



Chris Dissinger, CBET  
NCBA President

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## PRESIDENT'S FORUM

**T**his is the last time I will be able to address the NCBA membership as President. First, I would like to thank each of you for the honor of having served as your President this past year. I would also like to thank this year's directors for their hard work and wish the incoming board the best of luck as they begin their terms. They have many challenges ahead, one of which is the relocation of the symposium site to the Pinehurst Resort.

Nationally, the NCBA is regarded as one of the largest and strongest biomedical associations in the country. With this honor, we are looked upon to be a leader in this industry. One of the biggest threats facing past boards of directors was the financial security of our association. Fortunately today we don't have that fear. What I believe to be the greatest threat facing the association today is complacency. Every year we struggle to get people to run for the board, volunteer to sponsor a stand alone educational class, serve on a NCBA committee or to help out with the symposium planning. The people who served on this and previous boards are dedicated individuals who carry the heavy load of tasks and responsibilities you gave them with pride. However, they cannot continue to do it alone.

Last year, I realized how fragile our organization really is. As you know, every year five board members rotate off the board and five new members are elected. But this year was especially hard due to the fact that in addition to several valuable board members completing their terms and rotating off the board, a couple of the remaining board members chose to

leave the field and resigned their positions. I found out very quickly how fast this organization could potentially collapse or be crippled. Fortunately these vacancies were filled by very capable members stepping up to fill the void. Luckily we were able to weather the storm.

Are you proud of the NCBA? Are you concerned about the future and direction of the NCBA? Do you want the NCBA to continue to be a national leader in the biomedical industry? Then we, as members, must become more involved with the administration of our association. Without manpower, we cannot function. I believe that if we do not get the membership to play a more active role in the operation of the association, then we will see our leadership role and the quality programs sponsored by the NCBA suffer. We can prevent this from happening by becoming an active participant in the planning, coordination, and running of the NCBA. There are several committees we can put you on. You can write an article for the newsletter, volunteer to work during next year's symposium or sponsor a standalone educational class. All it takes is a phone call and a little time. Get Involved. If interest, please contact any board member or myself at [chris.dissinger@mosescone.com](mailto:chris.dissinger@mosescone.com) or 336-832-7911.

Chris Dissinger, CBET  
President, NCBA

## **1999 Board of Directors**

### **1999 NCBA Officers**

#### **President:**

Chris Dissinger, CBET  
Moses Cone Health Systems  
336-832-7911 - Business  
336-832-7076 - Fax

#### **Vice-President:**

Cheryl Spencer, CBET  
Onslow Memorial Hospital  
910-577-2824 - Business  
910-577-2566 - Fax

#### **Treasurer:**

James A. Tripp, Jr., CBET  
N.C. Baptist Hospital  
336-716-6799 - Business  
336-716-6121 - Fax

#### **Membership Secretary:**

Diane Aker, CBET  
Alamance Regional Medical Ctr.  
336-538-7760 - Business  
336-538-7722 - Fax

#### **Recording Secretary:**

Sonny Richards, CBET  
FirstHealth Moore Reg. Hospital  
910-215-1298 - Business  
910-215-4382 - Fax

#### **Editor:**

Howard Wigle  
N.C. Baptist Hospital  
336-716-3437 - Business  
336-716-9395 - Fax

#### **Ex-Officio:**

Ray Laxton  
Duke University Medical Ctr.  
919-681-2525 - Business  
919-681-7361 - Fax

## **1999 AT-LARGE**

### **Board of Directors**

Obie D. Godley, CBET  
Pitt County Memorial Hospital  
252-816-4251 - Business  
252-816-6527 - Fax

Randall Meyers, CBET  
Carteret General Hospital  
252-247-1484 - Business  
252-247-1625 - Fax

Lane Rushing  
Physio-Control Corp.  
800-442-1142 x 2368 - Business  
919-661-2598 - Fax

Mark Sonntag  
Moses Cone Health Systems  
336-832-8031 - Business  
336-832-8194 - Fax

### **1999 Standing Committees**

\*Denotes Chairperson

#### **Rules and Bylaws**

\* Chris Dissinger, Randall Meyers

#### **Nominating Committee:**

\* Sonny Richards, Lane Rushing,  
Helen Jones

#### **Finance Committee:**

\* Jim Tripp, Randall Myers, Cheryl  
L. Spencer

#### **Membership Committee:**

\* Diane Aker, Glenn Scales

#### **Education Committee:**

\* Cheryl L. Spencer, Jim Tripp,  
Obie D. Godley

## **1999 Special Committees**

#### **Newsletter Committee:**

\* Lane Rushing, Howard Wigle, Jan  
Measley, Sonny Richards

#### **Scholarship Committee:**

\* Lane Rushing, Jim Tripp

#### **Vendor Coordination:**

\* Mark P. Sonntag, Diane Aker,  
Ray Laxton

#### **Hotel Coordination:**

\* Helen Jones, Cheryl L. Spencer,  
Mark P. Sonntag

#### **Public Relations:**

\* Mark Sonntag, Cheryl L. Spencer,  
Jim Tripp

#### **Internet Committee:**

\* Ray Laxton, Glenn Scales,  
Diane Aker, Mark P. Sonntag

#### **Professional of the Year:**

\* Ray Laxton, Obie D. Godley

#### **Archives Committee:**

\* Glenn Scales

### **1999 Board of Directors E-Mail Addresses**

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Randall Meyers:  
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Sonny Richards:  
poppeth@hotmail.com  
Lane Rushing:  
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Mark P. Sonntag:  
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Cheryl Spencer :  
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James A. Tripp, Jr:  
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Howard Wigle:  
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NCBA News is an information service of the North Carolina Biomedical Association (NCBA). It has a distribution of about 500 and is published six (6) times per year. Articles and ads are due on or before the first day of even months. The newsletter is mailed on or about the first day of the odd months.

While the NCBA makes every effort to assure that its content is accurate, articles are the products of individual authors and the NCBA is not responsible for the content.

NCBA News intends to disseminate information and ideas to its subscribers. While the NCBA News accurately reflects the source of the articles, the content is of variable quality and validity. The Newsletter Committee will attempt to verify all articles, but neither the Editor nor the NCBA is responsible for information.

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!!!** Articles of interest to our readers are constantly needed and sometimes in short supply. If you have written any articles that may be of interest to our readers, submit it to Newsletter Committee Chairman Lane Rushing.

## Going to Pinehurst, A Modern-day Drama

By Helen Jones

I love my husband Richard. He has supported my involvement with the NCBA over the years. We have spent some of our vacation days every year attending NCBA board activities. He has jumped into the parenting chores left undone by me so that I could attend a board meeting out of town. He has functioned as a haven of serenity when I get all wound up with the hotel planning duties for the symposium every year. Having said all that, I feel compelled to tell you what happened when I was asked by the NCBA board to go to Pinehurst last December to check the place out with the idea of moving the symposium there from Greensboro.

Pinehurst contacted me and arranged a time when I could visit. I was encouraged to bring my spouse. Richard hates being the "company husband" and has avoided attending the symposium with me all the time we have been meeting in Raleigh or Greensboro, so he was less than enthusiastic about this visit. "I'm just an old mountain boy, what are they gonna think of me?" "I don't play golf." "I don't want to go someplace new." "I don't want to be around snobby rich people." "What am I going to do while you are touring, looking at banquet facilities and meeting rooms?" By the time we arrived at Pinehurst, we were barely speaking. When we turned the corner of the driveway at Pinehurst we could see the hotel sitting on a perfect green lawn looking

like a giant white wedding cake. It is a gorgeous facility. We parked the car and checked in. "Well, the staff seems friendly and not stuffy," was Richard's reluctant remark. "Neat old building," was his remark about the architecture. "Impressive menu," was his comment about the dinner selections. I was excited about the daily tea with scones. He got his "tea" from the bar, but we met on the porch, claimed two rocking chairs and let the beauty of Pinehurst take over. He was right about the menu, it was impressive and delicious and graciously served. Yes, men have to wear a jacket to eat dinner in the dining room, but that jacket can be worn over overalls or golf shirts or tee shirts. (I know because Richard tested them all!)

The facility was decorated for the holidays when we were there as it will be in early December when the NCBA will be there in 2000. There were events in the town, like the lighting of the town's Christmas tree, carol singing, historic tours of the town, excursions to Seagrove to visit the potteries, horse-drawn carriage rides, croquet, massages, shopping in the Village of Pinehurst: plenty for someone who "doesn't play golf" to do while someone else was busy with NCBA stuff.

The meeting rooms are the right size and attractive. The audio-visual equipment is more than adequate. The space for the vendors is huge and has plenty of room for us to expand our meeting. The pig pickin' area can

be outdoors if the weather permits and it is generally mild that time of year in Pinehurst. To address some of the membership's concerns about the availability of less costly hotel rooms, we drove around and found several alternatives within 3-5 miles of the meeting facility.

By the end of our visit, we were in love with the place and we were totally relaxed and refreshed and Richard and I had resumed speaking (I love the NCBA, but am not willing to throw away thirty good years with this man for it, so I was relieved.) He even hinted that he might like to come along in the year 2000 when we go to Pinehurst for the symposium.

While we were driving back to Winston-Salem, I thought about the membership of the NCBA and how many of you may be uneasy about "going someplace new". I hope you can take a deep breath and try it, trusting that the board did the very best to find a facility that fits our size, our needs and our budget.

### NCBA WEBSITE

#### NOTICE TO THE MEMBERSHIP

The NCBA Website should be live by December 1, 1999. The address for this website is:

[www.ncbiomedassoc.com](http://www.ncbiomedassoc.com)

Use the website often and enjoy the information provided. It should be an asset to each member of the NCBA.

### NCBA News Advertising

NCBA News is accepting advertising that relates to biomedical equipment and of interest to our readers. Suggested subjects are: Positions Desired, Position Available, Biomedical Equipment Wanted or For Sale (New or Used), or Announcements of Educational Opportunities or Service Schools in the area.

Advertising is open to all individuals, hospitals, and companies. The decision to carry a particular ad or classified will be the decision of the Editor with the support of the NCBA Board. Camera ready copies of actual size ads required. Corporate Members please remember what free advertisement your membership allows. Please contact the Newsletter Editor for other pricing.

**\*\*Prepayment of all advertising is required.\*\***

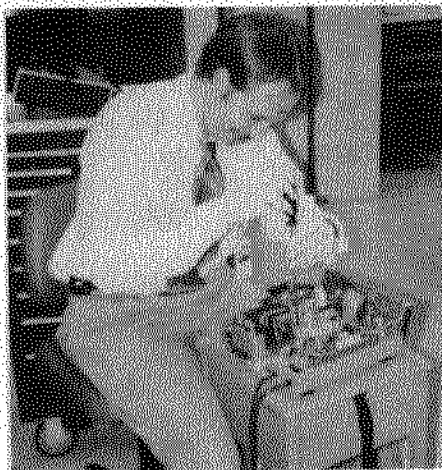
### Classified Advertising

Except "Position Wanted" notice by members (one ad per year—limit 50 words—no charge) the following ads apply:

(Per 75 words)	Member	Not
Individual	\$5	\$7
Institute	\$15	\$25
Corporation	\$20	\$30



## BIOMEDICAL DEPARTMENT IN THE SPOTLIGHT



Ron Dolan, CE Specialist, II

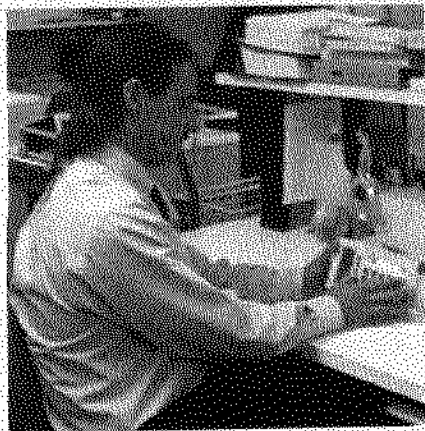
In this issue of the newsletter we focus on the The Clinical Equipment Management Department of Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center in Winston-Salem, N.C.

The Clinical Equipment Management Department (CEM) at North Carolina Baptist Hospital, like most Biomedical Departments, was a direct descendent or outgrowth of the Hospital's Engineering Department. Throughout the decades of the 50's and 60's maintenance support of medical equipment was handled by a select group of hospital electricians with specialized training and skills. Not until the early 1970's would the specialized talents of this group be recognized and granted independent status. Adopting the name Clinical Engineering, the newly formed CE Support Service Group would undergo a number of transitional changes as it developed its own identity, and gained the trust and support of the departments they sup-

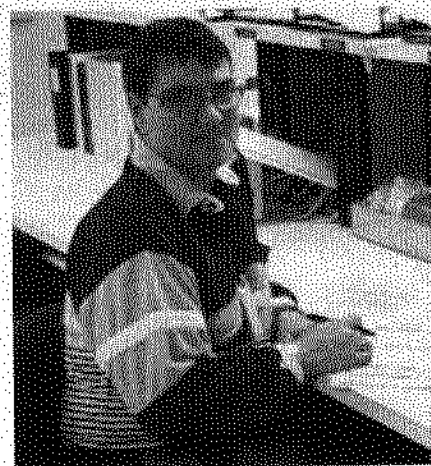
ported. Although Clinical Engineering now had its own name and assigned shop area, it still remained a support arm of the Engineering Department. This reporting relationship would remain in tact until 1992, at which time it would transfer to the Facility Services Department. From that day to the present, the CEM Department would continue to grow until reaching its present complement of 27.

In addition to the main department, there are two satellite shops. One is located in the Operating Suite and the other adjacent to the Respiratory Care Department. Technicians assigned to both areas have total responsibility for a vast array of specialty equipment such as Gas Anesthesia Machines, Heart-Lung Bypass Equipment, Lasers, Patient Ventilators and Pulmonary Function Therapy Systems. The main department is subdivided into three teams of four technicians each. It is the responsibility of these teams to provide for the equipment support service needs of all remaining patient care departments within the Medical Center. In

May of 1999, the CEM Depart-



Benji Johnson, CE Specialist, I



Betty Krusinski  
Physiological Monitoring Technician

ment expanded its scope of services to include all thirteen Aegis Family Practice Clinics affiliated with North Carolina Baptist Hospital.

On a financial note of interest, the CEM Department is classified as both an expense and revenue producer. Unlike most CE departments, four staff members are designated as Physiological Monitoring Technicians (PMT). Their responsibilities include the completion of daily charge tickets to capture the expense associated with the Physiological and Invasive Pressure Monitoring of all patients in critical and intensive care areas. Additionally, the PMT's are trained to handle first response calls for technical support of all patient monitoring systems and other ancillary equipment on which they have received training.

Spot



Light

**NCBA TREASURER'S REPORT**  
**AS OF 9/29/99 James A. Tripp, Jr. CBET**

<u>ACCOUNT</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
<b>ASSETS</b>	
<b>CASH AND BANK ACCOUNTS</b>	
Eddie Whisnant	600.00
NCBA First Citizen's	51,433.73
NCBA First Union	0.00
Norman Reeves	1,200.00
<b>TOTAL Cash &amp; Bank Accounts</b>	<b>\$ 53,233.73</b>
<b>Other Assets</b>	
Certificate of Deposit	20,000.00
Certificate Deposit	20,000.00
Certificate of Deposit	0.00
NCBA Asset List	2,148.39
<b>Total Other Assests</b>	<b>\$ 42,148.39</b>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$ 95,382.12</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 95,382.12</b>

**JOB OPPORTUNITY**

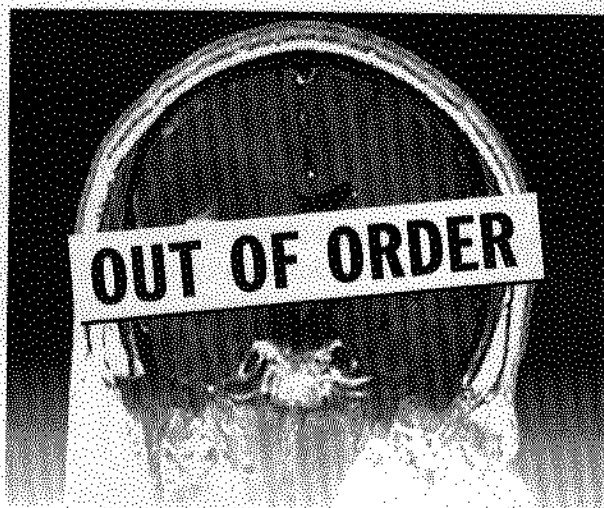
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**NCBA BOARD OF  
DIRECTORS MEETING  
July 16, 1999**

**D**iane Aker, Alamance Regional Medical Center, Burlington, NC hosted the July meeting of the NCBA Board of Directors. NCBA President Chris Dissinger officiated. Following the call to order and review and approval of the minutes of May meeting, Chris Dissinger introduced special guest Ms. Charlotte Morris, Dean of Institutional Development, Stanly Community College. Ms. Morris thanked the Board for the opportunity to discuss the DACUM Job Analysis Process, and invited several members of the Board to participate as members of a DACUM Panel to define responsibilities and tasks associated with the BMET Job Classification. Concluding Ms. Morris presentation, the following topics were discussed:

**Treasurers Report :** Jim Tripp stated that he is still talking with a number of NC banks to determine best fit for NCBA banking and investments. FDIC protection of investments was cited as a requirement.

**Membership Report:** Membership Secretary Diane Aker indicated little change in overall membership. Noted were several out of state memberships to take advantage of educational benefits.

**Education Report:** Preliminary copies of the Symposium Brochure were distributed for review and comment. Recommended changes were taken under advisement. Cherly noted that NC Baptist Hospital would be hosting a Ditec Ultrasound Class September 20-24, 1999.

**Scholarship:** Lane Rushing indicated that prospective applicants from both Caldwell and Stanly are in possession of the scholarship applications. No applications have as yet been received for consideration.

**Rules & Bylaws:** Chris indicated that several proposed changes to the Bylaws would be presented for review

and approval of the membership at the upcoming Symposium.

**Newsletter Report:** Howard again stressed the continuing need for timeliness in submission of material from Board Members, and articles of newsworthy interest from our NCBA membership.

**Nominating:** Sonny Richards stated that no names of nominees for Board membership has as yet been received. Both Chris and Ray indicated interested members at their facilities.

**Vendor Relations:** Mark Sonntag noted that 20 vendors have thus far registered for the Symposium.

**Hotel Coordinator:** Helen Jones noted that Pinehurst Country Club would be represented by a booth at this years Symposium.

**Internet Committee:** In reference to membership usage of a Professionally managed NCBA web site, Ray Laxton stated that the results of the June phone survey ranged from "inconclusive" to "very valuable."

After much discussion of pros and cons, and methods of offsetting initial setup and ongoing maintenance costs, the Board voted 9 to 2 in favor of a Professionally Managed Site.

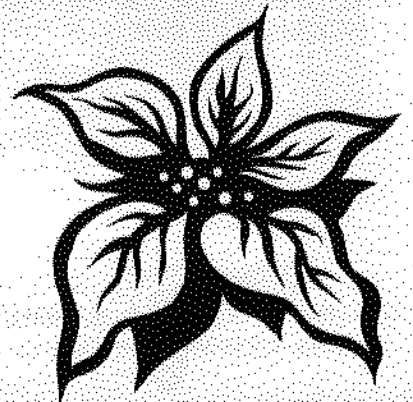
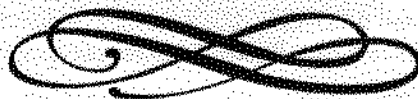
**New Business:** Ray Laxton informed the Board of a new organization by the name of The International Medical Technology Association (IMTA), that was recently formed to address Biomedical issues, on a National and International level. Ray also stated that he had been asked to be the first President of the IMTA. The Board elected to sponsor a booth for the IMTA at the Symposium. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The location and date of the next meeting was set for Joseph Koury Convention Center on September 10, 1999.

**Editor's Note**

**T**he article appearing on page four "Biomedical Department In The Spotlight," is the result of a suggestion I made to the NCBA Board of Directors a number of months ago. Wouldn't our CE Managers around the State jump at the opportunity to have their department showcased in the NCBA Newsletter? Although the Board unanimously agreed with my suggestion, the idea did not materialize until this issue, partly because of the need for articles to fill this issue of the Newsletter.

As Chris stated in his article this month, the NCBA desperately needs the support of its membership in all facets of its operation, whether it be serving as a Board member, or supporting the many actions and functions undertaken by the Board in carrying out its responsibilities. Submission of articles for publication in the Newsletter is a perfect example of serving and supporting your NCBA. Serving as a member of a special committee is another. As we enter the new millennium, the true measure of our success as an organization will depend entirely upon the degree to which we remain unified and dedicated to its principles, and the many challenges it will be faced with in the future.

To have your Biomedical Department featured in the "Spotlight" in upcoming issues of the NCBA Newsletter, direct articles to my email address "[wigle@mindspring.com](mailto:wigle@mindspring.com)."





## NCBA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

September 10, 1999

**T**he September meeting of the NCBA Board of Directors was held at the Joseph Koury Convention Center, Greensboro, North Carolina.

Chris Dissinger officiated. Topics discussed were as follows:

**Treasurer's Report:** As approved by the Board, Jim Tripp noted the purchase of a new Laptop Computer for exclusive use by the Treasurer. The Board reviewed and discussed the balance sheet and register report. Jim also noted that he is still in the process of analyzing various banking and investment options available to the NCBA Board.

**Membership Report:** Diane Aker stated her concern for problems that the Board has experienced with JCAHO registrations for the Sentinel Events class. In both the Symposium Brochure and Newsletter, the scheduled date of the Sentinel Events Class was incorrectly noted. Additional confusion resulted from listing the class as an offering covered by the Registration Fee. The Board committed to trying to correct the errors prior to the Symposium.

**Education Report:** Cheryl Spencer noted her disappointment with the

publisher of the symposium brochure for not complying with request to correct errors prior to publishing. She stated that she would be sending or faxing a message to all members with the corrections.

**Scholarship Report:** It was noted that the Board was in receipt of seven scholarship applications.

**Newsletter:** Due to Howard Wigle's absence, there was no Newsletter report.

**Nominating Committee:** Chris Dissinger indicated that the Board now had seven people listed as nominees for Board membership.

**Vendor Relations:** Mark Sonntag informed the Board that he was now in receipt of 31 vendor registrations for the symposium. Mark also indicated that there would be five honorary booths this year: NCBA, IMTA, Caldwell, Stanly, and the NCBA's new web site.

**Hotel Coordinator:** Discussed were the final arrangements for scheduling of classes, securing guest speakers, and securing required business and audio visual equipment.

**Internet Committee:** Mark stated that he viewed the layout of the new web site and was impressed with the quality. Mark indicated that he would be taking

digitized pictures of equipment for what will become the cover of the new web page. All information to be used in the new web site is to be sent to Mark Sonntag.

**Old Business:** Ray Laxton stated that the IMTA will have a booth at the vendor area. He also noted that IMTA members will use the Pig Pikin event to discuss what the NCBA would like the IMTA's mission to be.

**New Business:** At the time Obie Godley, Ray Laxton, and Howard Wigle served as members of the BMET DACUM Job Analysis Committee at Stanly, they discussed the feasibility of NCBA financial support of the BMET programs at Caldwell and Stanly Community Colleges. The motion to pursue such a commitment was seconded and unanimously approved by the Board. Support would be contingent on being under budget for the symposium.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**Note:** In the interest of providing current information on Board meetings, the minutes of the September meeting have not as yet been officially approved by the NCBA Board.

### ATTITUDES

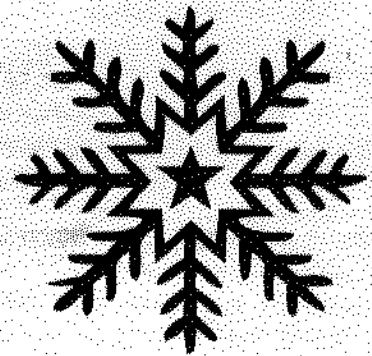
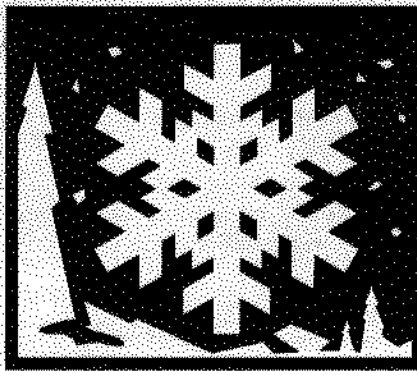
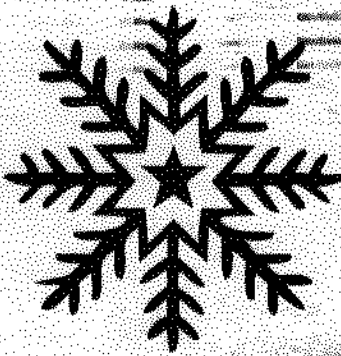
**T**HE LONGER I LIVE, THE MORE I REALIZE THE IMPACT OF ATTITUDE ON LIFE. ATTITUDE, TO ME, IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN FACTS. IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN THE PAST, THAN EDUCATION, THAN MONEY, THAN CIRCUMSTANCES, THAN FAILURES, THAN SUCCESSES, THAN WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK OR SAY OR DO. IT IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN APPEARANCE, GIFTEDNESS OR SKILL. IT WILL MAKE OR BREAK A COMPANY...A CHURCH...A HOME. THE REMARKABLE THING IS WE HAVE

A CHOICE EVERY DAY REGARDING THE ATTITUDE WE WILL EMBRACE FOR THAT DAY. WE CANNOT CHANGE OUR PAST... WE CANNOT CHANGE THE FACT THAT PEOPLE WILL ACT IN A CERTAIN WAY. WE CANNOT CHANGE THE INEVITABLE. THE ONLY THING WE CAN DO IS PLAY ON THE ONE STRING WE HAVE, AND THAT IS OUR ATTITUDE...I AM CONVINCED THAT LIFE IS 10% WHAT HAPPENS TO ME AND 90% HOW I REACT TO IT. And so it is with you...**WE ARE IN CHARGE OF OUR ATTITUDES.**

CHARLES SWINDOLL

### 'TIS THE SEASON TO BE JOLLY!





HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON  
TO EACH OF YOU AND YOUR  
FAMILIES!  
MAY YOU HAVE A VERY HAPPY  
AND  
PROPEROUS  
NEW YEAR!  
"2000"  
FROM  
THE NCBA BOARD MEMBERS  
AND  
THEIR FAMILIES !!!

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