 1983) as its Distinguished Alumnus for 2003. Karen was awarded this prestigious honor because of her dedication to the University, the profession of laboratory science, the American Society for Clinical Laboratory Science (ASCLS), and the National Credentialing Agency (NCA) for Laboratory Science.

Some of Karen's achievements include the following:

- Medical Technology faculty member, U of M, 1970-2000
- Director of Medical Technology, U of M, 1984-2000
- Expanded scholarship programs from two to seven
- President, Minnesota Society for Medical Technology 1981-1982
- Member of the ASCLS Board of Directors 1995-1999, and ASCLS President, 1997-1998
- Member of the NCA Board of Directors 1978-1983, and President, 1982-1983
- Co-founder of the Clinical Laboratory Educators Conference whose 20th anniversary was celebrated this February in Milwaukee
- Author of two texts, over 40 refereed articles, 12 chapters; 60 presentations and 21 workshops; consultant to 22 organizations/nations
- ASMT Member of the Year (1992) and recipient of Mendelson Award for exceptional service to the profession (1991, 1998, 2000)
- Winner of the Joseph J. Kleiner Award for best paper published in Clinical Laboratory Science (1983 and 1999) and the J. Warren Perry Distinguished Author Award for the best paper in the Journal of Allied Health (1993)



Previous Medical Technology Distinguished Alumni at the 2003 Spring Banquet. (Parentheses lists graduation year, followed by year as Distinguished Alumnus)
Front Row: Billie Anne Juni ('70) 1995; Connie Bakken ('46) 2002; Karen Karni ('63) 2003.

Back Row: Nancy Coley ('64) 1998; Stella Cook ('52) 2001; Salli Clysdale ('68) 1999; Mary Damron ('34) 1996; Karen Lofsness ('59) 1997.

While Karen might smile a little at those accomplishments, she would smile most enthusiastically for her joy in: encouraging colleagues to succeed; observing students become exceptional professionals; and in demonstrating personal loyalty to this profession. As she has often stated, "Medical technology (laboratory science) has been a wonderful profession for me and many others. We owe it, as well as the institution that provided us an education, work in return."

Karen was presented the Alumni Award by Constance Olson Bakken, Distinguished Alumnus of 2002 and a good friend of Karen as well as of the Program in Medical Technology.

Can You Match These 1953 Graduates with the Reunion Photograph on Page 12 from the 2003 Medical Technology Alumni Spring Banquet?



A



B



C



D



E



F



G

Names of these graduates and the identification of these photographs can be found on page 12.

Anniversary Classes Honored

Each year we continue our tradition of honoring the 75th, 50th and 25th anniversary classes.

Class of 1929 (75th Anniversary)

*Bernice Benish Powell
 **Gladys Benson Hansen
 *Lucille Bishop King

*Betty Childs Schwartz
 **Helen Darmody Wier
 Martha Ekola Strolberg

Dorothy Smith Schommer
 Angie Sturgeon Skinner
 Anna Swanson

Class of 1954 (50th Anniversary)

*Kay Adams Plencner
 Ann Alar Zemor
 Janice Annis Sharp
 *Rosemary Benster LeCaptain
 Ella Braunstein Mogilevsky
 Diane Davis Schmidt
 Doreen Daynard
 Donald Dingman
 **Alvin Dobis
 Barbara Eyster Gilbert
 Kathryn Grave Zieske
 Frances Griffith Miller
 Eileen Halabrin Sands

Norma Hammer Kerfoot
 Helen Hasapopoulou DaCruz
 **Raymond Holz
 **Mary Horak Denzer
 Joseph Jerome
 Ardyce Johnson Anderson
 Willis Johnson Brown
 Karla Kaplan Vevle
 **Ruth Knox Garrett
 **Dona Laker
 *Marilyn Letnes Baehr
 Nancy Melchoir Dingman
 Nancy Nepp Gabella

Donna Newstrand Perez
 *Paul Noble
 Marilyn O'Brien Bartlett
 Margaret Ohlen Hanson
 Geraldine Olafson Cochran
 Betty Ruspino Soderling
 *Patricia Scott Keairnes
 Cathleen Sweeney Speer
 Elizabeth Swryd
 Regina Vijums
 Gloria Welk

Class of 1979 (25th Anniversary)

*Susan Anderson Blaine
 Sharon Ausmus Leivestad
 James Berger
 Kathleen Boblak Bader
 Cheryl Bowsfield
 Debra Brandon Anderson
 Sharon Campbell Wurst
 *Barbara Carlson
 Colleen Casey Crampton
 Patricia Ferch Johnson
 Carol Fischer Hill
 *Jean Forsman Halvorson
 Sarah Gelhar Gallagher
 Louise Goede
 Christine Grewell
 Paula Gustafson Mattson
 Sylvia Hakala
 Jean Hansen Halvorson

Ronald Halvorson
 Joanne Hilden
 Kathryn Holmes
 Lynda Houdyshell
 Cheryl Kaup
 Beverly Kowalik
 Michael Lehnertz
 Shelley McArdle Pulkrabek
 *Kathleen McBurne Mason
 Mary McDermott
 Cynthia Meister Mikolajczyk
 Shalimar Meyer Baldry
 Janet Moilan Bergeland
 Karen Nevala Johnson
 *Cindy Neve
 Nancy Papenfuss
 *Gail Parker Eady

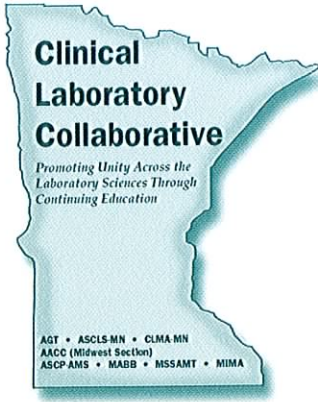
Lynn Price Moertel
 *Elizabeth Quackenbush
 Barbara Reischel Busall
 Gregory Renkly
 Phillip Roholt
 Theresa Sery Murin
 Sherill Slagle McCallson
 *Katharine Spear
 Catherine Sterner Tweet
 Janis Thurston
 *Dawn Wilson Peterson
 *Pamela Wynohrad Smith

*Address unknown

**Deceased

If you are a member of an anniversary class, please make a special effort to attend the annual alumni banquet. The reservation form is on page 11. Classmates from the anniversary classes will be seated together, so you will have the opportunity to renew friendships.

We appreciate having the correct addresses of alumni. You can help by sending us any addresses of those graduates with whom we have lost contact. Thanks!



State Collaborative Spring Meeting

The 2004 State Laboratory Meeting will be held May 12-14 at Mystic Lake Casino. "Mystic Legacy of Knowledge" is this year's theme. Featured keynote speakers are:

- * Wednesday: Dr. Robert Veninga, "Managing Hope in the Workplace: How to Fly Like an Eagle"
- * Thursday: Dr. Dennis Gastineau, "Stem Cells and Cell-Based Therapy"
- * Friday: Dr. Christopher DeJonge, "Fertility Issues - Known and Unknown"

The three days of sessions will include a wide variety of topics including patient I.D., TB, celiac disease, advances in cardiac markers, porphyria, distance learning, pharmacogenetics, autoimmune disease/testing, and flow cytometry. Instead of roundtables, chat rooms will be used.

A number of vendors/exhibitors will be present on all three days, with door prize drawings and refreshments in the exhibit hall. A career fair will be held during all three days. The social event on Thursday will include dinner and feature a magician. A silent auction for the Children's Miracle Network (specifically Gillette Children's Healthcare) will take place in the exhibit hall on the 12th and 13th. The brochure for the meeting is available online at the ASCLS-MN web site (www.mnscls.org) under upcoming events. For complete information or a registration brochure for the meeting, contact:

Susan Lagerstedt
 Mayo Clinic, Hilton 754
 Rochester, MN 55905

Let's Keep In Touch

As in the past, we are asking you to send us an update of what you've been doing personally and professionally. Contributions, including letters and pictures, will be displayed at the alumni banquet. Pictures will be returned if you wish. Please be sure to have your name and address on the back and a note asking that it be returned. Thanks for keeping in touch.

Name: _____ (_____) Year of Graduation: _____
Name while in school (if it has changed)

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

Career Information: _____

Family Information: _____

Special Interests: _____

Please mail to the address on page 2.

Annual Banquet News

for Alumni and Friends of Medical Technology

Join us in the Campus Club of the newly renovated Coffman Memorial Union for this year's annual banquet and reunion. Friends and spouses are welcome! Participate in our silent auction which benefits the Medical Technology Scholarship Fund.

Date: **Monday, April 26, 2004**
5:30 p.m. Social hour with cash bar, Silent Auction
6:30 p.m. Dinner with the program to follow

Place: **Campus Club**
403 Coffman Union, 300 Washington Avenue
Minneapolis, MN (612) 625-9696
Parking garage available (for fee)
Contact the Med. Tech. Office if you would like a map mailed to you

Menu: **Beef Medallion**
Served with wild mushroom au jus and horseradish
creme fraiche, whipped potatoes, and grilled vegetables

or

Chicken Piccata

Boneless chicken breast served with capers and lemon piccata sauce, whipped potatoes, grilled vegetables

or

Grilled Vegetable Kabobs

Vegetables marinated in cilantro teriyaki, served over curried coconut milk and couscous

Salad: Fresh baby greens, grape tomatoes, and red onion in orange thyme vinaigrette

Dessert: Mint Ice Cream with Cookie



Cost: Alumni Association Members \$30.00
Nonmembers \$31.00
Seniors (age 60 and over) \$28.00

*This is the only mailing you will receive for the Medical Technology Alumni Society Annual Banquet.
Please mark your calendar and return the reservation form below.*

Special recognition will be given to the classes of 1929 (75 years), 1954 (50 years), 1979 (25 years), and to the 82nd graduating class of 2004.

Deadline for reservations: April 21, 2004. Send in your reservations early because seating is limited.

Please reserve _____ place(s) for me at the Medical Technology Alumni Dinner.

I enclose \$ _____ as payment.

Beef Medallion _____ Chicken Piccata _____ Vegetable Kabob _____

Please reserve _____ seat(s) for me at the 1954 table.

Please reserve _____ seat(s) for me at the 1979 table. M.A.A. Member: Yes _____ No _____

Name (please print) _____ Class _____ M.A.A. # _____

Address: _____ Phone # (area code _____) _____

Guest Name (please print) _____

Make check payable to **Medical Technology Alumni Society**. Reservations should be received by **April 21, 2004**.

Mail to: Division of Medical Technology, MMC 609, 420 Delaware Street SE, Minneapolis, MN 55455

Class Reunions from Medical Technology 2003 Banquet



Class of 1953

From left to right: Margaret Ohlen Hanson, Joan Owen Novak, Peggy Hirt Smith, Mary Weimer, Greta Smith, Joan Olson Odell, Kathryn Hammer Glen



Class of 1978

From left to right front row:
Ruth Davidson, Joan Norhouse,
Judy Moriguchi, Mary Ann
Gerberding, Laurie Dockendorf.

From left to right back row:
Kathy Godlewski, Katherine
Hamalainen, Mary Lou Gareau
Mohn, Mary Beech.

Identification of Graduation Photos on page 8. A. Mary Weimer; B. Joan Olson Odell; C. Kathryn Hammer Glen; D. Joan Owen Novak; E. Margaret Ohlen Hanson; F. Margaret Hirt Smith; G. Greta Lilleberg Smith

Division of Medical Technology
Dept. of Laboratory Medicine & Pathology
University of Minnesota
Mayo Mail Code 609
420 Delaware St. S.E
Minneapolis, MN 55455

Forwarding Service Requested