



President's Forum



John Noblitt, CBET
NCBA President

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Wow! The NCBA Board of Directors has so many items on the table I hardly know where to begin. I guess I'll start with the NCBA's co-sponsorship of the AAMI show in Washington, DC in June. As President of the NCBA it was very gratifying to have so many of our regular vendors come up and say they always look forward to coming to North Carolina for the NCBA Symposium. We have already picked up some new vendors for this year's show in Pinehurst from our efforts at AAMI. Also, AAMI has asked the NCBA to co-sponsor next year in Boston. As a co-sponsor for the AAMI national show each of the NCBA members get special discount rates for many AAMI products and services. Please take advantage of these benefits from your NCBA membership and the alliances the board of directors have made available to each and every member.

As I have mentioned in previous newsletters, the educational tracks for the Symposium look great as Kevin Potts has worked extremely hard to bring something for everyone. As you probably already know the main objective of our organization is education of our members. The Board of Directors would like to expand on that mission and help further our members' educational opportunities. Currently, the Board would like to start a scholarship for our members who would like to pursue a B.S. or higher degree. We have not worked out the details on this project but have begun the process. A big factor in this process will be finding a funding source. If you know of anyone who would like to be involved with the NCBA in this endeavor, please let myself or any Board member know.

The vendor space in Pinehurst continues to be a concern for the Board. As many of you are aware, we had a waiting list last year for the Symposium. This year we are already about 75% sold out. We will make every effort to accommodate each vendor, so you the member can see how their products may make life easier for you each day on the job. Vendor space is secured by the NCBA receiving payment for the vendor booth. I would encourage anyone wanting a booth at this year's Symposium to not delay. It looks as if we will end up with a waiting list again this year. Glenn Scales is doing a great job of keeping our vendors abreast of the vendor space situation as they are being sold. New vendors may miss out on the chance to show if they wait until the last minute to register.

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Kevin Scoggins

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Gordon Radke (Chair), David Wilson

Finance Committee:

Parker Foster (Chair), Dale Allman,
John Noblitt

Membership Committee:

Glenn Scales (Chair), Susan Cowan,
Gordon Radke

Education Committee:

Kevin Potts (Chair), Susan Cowan,
Sally Goebel, Helen Jones, Glenn
Scales

2006 Special Committees

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Helen Jones, Kevin Scoggin, David
Wilson

Golf Committee:

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Hotel Coordination:

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Mike McCoy, Kevin Potts

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Glenn Scales (Chair), Gordon Radke,
Mark Renfroe

Newsletter Committee:

Glenn Scales (Chair), Sally Goebel,
John Noblitt, David Wilson

Public Relations:

John Noblitt (Chair), Sally Goebel,
David Wilson

Vendor Coordination:

Tony Bisese (Chair), Tom Barnes,
Mark Renfroe, Lane Rushing

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 odd numbered months. The newsletter is mailed on or about the 15th day of the odd numbered 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 frequently in short supply. If you have written any articles that may be of interest to our readers, submit it to Newsletter Editor, Glenn Scales, at editor2@ncbiomedassoc.com.

NCBA Board Minutes Friday, July 21, 2006

Baptist Medical Center – Winston-Salem, NC

Attending Members: John Noblitt, Glenn Scales, Kevin Potts, Gordon Radke, Parker Foster, Helen Jones, Kevin Scoggin, Sonny Richards, David Wilson, Mike McCoy, Tony Bisese

Visitors: Tammy Rasdall

Meeting called to order by John Noblitt at 10:15am

Review of Minutes: need to distinguish between Kevin P and Kevin S. minor typos. Motion to pass Tony B second- Helen J

Treasurer's Report: Total balance of all accounts \$99.9K checking account balance is \$47,872. two CD's currently valued at \$25,700 and \$25,200. The renewal date for the 2 CD's is April. Parker is going to set up the new renewal so we can take the interest out for the December symposium scholarship.

One projector bought for \$530. Parker presented options for travel cases. Parker will get a case this month.

Procurement cards are not available. There was discussion on having another account specifically set up for use with a debit card. The account will have a predetermined amount in the account. The Finance committee will be reviewing the policy for fiscal and finance responsibilities.

Parker has researched the idea for using Paypal as the on line payment software for the NCBA. The business account could be set up in as little as 10 days. Parker F. and Glenn S. will be working together to get this up and running.

All IRS issues have been resolved.

Incident investigation class: 37 registered. The class can accommodate 56... The speaker charges \$1500 plus travel. Class price is no charge for members for non-members it is \$150.

Kevin Scoggin has brought up the internal audit. This would involve having an outside agency (CPA) do something less than a line-by-line audit. Parker is going to look into how much it would cost. We have determined that we have not had a self audit done since spring of '05. John N. is the chair of the finance committee and will be organizing the self audit sometime in August 2006.

Membership Report: 458 total membership 236 individual members.

Education: Kevin P. passed out a first draft of the event schedule for the symposium. We have one spot open for a class. Sally G. called John N and they discussed the possibility for a class.

The Incident Investigation class is

scheduled for September 5th at WakeMed in Raleigh.

Glenn has been doing some work on marketing the class more and Sonny Richards was getting an Aramark distribution list together. 37 have signed up and the cap for the class is 56. There was a motion to comp one attendee from Wakemed, for providing the class space.

Newsletter: The fourth newsletter is just about ready. There was some discussion on whether Helen J. should write an article about our search for a possible new symposium site. John N and Gordon R will have their articles/information for Glenn by Monday.

Scholarship: Mike McCoy handed out copy of the new scholarship guidelines. There was discussion about the scholarship. Gordon R. will talk to Parts Source and confirm their donation for the scholarship. There were some minor word changes made to the scholarship documents.

Nominating Committee: Gordon R. will update his letter to the newsletter including some information on average time requirements. The committee is pushing for at least 12 nominees. There are 6 board seats open.

Golf: We will have trophies again. Golf on Sunday.

Symposium Planning : All of the conference rooms that we need are available. There was discussion about the internet drop in the conference center. Helen is going to talk to Pinehurst and get some additional information on bandwidth.

Helen is going to write a letter to the newsletter about the costs associated with eating at Pinehurst during the symposium.

Vendor Relations: 50% of the booths have already been sold.

Continued on page 4

NCBA News is accepting advertising that relates to biomedical equipment and of interest to our readers. Suggested subjects are: Positions Desired, Positions 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 support of the NCBA Board. Either jpeg or tiff files of the actual size ads is 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" notices by members (one ad per year – limit 50 words – no charge) the following ad rates apply:

Full Page	\$200. ⁰⁰
Half Page	\$100. ⁰⁰
Quarter Page	\$50. ⁰⁰

If the ad is a single page to be included as an insert, the advertiser will any pay all additional printing and handling costs. Placement of non-member ads is on a "space available basis. Advertising that is to be printed in color will include all additional costs to prepare and insert the color page.

Dollars and Sense: Treasurer's Report

By Parker Foster CBET, NCBA Treasurer

Account balances as of 7/21/2006:

Checking:		\$34,592
CD's:	XX205	\$25,718
	XX257	\$25,182
Scholarships:	Eddie Whisnant	\$606
	Norm Reeves	\$606

(Income highlights)

Membership renewal	\$550
Seminar registration	\$1,240
Golf Registration	\$665
Symposium registrations	\$20,118

(Expense highlights)

Capital Equipment	\$535
Newsletter Printing	\$1,912
Postage	\$303
Taxes	\$1,208
Telephone	\$174
Web Site	\$191



President's Forum continued from page 1

Here is another item I would like to inform our members about. This is an issue that has come up for many years now. By the time you can register on our website we will have some type of on-line payment system set up by using your credit card or check card. Members have requested this for many years now and Parker Foster along with Glenn Scales are in the process of making this happen for you. If it is easier to have your facility to cut a check for payment, that option is still available to everyone. If it is easier to just register, print a receipt and turn it in on your expense account that will be available also.

In closing I would like to let everyone know what a rewarding experience it is to work on the NCBA Board. This is a highly motivated group with talents in many areas. The reason I mention this is I would like to invite each of you to run for the Board at this years symposium. I guarantee you will learn more about this organization and you will learn skills that you can take back to your workplace that will make you better at your job. Remember, it's your organization. Please get involved by throwing your name in the hat for the Board of Directors or just give your suggestions on how we can improve to any Board member.

Until next time,
John Noblitt
NCBA President

BOD Meeting Minutes continued from page 3

Do we limit booth space? We believe that vendors will stay reasonable in the number of booths that they buy. We don't feel the need, right now, to limit space. There was some discussion on Vendor's possibly setting up hospitality suites for the future as they do at AAMI. The board felt this was fine as long as it did not overlap with NCBA planned events.

There was a suggestion to Tony B. to meet with the vendors afterwards for some feedback on the symposium and how the NCBA can make the show better for the vendors.

Old Business: There was discussion on what we are going to give away this year. Mike M. will look into giveaways.

New Business: Glenn has produced a frequently asked questions section for our newsletter and online. Glenn read some of the questions and answers that he had come up with. The questions were from vendors and members of the NCBA.

Glenn and John N. gave the board an update on the AAMI convention. The NCBA has agreed to a co-sponsor with AAMI for the Boston show in 2007. There was a suggestion that we might want to improve our NCBA booth. There was some discussion on how we sell our organization to the vendors and potential members in neighboring states.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:32pm. The next meeting will be at Carolinas Medical Center Friday September 8, 2006.

2006 Symposium Education Update

By Kevin Potts, NCBA Vice President

The educational program for the 2006 Symposium is one to look forward to. This years Symposium educational track system includes General Biomed, Specialty, Information Technology, and Management.

General Biomed

One of the classes to look forward to in this years General Biomed track is the Philips Intellivue Monitoring class. The class will be one and a half days in length and the student will be mailed the configuration support tool upon completion of the class. Philips will also be holding a half day class on both the FM30 and FM20 fetal monitors. Respironics is also very eager to conduct their NICO Cardio Management System class. These are just a few of the great classes we've got lined up for General Biomed.

Specialty

In the NCBA's track system the Specialty track category can have classes from the field of anesthesia, respiratory, ultrasound, dialysis, and radiology. This year the NCBA put a focus on increasing the quantity of radiology classes within the Specialty track. DITEC will be facilitating a one day Advanced X-ray class, as well as a half day Preparing for the CRES class. Other classes include Mobile X-ray's class on the AMX Portable X-ray, and Medrad's class on radiographic injectors. Many other fields are also represented in this years Specialty track classes, such as Ohmeda's class on the basics of anesthesia, and Respironic's class on the Vision Bipap.

IT

As the field of IT grows in the world of biomed, it's important that we grow with it. This years IT track is packed full of outstanding classes. Last year GE conducted the Healthcare Networking class, which got rave reviews. This year GE will be facilitating a new one and a half day Wireless Networking class. The class will be hands-on, therefore limited to 20 participants. Sign-up early; this one will go fast. RSTI will be facilitating two classes this year, a half day class on PACS, and a half day class on DICOM. The IT track is rounded off with Dr. David Vaillancourt of CompuSage teaching two classes, Smart Networking for the Biomed, and HIPPA & Your Network. Dr. Vaillancourt comes with high marks for winning the "Most Innovative Networking Implementation" in 2002 from the NPA (Networking Professional Association).

Management

This year we've arranged a special treat for the management track. Joseph Flannery from JCAHO will be here to facilitate a half day JCAHO Environment of Care Compliance class. The class will be held on Monday and repeated on Tuesday to give the NCBA members flexibility of schedule. Joe will conduct an interactive class discussing the unannounced JCAHO Tracer survey process, indicator monitoring, and tools for performance improvement. There will be a question and answer session so bring your laundry list.

These classes are just a sample of the great lineup we've got for this years Symposium. You'll want to clear your calendar for this event: Dec 11th, 12th, & 13th. Stay tuned for the full 2006 Symposium Event Schedule in the upcoming NCBA newsletter. A preliminary schedule is on page 8 and as a download on the NCBA web site.

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

Registration deadline:

November 15, 2006

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Help for the Ailing Professional by Glenn Scales, CBET

I've had the pleasure of being involved in this profession since 1967, and from before I ever thought about becoming a BMET, there has been an on-going debate about "professionalism." Wow, is that a subject that has been worked to death. And talk about varied opinions – this will bring out some of the most polarized points of view of anything I've seen in my career.

For me at least, one of the measures of "professionalism" comes into play when you, as a BMET or CE, must interact with other more traditional professions, i.e., Nurses, Physicians, Pharmacists, and the like. Business and healthcare professionals, with the corresponding advanced degrees and certifications, expect to be able to interact with their contemporaries at the same intellectual level that their profession demands. In addition, professionals must also be able to interact with patients and their families.

We as BMETs and CEs are not insulated from this degree of interaction. Think about how many times you have had to be able to intelligently speak to a JCAHO surveyor, or a Physician having trouble with a medical device. I'm sure most of you reading this have attended committee meetings and have had to make presentations, sometimes with very little preparation time.

If you find yourself somewhat uncomfortable in these situations, you are not alone. It is not uncommon for surveys to rate speaking in public ahead of death on the list of things people most fear. I know that to be true, for once I was absolutely paralyzed with fear at the very thought of "making a speech."

With all this in mind, I have the perfect solution for those who wish to become more polished speakers, leaders for whom managing groups or meetings is effortless and making presentations without the use of "and, uh", "like", and "um" is suddenly second nature.

The solution is an organization called Toastmasters International. Founded in 1924, Toastmasters now has over 10,500 clubs and more than 200,000 members in approximately 90 countries. By joining a Toastmasters Club you will be able to start participating with a group of very supportive Club members, all of whom have the same goals in mind. I am very fortunate to be affiliated with the Duke Toastmasters Club. Over the 5 years I've been a member I've seen numerous people join the Club and dramatically improve their presentation skills.

Toastmasters offers two separate, but interrelated, development programs. One is focused on communications and the other on leadership skills. Participation in a Club's meeting is dictated by your own unique needs and progresses at a pace that you control. I would urge you to find a local Toastmasters Club and drop in for a visit. Most Clubs are open to the public and enthusiastically welcome visitors. To find a Club, go to the Toastmasters web site at www.toastmasters.org and click on the "Find a Club" link. You'll never regret it.

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NCBA 2006 Preliminary Symposium Schedule

Sunday, December 10, 2006

[illegible]

Monday, December 11, 2006

[illegible]

Tuesday, December 12, 2006

[illegible]

Wednesday, December 13, 2006

[illegible]

Education Tracks:	ENT - Entry Level	GEN - General Biomed	SPE - Specialist	IT - Information Technology	MGT - Management
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Symposium Vendor FAQs

Can I still get in the Expo area? The NCBA web site has a current list of confirmed vendors and a running count of how many booths are available. Booths are reserved in the order in which your registration payment is received. At the time this newsletter was printed, we had 23 booths available.

Do I have to call first? No, just register and once your payment is received, the Membership Secretary will send a confirmation notice by e-mail.

How do I register? Registration forms are available on the NCBA web site and can be downloaded, printed and mailed in with your payment. You can also use the on-line vendor registration form and mail your payment later. A link to the on-line registration is on the "Vendor" page.

When do I have to pay? Payment guarantees your booth so the sooner you pay, the sooner your vendor registration will be confirmed and you will be locked into a booth. Vendors who pre-register but do not pay will not be guaranteed a booth.

How do I pay? At the present time the NCBA can only accept payment by check. We are unable to accept any form of credit card payment.

What do I get for my booth payment? Booths are priced at \$600 each and allow the vendor to bring 2 representatives per booth. Additional associates, above the 2 per booth, will be charged \$165 in order to receive a vendor badge. Security will only allow entry to the Exhibit area to persons with a NCBA Symposium badge. Registration as a vendor also establishes your organization as a Corporate member for the following year. Newsletters will be sent to the 2 persons designated as the representatives for your organization. The guest fee does not establish membership status for these individuals. Corporate members are also entitled to two free half-page ads in the NCBA Newsletter during the following year.

How do I advertise in the Newsletter? Advertisements must be sent to the Newsletter Editor in the form of a graphic file [no PDF files or Word documents]. Details are available on the NCBA web site. Advertisements will be scheduled in two of the six newsletters printed during the year. Advertising graphic files must be received by January 15th in order to be scheduled for inclusion in the six newsletters. Advertisements received after July 1st cannot be guaranteed more than one placement. If you wish to advertise in specific issues, please inform the Newsletter Editor prior to January 15th. If a vendor wants more than 2 half-page ads, the NCBA will try to accommodate your request on a fee for placement basis. Due to content and layout issues, we may not always be able to include paid advertising.

What happens when all 90 booths are sold? For the past 3 years we have sold all our booth spaces and had a waiting list leading up to the Symposium. Each year the booths sell out earlier – as of the print date of this newsletter we have sold 63 of the 90 booths. Once all 90 booths are paid for and confirmed,

the next paid registration goes onto the waiting list and the vendor is so notified. Transfer off the waiting list is in the order in which your payment is received and confirmed by the Membership Secretary.

How do I get off the waiting list and get a booth? Payment must be received by the NCBA for a vendor to be placed on the waiting list. The check will not be deposited unless we can move you off the list and into a booth. If we have a vendor cancellation, the first vendor on the waiting list will be contacted to see if they want the available booth. If agreeable, the vendor's payment will be deposited and the vendor will be sent a confirmation. If booth numbers have already been assigned, the replacement vendor will have to take the cancelled booth location.

Can I choose my booth? Within reason the Vendor Coordinator will try to accommodate requests for specific booth locations. Preference is given to returning vendors who want last year's location. If you want to be located next to another vendor, or not next to others, please note this on your registration. As you can imagine this gets very complicated and sometimes we just can't accommodate every request. We give preference to requests for vendors to be located together because of business relationships.

Is there a conference attendee list available for pre-mailings? The Membership Secretary can handle this on an individual basis. Symposium registration does not start till mid-September and the closer you wait to the start of the Symposium, the larger the pre-registration list will be. Typically he sends you an Excel spreadsheet when you request it.

Following the Symposium, registered vendors will be given a password that gives them access to a web page with download links for Symposium attendee business contact information. This downloadable file will include the Member ID Number that appears on each attendee's Symposium badge. For follow-up mailings, vendors will only need to note the attendee's ID Number when they are at your booth.

Can Poster Stands be used in other parts of the hotel? The Pinehurst Hotel will have to answer that question for you. Sometimes they are a bit particular about what they will allow in the Hotel. Depending on the nature of the poster and the size, the NCBA may be able to accommodate this in the Registration area. You can follow up with NCBA President John Noblitt at pres@ncbiomedassoc.com to coordinate this kind of request.

Can we host an "invitation only" event during the Symposium? You will need to follow up with NCBA President John Noblitt at pres@ncbiomedassoc.com. Our main concern is whether an "invitation only" event will conflict with other scheduled NCBA educational activities. If there is a conflict we would strongly discourage promotional or invitation events that pull our participants away from scheduled NCBA activities or scheduled vendor exhibit times.

Tuesday, October 10

- 5th Annual MD Expo Golf Tournament (sponsored by **NIJET**)
- Hospitality Suite

Wednesday, October 11

- Registration
- Exhibit Hall Set-Up
- Educational Break-Out Sessions
- Welcome Reception in Exhibit Hall
- Hospitality Tent Party

Thursday, October 12

- Registration
- Exhibit Hall Open
- MD Expo Luncheon (sponsored by **DeStefano**)
- Exhibit Hall Open
- Lakeside Party

Friday, October 13

- Registration
- Educational Break-Out Sessions

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New for 2006!

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European Plan
December 10-13, 2006

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DAILY RATES: European Plan: Resort-Wide Accommodations

SINGLE OCCUPANCY: ____ \$160.53

DOUBLE OCCUPANCY: ____ \$79.66 PER PERSON

SERVICE CHARGE & STATE SALES TAX: Rates are **INCLUSIVE** of a 10% service fee, 7% state sales tax, and 3% occupancy tax on room portion only.

Covered in the Resort Service fee are the following amenities and services:

Unlimited access to the Fitness Center	On-site transportation	Tennis courts
Beach Club	Outdoor pools	Bicycles
Afternoon tea in the Carolina	Business Center	Practice putting greens
Pitching areas	Driving range	In-coming faxes

ROOM PREFERENCE (based on availability): ____ **NON-SMOKING** ____ **SMOKING**

ARRIVAL DATE: _____ DEPARTURE DATE: _____

Check-In Time 4:00 PM - Check-Out Time 12:00 NOON

DEPOSIT & CANCELLATION POLICY: A deposit representing one night's rate per person is charged at the time the reservation is made. Pinehurst must receive notice of any cancellation at least 30 days prior to date of arrival in order to refund a deposit. The reservation deadline is **November 1, 2006.**

Please fill out and fax or mail with deposit to:

Convention Reservations	FAX: 910-235-8240
Pinehurst Resort	PHONE: 910-295-6811
PO BOX 4000	
Pinehurst, NC 28374-4000	

Pinehurst cannot accept individual telephone reservations

ROOM(S) TO BE OCCUPIED BY: (Please print or type) (All guests will be charged a one-night room deposit)

Name: _____ Address: _____

Email Address: _____

CREDIT CARD NAME & NUMBER _____

Expiration Date & Cardholder Name _____

Telephone Number: (Home) _____ (Business) _____

****ASSOCIATE CLUB MEMBERS**** WE LIKE TO RECOGNIZE ALL OF OUR ASSOCIATE CLUB MEMBERS.

PLEASE FILL OUT THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

CLUB WITH WHICH YOU ARE AFFILIATED: _____

YOUR MEMBER NUMBER: _____

NOTE: This is a Hotel reservation form — DO NOT send this to the NCBA

BMET Week Proclamation Submitted by John Noblitt

Many of our members are beginning to wonder what week is proclaimed as BMET week. Well, with all the hard work David Wilson put into this event you would think the Governor's office would proclaim any week we wanted. Not so.

As you can see by the letter Governor Easley sent to the NCBA Board of Directors, he is not proclaiming an official state BMET Week. Governor Easley has recognized the importance of the job so many of our members perform. As you can see, it is a great letter the Governor wrote about the BMET profession and how this profession is invaluable to the healthcare delivery system in the state of North Carolina.

David Wilson put many hours into procuring the state proclamation from the Governor's office, all to no avail. As David has informed me, the Governor's office has told David that the state is cutting back on official proclamations because of budgetary concerns. Personally, I don't understand that logic, but I

also don't know everything that goes into an official proclamation from the state.

So, what do we do next? The NCBA Board of Directors are proclaiming that the first week in October be designated by our organization (NCBA) as the official state BMET Week. So make plans to blow your own horns in the first week of October 91st through 7th) to let everyone in your facility know how important what you do everyday is to the citizens

of North Carolina. And if they don't believe you, tell them that Governor Easley agrees with you and you can show them the letter.

Over the past few years, many institutions across the state of North Carolina have used BMET Week to highlight the Biomedical Equipment Technicians and their department. For the past few years the Duke University Hospital Clinical Engineering Department has celebrated with ice cream socials, pizza lunches and a special catered breakfast at which numerous hospital administrators attended. Many other institutions across the state have sponsored similar events. Please use this opportunity to show how BMETs can make a difference in how healthcare can be delivered more safely and with more convenience for the healthcare providers at the bedside.



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**State of North Carolina
Office of the Governor**

20301 Mail Service Center • Raleigh, NC 27699-0301

Michael F. Easley
Governor

July 1, 2006

Dear Members of the N.C. Biomedical Association:

North Carolinians are living longer, healthier lives. That is in no small part because of modern medical equipment used each day in offices, clinics and hospitals around the state. Technology, such as EKG machines, laboratory and diagnostic imaging equipment, pacemakers and ventilators are major components in today's medical scene. All of this technology, though, would have little use or benefit without properly trained and qualified biomedical equipment technicians to maintain it.

Biomedical equipment technicians are responsible for the day-to-day operation and maintenance of these often life-saving devices and assure they are in proper working order. According to the North Carolina Biomedical Association this equipment is used in more than four million medical procedures annually.

Mary joins me in extending my sincere thanks to the state's biomedical equipment technicians for the work they do behind the scenes to make sure this technology is in proper working order to help keep us all healthier.

With kindest regards, I remain

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mike Easley".

Michael F. Easley

MFE/sae

AAMI News Update

Glenn Scales, the Membership Secretary for the NCBA was the co-chair of the Patient Safety track at this years AAMI Meeting held in June in Washington, DC. Although this is usually a two year term, Glenn has been asked to move up and serve at the co-chair of the 2007 AAMI Meeting to be held in Boston in June 2007. Glenn will be working with Mark Bruley from ECRI who was the co-chair of this years Meeting. Glenn's two year term as Meeting Co-Chair means that he will also be responsible for the planning for the 2008 Meeting in San Jose, CA on May 31 – June 2.

This past AAMI Meeting was co-sponsored by several professional organizations, including your NCBA. As a co-sponsor, our members receive discounted registration fees and the NCBA is given a complementary booth in the Exhibit Hall. Glenn and NCBA President John Noblitt staffed the NCBA booth and used this opportunity to promote the NCBA 28th Symposium and to interact with vendors and potential Symposium attendees. The NCBA will also co-sponsor the AAMI Meeting next year when it moves to Boston. Not only does this give NCBA members favorable pricing, but also advance mailings for all AAMI Meeting activities. More information will follow in future newsletters.

This Is Your Recording Secretary

I am writing to encourage the many of the NCBA to become more involved in your NCBA! There will be 6 seats open on the Board of Directors that need to be filled. We would love to have at least 12 nominees for vote for at the annual elections to be held Tuesday, December 12th.

I first became involved with the NCBA when I was a student at CCC&TI. I was honestly learning about the association just to make sure I could find a job when I got out of college, but I found much more! What I found was a group of passionate professionals that not only cared about making hospitals safer, but a group of individuals that continued to want to learn more about the ever growing industry that they worked in. This was something that I wanted in on! It is an honor to be involved in an organization that promotes and encourages its members to continue to learn throughout their careers.

I was told that I could attend meetings as a guest. As I continued to attend meetings, I saw how the organization worked and was asked for my input as a newcomer to the field. I became a little more involved just helping out at the Symposium and other functions. I ran for a board position at the 2004 Symposium, but didn't get elected. Even though I had a great position at Carolinas Medical Center, I still wanted to get more involved in the NCBA. I knew that the

organization would teach me and open up doors for me. I ran again at the 2005 Symposium and you, the members, voted me onto the Board. Through my association with the NCBA I have learned accounting practices, management involvement and more people skills.

I thank you for letting me get involved in this wonderful organization and encourage any of you that may want to learn more about us to just ask! We will have 6 Board positions open for the Board so start thinking about getting involved!

Myself and Kevin Potts are the Nominating Committee, so if you are interested please contact us with and include a short biography.

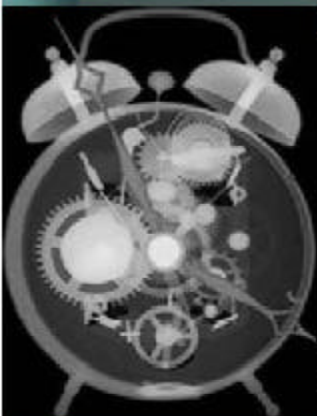
Another passionate member of the NCBA, Gordon Radke



Change of Address

Just as this newsletter was going to the printers, we found out that the UPS Store where the NCBA receives its mail is going out of business. Please start using the new address immediately. We have posted a Change of Address notification with the US Post Office, but the forwarding only takes place for a short time.

**North Carolina Biomedical Association
7474 Creedmoor Rd., PMB xxx
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Schedule of the NCBA Board of Directors Meetings for 2006/2007

February 10-11, 2006, Time: 8:30 a.m.

Board of Directors Planning Retreat
Ocean Reef Hotel, Myrtle Beach, SC

March 24, 2006, Time: 10:00 a.m.

WakeMed, Raleigh, NC
Host – Parker Foster, Ph: 919-350-5915

May 12, 2006, Time: 10:00 a.m.

Caldwell Community College, Hudson, NC
Host – John Noblitt, Ph: 828-726-2263

July 21, 2006, Time: 10:00 a.m.

WFU Baptist Med. Center, Winston-Salem, NC
Host – Kevin Potts, Ph: 336-716-3437

September 8, 2006, Time: 10:00 a.m.

Carolinas Medical Center, Charlotte, NC
Host – Gordon Radke, Ph: 704-446-0255

November 10, 2006, Time: 10:00 a.m.

Pinehurst Resort & Hotel, Pinehurst, NC
Ph: 800-487-4653, www.pinehurst.com

December 10-13, 2006

2006 NCBA Symposium and Expo
Pinehurst Resort & Hotel, Pinehurst, NC

January 12, 2007, Time: 10:00 a.m.

Stanly Community College, Albemarle, NC
Host – David Wilson, Ph: 704-991-0277

February 9-10, 2007, Time: 8:30 a.m.

Board of Directors Planning Retreat
Ocean Reef Hotel, Myrtle Beach, SC

Board Meetings are open to the NCBA Membership.

Please plan to attend.