Miracle on Everest

August 24, 2014; 9:45 am - 10:45 am

Presented by
Beck Weathers
Anatomic Pathologist
Columbia Hospital,
Medical City,
Dallas, TX

Sponsored by Ventana Medical Systems

On the night of May 10, 1996, a violent storm swept over Mt. Everest, buffeting the more than 30 adventurers who were descending from the mountain’s summit with heavy snow, subzero cold, and hurricane-force winds. Within 24 hours, eight of the climbers, including three professional guides, were dead. It would become the deadliest day in the history of expeditions on the world’s highest mountain.

Among the climbers severely injured by the spring storm was Dr. Seaborn Beck Weathers, a 49-year-old amateur climber who, lying unconscious and exposed on the mountain’s icy rocks, had been left for dead three hundred yards from his camp. His wife and family were notified of his death.

Miraculously, Weathers awoke the morning after the storm to find himself alive, but barely. His hands were severely frostbitten; he had no feeling left in his feet; his vision was so impaired that he could see only three or four feet in front of him. But in his mind’s eye, he could see his wife and children back home in Dallas, Texas. When he reached his camp, his astonished fellow climbers cut the frozen clothes from his body and warmed him with a hot water bottle. When they all reached the fourth camp from the summit two days later, Weathers was too ill to descend over the Khumbu Icefall, an enormous glacier of mile-deep crevasses and 12-story-high ice blocks. Beneath the Icefall lay the base camp, where he could be moved to safety.

After hearing of her husband’s amazing survival, Peach Weathers arranged for a helicopter to rescue him. Helicopters can lose the ability to lift at heights above 20,000 feet, and no one had ever dared to fly one above the Icefall before. In an extraordinary act of heroism, Lieutenant Colonel Madan Khatri Chhetri of the Nepalese army flew his helicopter up 22,000 feet to where Weathers lay. At Weathers’ insistence, a Taiwanese climber who was in worse condition than him was flown out first. It was the second-highest helicopter rescue in history.

Dr. Weathers, an accomplished pathologist, lost his right hand and part of his left hand to frostbite. But though he lost his hands, he has never lost his hope. He has shown incredible courage throughout his ordeal, and his positive attitude has inspired many.

The incredible story of Beck Weathers’ survival has all the elements of a great adventure: heroism, bravery, a successful human struggle against the forces of nature, the surmounting of great physical and psychological challenges, and a triumph of the human spirit. He has come back from his ordeal to speak about his...
Dear Colleagues,

Dust off your boots and saddle and ride on down to Austin, Texas! This occasion celebrates 40 years of the Annual NSH Symposium/Convention, the largest educational conference that promotes the advancement of the histology profession. This will be not only in a very unique venue, but will also provide an exciting schedule of events.

The convention team has worked hard to provide an array of educational opportunities for everyone. Did you realize that if you receive 9 credit hours in one of four areas—Immunohistochemistry, Management, Molecular or Safety—you could receive a “Certificate of Completion”? 

The annual NSH awards celebration, “Diamonds & Boots”, has been changed to Saturday night. This change was implemented to provide all attendees a chance to honor colleagues for their contributions to the field, and to engage in the evening’s western festivities that the Texas group has organized.

We have scheduled two outstanding keynote speaker events. On Sunday, Dr. Beck Weathers, a pathologist from Dallas, will inspire us telling about his experience, My Journey Home from Everest. Weathers authored a book about his experience, Left for Dead: My Journey Home from Everest.

On Monday morning, Anna Barker, PhD will present the Culling Memorial Lecture. Dr. Barker is Director of the National Biomarker Development Alliance and has served as Deputy Director of the National Cancer Institute (NCI). Her expertise includes program development of the Nanotechnology Alliance for The Cancer Genome Atlas, National Genome Research Institute, and Clinical Proteomics Technologies in Cancer. It will be exciting to hear her perspective on what is next for biotechnologies.

Our Board of Directors most recently has been hard at work with a meeting in Baltimore to place action items to the goals that were developed over the past year. One of the first action items will be a membership survey. Information will be gathered through focus groups and online surveys at the membership booth in Austin, including electronic and mailed surveys. I encourage you to participate in the survey. This organization is about our membership; we must be sure that we are providing the right tools for your professional growth. As members you should be proud of the passionate group of directors, executive board, and office staff that make up the leadership and operations of NSH. They are committed to developing and advancing NSH as the leader in histology education and the profession as a whole. Moreover, they are committed to making NSH sustainable through the years while meeting all of your educational needs.

I thank all of you who took time to write to NAACLS in support of changing the educational standard concerning HT programs. Although I have not heard the final decision, I am hopeful that this will be a step to promote histotechnology as a profession through new programs and exposure as a viable profession.

I would like to remind everyone that we have many NSH committees that make a difference in our profession, so I encourage you to find one that interests you. There are meetings at the S/C that you can place on your new convention mobile app (see page 11). Come ask questions to see how just a little input will reap many rewards.

With great anticipation I am looking forward to seeing new and past colleagues in Austin. Bring your cowboy hat and boots, and get ready to find out how Texas does it big!

Beth

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Correction from NAACLS

NSH was alerted by NAACLS that there had been errors in the Spring 2014 edition of NSH In Action. In the second paragraph of Beth Sheppard’s President Report, she had stated:

“On April 10, we received some exciting news from NAACLS. The NAACLS Board of Directors unanimously voted to change Standard I.D.2.g which addresses the minimum education requirements of accredited programs. Specifically, we asked that the change merge HT in with the MLT language to read:”

In order to more accurately reflect the vote by the NAACLS Board of Directors, it was requested that the language be altered to read the following (changes in italics):

“On April 10, we received exciting news from NAACLS. The NAACLS Board of Directors unanimously voted to release for public comment a proposed change to Standard I.D.1.g, which addresses the minimum education requirements of accredited programs. Specifically, the change merges the HT and MLT language together to read:”

NAACLS also noted that an editorial change had been made to the Standards, so that the referenced Standard is now I.D.1.g rather than I.D.2.g.

NSH appreciates NAACLS notifying us of the corrections.
experience, and to enlighten us with the invaluable lessons he learned. We now have the rare opportunity to hear from someone who has faced his own death—and lived to tell about it.

**NSH Uniform Labeling of Slides & Blocks in Surgical Pathology - An Update**

**August 25, 2014; 7:15 am - 8:00 am**

Presented by

**Vinnie Della Speranza, MS, HTL(ASCP)**
Co-Chair, CAP/NSH Uniform Labeling Task Force

The College of American Pathologists (CAP) and the National Society for Histotechnology (NSH) have partnered to produce guidelines for the Uniform Labeling of Slides and Blocks in Surgical Pathology. This lecture will explain the origins of the project and the conclusions the committee has drawn based on its research and surveying.

**C.F.A. Culling Memorial Lecture:**

**Is Personalized (Molecular Based) Medicine Really Achievable in the Absence of Robust and Clinically Relevant Biomarkers?**

**August 25, 2014; 9:45 am – 10:45 am**

Presented by

**Anna D. Barker, PhD**
Co-Director, Complex Adaptive Systems Director and Co-Founder, National Biomarker Development Alliance Professor, School of Life Sciences Arizona State University (ASU) (Former Deputy Director, National Cancer Institute)

Sponsored by Polyscientific R&D Corp.

Advanced technologies such as whole genome sequencing (WGS/NGS), nanotechnology, imaging, bioinformatics and the convergence of the biological and physical sciences portends a future where a new generation of personalized (precision medicine) will be possible—perhaps even routine. For example, WGS/NGS is producing multidimensional genomic and phenotypic multi-dimensional data at an unprecedented rate. Large-scale genomic efforts such as The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) are already producing multi-dimensional data sets that are unmanageable in the hands of single investigators. One could argue that approaching the diagnosis and treatment of diseases such as cancer in the future will depend on algorithms that integrate vast amounts of molecular and clinical information. However, the extent to which these new molecularly based approaches will be of real value to clinicians will depend on the quality of the data—and very specifically on the availability of high-quality, robust and clinically meaningful biomarkers that derive from these data sets.

We currently face major challenges on a number of fronts as we attempt to capitalize on what is increasingly characterized as an emerging era of “big data” in biomedicine. Although these advances provide unprecedented opportunities for progress, biomarker discovery (which occurs primarily in academic laboratories) is plagued with a lack of reproducibility of results; and in fact, the number of protein biomarkers approved by the FDA for clinical use has been less than one per year since the early 1990’s. The lack of standards for biomarker discovery and development in areas ranging from the relevance of the original clinical question to the quality of biospecimens to the quality of the data and analytics has led to failed clinical trials and stalled the maturation of the molecular diagnostics industry.

The National Biomarker Development Alliance (NBDA) is a new non-profit, multidisciplinary and trans-sector organization dedicated to addressing these difficult (but solvable) problems. The mission of the NBDA is to address the complex and urgent challenge of creating the standards needed to support end-to-end evidence-based biomarker development—quite significantly advance precision (personalized) health care. The NBDA’s intent is to relegate the flawed and fragmented approaches to biomarker development processes to history and to serve as a working example of what purposeful convergence of scientific knowledge and multi-sector collaboration can accomplish. The presentation will focus on the current state of the biomarker field and the goals and aspirations of the NBDA.

Visit [www.histoconvention.org](http://www.histoconvention.org) to register today!


**Region III**  
Joanna Barton, Region III Director

The spring and early summer was a busy time for meetings in Region III.

The second Carolina Symposium was held April 4th and 5th in Greenville, South Carolina at the Embassy Suites Greenville Golf Resort & Conference Center. This was the second year of the collaboration between NSH, the South Carolina Society of Histology Technicians, and the North Carolina Society of Histotechnology. This was a great opportunity for the state societies, in conjunction with NSH, to work together to create this wonderful educational opportunity.

The Georgia Society for Histotechnology Symposium was held April 25th – 27th in Pine Mountain, Georgia at The Lodge and Spa at Callaway Gardens. Callaway Gardens was a scenic and tranquil setting to hold the first “Histopalooza!” There was a great slate of speakers and topics to choose from. Plans are underway for “Histopalooza!” 2015.

The Florida Society for Histotechnology Annual Meeting was held May 15th – 18th at the Buena Vista Palace Hotel & Spa in Orlando, Florida across from Downtown Disney. This year, in addition to the 16 workshops offered as part of the General Sessions, the Supervisors & Administrators Academy was held on Friday, May 16th. The Supervisors & Administrators Academy was a new certificate program offering six credits in the category of supervision and administration.

The Tennessee Society for Histotechnology Symposium and Convention was held June 27th and 28th at the Hilton Garden Inn Cool Springs in Franklin, Tennessee. Whether learning more about IHC techniques or about CAP readiness, this was a wonderful opportunity to take advantage of a wide range of educational offerings.

And finally, to round out the meetings in June, was the Mississippi Society for Histotechnology Meeting. This one-day meeting held on June 28th at the Convention Center in Hattiesburg, Mississippi provided a great opportunity for education and networking.

A special thank you to all of those who planned and ran these meetings. Also thank you to all of the vendors and sponsors who help to support these meetings. All of your time and efforts are greatly appreciated.

The NSH Symposium/Convention is coming up. This year’s 40th Annual NSH S/C will be held in Austin, Texas from August 22nd – 27th. I hope to see many of you in Austin!

Thank you for the opportunity to represent Region III on the Board of Directors these past two years. I look forward to continuing to see many of you at future events.

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**Region I**  
Angela M. Fogg, Region I Director

Well, it is finally Summer! This will be my last report on Region I news. I will be turning over the reins to the new Region I Director, Clare Thornton, who is currently President of the Maine Society.

The Rhode Island Society is back in action under their new President Amanda Lewis. They will be having their meeting in the fall. I am sure Amanda and the Society members will keep us up to date on their progress.

The Vermont/New Hampshire Society will be the host of the 2015 Region I meeting. There will be more information as the plans are finalized.

The Massachusetts Society was the host of this year’s Region I meeting in Foxboro, Massachusetts. We toured Gillett Stadium, the home of the New England Patriots. It is quite a place! The meeting was a success and all attendees earned valuable CEUs and a great education. One can always learn something new about histology and the workings of the laboratory.

New York State had their annual meeting in Canandaigua, NY on May 2nd & 3rd. Canandaigua was where I first started my career and, wow, did that place grow! The meeting offered 9 CEUs over a 2 day period, with 9 speakers. Over $1500 in scholarships and awards were offered. Dr. Vernon Pilon was made an honorary member of the Society. The Society has 100 members and is solvent.

The NYS website was down due to the expiration of the domain name — nyhisto.org has been replaced with nyhisto.com and is now fully operational. Elections were held in June and at the time of this writing results are unknown. This was President Luis Chiriboga’s last term and a new President will be announced soon. Future meetings are in the planning stage and Saratoga Springs and Poughkeepsie are being considered as potential meeting sites for April or May 2015.

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**SPOTLIGHT ON:**

**TALK TO US!**

**Going to Austin for the Annual Symposium/Convention? Visit the NSH Booth and Committee Row in the Exhibit Hall. Discover how NSH can help you and how you can help NSH.**
Region IV  
Jean Mitchell, Region IV Director

I am very pleased to report that all six of the Region IV states—Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Wisconsin, Ohio and Illinois—had very successful state meetings in the spring of 2014. I was able to fit five of the six Region IV state meetings into my schedule this spring and presented talks at three of those five conferences. My apologies to Ohio for not being able to be a part of your April meeting; you will be a priority in 2015.

The month of April was election time for all NSH Officers and Regional Directors. I was extremely happy to learn that I was re-elected to serve a second term as your NSH Region IV Director. My first two-year term passed very quickly and was definitely two years of listening, learning and obtaining the experience (and sometimes the courage) to be a part of the NSH Board of Directors. I appreciate your continued faith in me and I will continue throughout these next two years to serve actively and responsibly.

From June 13th to June 14th the NSH Board of Directors (BOD) met in Baltimore in conjunction with the 2014 Summer Symposium for a weekend of strategic planning and the continuation of addressing the strategic framework of the future of NSH. The following Tuesday I headed to San Jose, Costa Rica for the 2nd Central American Histology Congress and presented two half-day wet workshops on muscle biopsy procedures to lively participants. I also assisted in staffing the NSH booth and interacted with very enthusiastic Central American attendees who were extremely happy with the NSH presence at the conference.

The month of August is quickly approaching and we are all anticipating the city of Austin and experiencing some good Texas hospitality for the 40th Annual NSH Symposium/Convention. Please note that due to the change of the banquet from Sunday night to Saturday evening, the regional meetings have been moved to Sunday afternoon. I look forward to seeing many of you for interaction and feedback at that Region IV Meeting Sunday, August 24th in Austin.

As always, I encourage all Region IV members to access the NSH website www.nsh.org as often as possible for current NSH information, upcoming events, job postings and NSH award offerings (it’s time to think ahead to 2015).

Region V  
Judi Stasko, Region V Director

State spring meetings have come and gone, so now it is time to look ahead to the NSH Symposium/Convention. It seems like we just had the convention, but then we are meeting in August this year! It promises to be another great year with the vast variety of educational opportunities that are being offered. Don’t forget that we are celebrating NSH convention’s 40th anniversary!

There is still time to volunteer to help at the convention at the registration desk, as a convention guide, a convention mentor, a workshop ticket scanner or an ambassador. There are ways to get involved without coming to the convention by getting involved with a committee. Check the NSH website for information on volunteering either at the convention or on a committee. An organization is only as great as its members!

If you are lucky enough to attend the S/C, don’t forget to attend the Region V meeting slated for Sunday, August 24 at 4:30 p.m. in Austin, TX. (Please note the change of day for the Region meetings.) It is a great way to connect with others in your region and hear what is being discussed with the Board of Directors.

We will have installation of new officers at the House of Delegates (HOD) in Austin. Thank you to Region V for giving me the privilege of serving another term as Region Director. It has been an honor to serve!

As always, please do not hesitate to contact me at judith.stasko@ars.usda.gov if you would like to discuss anything, need more information or have comments. I look forward to hearing from you!

Future NSH Symposium/Convention Dates & Places

41st Annual Symposium/Convention
August 28-September 2, 2015
Washington, DC

42nd Annual Symposium/Convention
September 16-21, 2016
Long Beach, CA

43rd Annual Symposium/Convention
September 15-20, 2017
Orlando, FL
**SPOTLIGHT ON:**

**Region VII**

Janet Maass, Region VII Director

I attended the strategic planning meeting that was held in conjunction with the Summer Convention in Baltimore, MD in June. This was a very productive meeting.

The Arizona Society had its state meeting on July 11-13 at the Carefree Resort in Carefree, AZ. The Colorado Society held its annual state meeting May 16 & 17 at the Embassy Suites in Colorado Spring, CO. Utah Society has not set a date for its meeting. Once it is set, it will be posted on the Region VII website, [http://www.nshregion7.org/](http://www.nshregion7.org/).

**Region VIII**

Lydia Figueroa, Region VIII Director

My congratulations to Matt Brooks, Washington State President for recently being elected as the Region VIII Director. I am sure that Matt will do a fine job as Director.

The Washington State Histology Society (WSHS) is currently working on partnering with NSH on holding a symposium some time in 2015. The WSHS State Meeting will be held in Seattle on October 25, 2014. Visit their website at [http://wahisto.wordpress.com/](http://wahisto.wordpress.com/) for additional information on the WSHS activities for 2014/2015.

In May I attended the state meeting for the California Society for Histotechnology. The California State Society held their meeting on May 2 through May 4, 2014 at the Hilton in Woodland Hills, CA. Our NSH President Beth Sheppard was also present at the Board meeting. Beth asked the CSH Board to support the proposed changes to NAACLS standards regarding the HT and HTL programs and accreditation of histotechnology schools.

The 2015 CSH meeting will be held in May near the Santa Cruz, CA area. If you are interested in being a workshop presenter, the California Society is currently searching for workshop presenters for the their 2015 state meeting and symposium. Visit the California Society website at [www.californiahistology.org](http://www.californiahistology.org) for additional information.

Again my congratulations to Matt and a BIG Thank you to the NSH Region VIII members for your support throughout this past year. See you all in Austin, Texas.

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**HISTOQIP UPDATE**

**Another HistoQIP Success**

Konnie Zeitner, NSH Representative to HistoQIP

The CAP/NSH Histotechnology Committee worked diligently to prepare the new HistoQIP Specialty Series, IHC (HQIHC). This IHC quality assessment survey was available for the first time from the CAP 2014 Surveys catalog ([www.cap.org](http://www.cap.org)).

The IHC Specialty Series, similar to the HistoQIP and HistoQIP Biopsy Series (HQIPBX), consists of four different tissue and stain challenges in Shipments A and B. One hundred twenty (120) participants enrolled for the initial offering of this series, with one hundred nine (109) participants submitting slides for grading. This response was better than the initial offerings for any of the HQIPBX programs. Participant slides were graded in April and graders commented on the high scores for the new HQIHC in all three categories: microtomy, fixation and staining.

We believe the quality of the slides in the HQIHC program exceeded that of all four of the HQIPBX programs for their initial release. With this indicator of overall quality of the submitting laboratory’s work, technologists and pathologists can be confident in the quality of their slides and the effect on patient care.

The Committee is updating the *Specimen Handling Guidelines in Surgical Pathology* document, a general guideline for proper specimen handling from the time it is removed from the patient to the time the slide is sent to the pathologist for interpretation. The Guidelines will be reviewed, revised, and versioned every year to keep it current and in concordance with the CAP checklist. It is the goal of the Committee to have the Guidelines published, as it is a very useful document for technologists, residents and pathologists concerned with the pre-analytic phase of surgical pathology.

A request has been sent to *CAP Today* for an interview with the Committee Chair, Dr. Shane Kohl, and possibly an article in a future publication. *Laboratory Medicine* may consider publication of the Guidelines as a supplement.

The current version of the Guidelines can be found in PDF format on both the CAP and NSH websites. On the CAP home page, [www.cap.org](http://www.cap.org), click on “What Are the Anatomic Pathology Education Programs? > CAP/NSH HistoQIP (HQIP)”. Or [click here](http://www.cap.org).

Go to [http://nsh.org/content/all-about-histoqip](http://nsh.org/content/all-about-histoqip) and scroll down to “Specimen Handling Guidelines Table” to access the document through the NSH site.
BSC Annual Meeting
Donna Harclerode, NSH Representative to the Biological Stain Commission

The Biological Stain Commission (BSC) had its annual meeting on June 6, 2014 in Washington, DC. The topic of the Scientific Session was “Whole Slide Imaging and Quality Control”.

Dr. Timothy O’Leary presented “Aspects of Sample Preparation in IHC and Related Methods”, discussing studies to better understand effects of tissue fixation and heat induced antigen retrieval. He reported a 77% antigen recovery after a 30-day fixation in mouse liver for most antibodies.

Søren Nielsen, Scheme Manager from NordiQC, discussed their testing and information services. NordiQC, based in Denmark, is an independent organization promoting the quality of immunohistochemistry by arranging schemes for pathology laboratories, assessing tissue stains, giving recommendations for improvement and providing good protocols. NordiQC is similar to CAP IHC validation except if the results are not optimal, they work with the laboratories for improvement. The organization provides detailed protocols, information for primary antibody clones, optimal controls and staining platforms. Data from their testing on over 70 epitopes is available on their site for no charge (http://www.nordiqc.org/epitopes.htm). NordiQC tests all epitopes using multiple controls to fully characterize and validate each commonly available clone or polyclonal antibody. The optimal protocols for each epitope and clone are available at http://www.nordiqc.org/Protocols.htm.

Dr. Stephen Hewitt presented “Aspects of Control in Whole Slide Imaging”. In Whole Slide Imaging (WSI), one important issue is standardization of slides so the scanned image matches the original glass preparation, as well as matching the scans from other laboratories with the same glass preparation. There has been testing of various standards for color and the H&E stain to validate the scan. The FDA is working with slide scanner companies to validate whole slide imaging for diagnostic purposes.

Dr. David Hicks discussed “Breast Cancer Risk Assessment: Prediction of the Oncotype DX Recurrence Score Using Pathology Generated Equation”. Oncotype DX® (Genomic Health Inc. Redwood City, CA), is a commercial assay, frequently used by oncologists for making chemotherapy decisions. It is a quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction based assay, used to estimate the risk of distant recurrence for patients with ER positive, lymph node negative breast cancers.

Chad Fagan, from the Biological Stain Commission Certification Laboratory, reported that over 7 tons of new dyestuff was certified in 2013, of which 5,530 pounds was hematoxylin. The total poundage was down slightly from 2012. Of the new dyes tested, 87 lots were certified and 3 were rejected. For dyes that were retested, 102 lots were recertified and 1 lot was rejected. The BSC only certifies powdered dyes, not solutions. Check that your supplier is using BSC Certified Dyes in their stains. Go to the BSC website (http://www.biologicalstaincommission.org/) to find the vendors who submit their dyes for testing and certification.

Membership in the Biological Stain Commission is open to all those interested in stains and dyes. Membership dues are $60 and the membership year is January to December. *Biotechnic & Histochemistry* is an excellent journal that comes with membership. The BSC has an outstanding website with more information including a very useful FAQ section for histology.

The 2015 Annual Meeting will be in Washington, DC. The theme of the Scientific Session will be “In Situ Proteomics: Quantitation in Immunohistochemistry”, to be organized by Dr. David Hicks (Rochester, NY) and Dr. Clive Taylor (Los Angeles, CA). Refer to the BSC website periodically to find details of the meeting as they become available.
**COMMITTEE NEWS**

**Awards**  
*Elizabeth Chipala, Awards Committee Chair*

Nominations for awards have been closed and the Awards Committee is in the process of reviewing the nominations and choosing the award winners. It is August already and the Annual Symposium/Convention in Austin, Texas is coming up quickly. I am looking forward to presenting the awards and to seeing all of you at the Awards Banquet, which is being held on Saturday this year (see page 7 of this newsletter).

We were able to give out 7 student scholarships this year. NSH offers several of these $500 student scholarships, made possible by the vendors listed below. Applicants must be registered as student members of NSH. Students must submit the application form with plans for utilization and a recommendation letter from an instructor or supervisor.

The deadline for student scholarships is in April, so students must plan ahead for next year to get nominations in on time. We had a record number of applicants this year, with over 40 students submitting applications. The recipients of these scholarships were selected in the beginning of May by the Awards Committee.

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<tr>
<th>Award</th>
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<td>Evergreen Scientific Student Scholarship</td>
<td>Michael Faulkner</td>
<td>SUNY Cobleskill</td>
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<td>Irwin Lerner Student Scholarship</td>
<td>Erica Schumaker</td>
<td>Mayo School of Health Sciences</td>
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<td>Newcomer Supply Student Scholarship</td>
<td>Hlee Vue</td>
<td>William Beaumont School of Histotechnology</td>
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<td>Sakura Finetek Student Scholarship</td>
<td>Sydney Hein</td>
<td>Capital Area Career Center/Ingham ISD</td>
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<td>Dako Student Scholarship</td>
<td>Katie Bailey</td>
<td>Indiana University – Purdue University</td>
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<td>Dako Student Scholarship</td>
<td>Catherine Sikora</td>
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<td>Sigma Student Scholarship</td>
<td>Margaret Dennis</td>
<td>William Beaumont School of Histotechnology</td>
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All of us Committee Chairs and the NSH office have been very busy working on getting ready for the Symposium/Convention. For those of you who are attending, please stop by the Awards Booth to say “Hi”. See y’all in Austin. Yee Haa!

**Bylaws**  
*Konnie Zeitner, Bylaws Committee Chair*

The Bylaws Committee has been very busy planning revisions to the membership section of the NSH bylaws. This was a directive from the Board of Directors (BOD) for the House of Delegates (HOD) in 2013 and carried over to HOD 2014.

The Committee, with input from NSH Executive Director Carrie Diamond and three volunteers from the BOD (Kerry Crabb, Janet Maass, and Lydia Figueroa), has proposed a restructuring of the bylaws that rewords them to list three basic membership classifications: individual, institutional and commercial. The proposed individual classifications section has specific subtypes of membership classification including retired member, charter members, student members, etc.

Sixteen amendments have been submitted for the HOD to consider in Austin. HOD delegates will have received the HOD agenda in July. This gives delegates time for a thorough review of the amendments. My advice is to do this in advance or we might be in for an HOD that breaks all records for the length of the session.

If you are interested in the bylaws, you can attend the Bylaws Committee meeting at the Symposium/Convention. The committee will meet on Tuesday, August 26, 2014 at 6:00 pm, immediately following the NSH Membership Meeting. Meeting room assignments will be available on site. And, if you are really interested in the bylaws, you might consider becoming a member of the committee. I will be recruiting new committee members, so please contact me if you are interested. You can come to the committee meeting and express an interest, or you may contact me in advance at kzeitner@Nebraskamed.com. I will be happy to answer questions and/or sign you up as a committee member.
Nominations/Election

George Hoernig, Nominations and Election Committee Chair

The NSH election for Board of Directors (BOD) was held in April and the votes have been counted. The committee members did a great job of getting a fairly full ballot, with 6 out of 13 open positions with only 1 candidate. There were close races when there was a choice in candidates, which is a good thing. To me it means the candidates were equally strong.

We had a grand total of 686 people cast a ballot. I would like to see that number improve for the next election. Many thanks to the Committee members who helped get viable candidates, and to the Society members who voted. Remember that you do have a say in how the Society is run. A new committee will be elected at this year’s Symposium/Convention.

The BOD election results are as follows:

- **President:**
  - Elizabeth Sheppard – 416 (60.6%)
  - Janet Tunnicliffe – 268 (39.1%)
  - Write-ins – 2 (0.3%)

- **Vice President:**
  - Jerry Santiago – 638 (97%)
  - Write-ins – 20 (3%)

- **Secretary:**
  - Diane Sterchi – 660 (99.4%)
  - Write-ins – 4 (0.6%)

- **Treasurer:**
  - Monty Hyten – 413 (61.7%)
  - Elaine Basham – 256 (38.3%)

- **Region I Director:**
  - Clare Thornton – 39 (54.9%)
  - Sarah Mack – 32 (45.1%)

- **Region II Director:**
  - Michael LaFriniere – 61 (74.4%)
  - Write-ins – 21 (25.6%)

- **Region III Director:**
  - Jack Ratliff – 73 (54.9%)
  - Joanna Barton – 58 (43.6%)

- **Region IV Director:**
  - Jean Mitchell – 82 (73.9%)
  - Skip Brown – 29 (26.1%)

- **Region V Director:**
  - Judi Stasko – 48 (100%)

- **Region VI Director:**
  - Hector Hernandez – 38 (57.6%)
  - Lydia Figueroa – 32 (47.8%)

- **Region VII Director:**
  - Jane Parr – 33 (63.5%)
  - Janet Maass – 19 (36.5%)

- **Region VIII Director:**
  - Matt Brooks – 35 (52.2%)

- **Region IX Director:**
  - Vern Hurst – 52 (100%)
Public Relations

Paul Billings, PR Committee Chair

Howdy, all you heat seeking people! Let’s go to Austin in August. As many of you know, this is one of my favorite parts of Texas, and what a change in what we normally wear to the S/C. I see shorts, swim suits, and cowboy hats. Now for me, living in the South, this temperature is normal. So, as many of you come from the Northern areas of the country, be prepared to get down and comfortable! Make your last minute plans to attend this year’s S/C to connect with your colleagues, search out the latest histology equipment in the vendor hall, attend numerous workshops and lectures, and enjoy some authentic Texas cuisine.

For First Time attendees, this is your chance to get involved with your Society. Come prepared to spread your wings, possibly joining a committee or two and offering new ideas. Make connections that matter, because you are the future leaders of NSH and we want to hear from you.

As always, the PR Committee is ready to greet each of you. Please stop by our table to see all that we have to offer. If we can help you in any way, do not hesitate to ask.

Come join us for an exciting event; one that has been prepared just for you. This special week will fly by and we hope you will return to your labs with great ideas for the future.

Veterinary, Industry, Research

Mike Urban, VIR Committee Chair

Austin, Texas, home to the NSH’s 40th Annual Symposium/Convention of 2014 is also home to a good variety of music genres. If you enjoy a wide variety of music styles like myself this is the place to take it all in. Just stroll down Sixth Street and you can hear blues, Americana, roots rock, country and more. For me, this town will bring back many fond memories of attending the South by Southwest Music Festival held in the month of March. The town really comes alive with current name bands playing alongside some great up and coming bands from the U.S. and around the globe.

So if you have not signed up for your VIR related workshops yet, do so now. Attend the workshops during the day and sample the Austin music scene at night.

There are many workshops catering to the veterinary, industry and research disciplines of histology; here are a few:

- WS#21 - Review of Methodological Advances in ISH for Diagnostic and Research Applications
- WS#41 - Research IHC on Animal Tissues
- WS#121 - Murine CD Marker Immunostaining in Research: Thinking Outside of the Box

Please don’t forget to do your part for our animal friends and “Stuff Your Suitcase” with pet items for the Austin Animal Center. The NSH Convention Committee and the local host committee have paired with the Austin Animal Center, a charitable organization providing shelter and veterinary services to more than 20,000 animals annually. Please bring donations of dog and cat treats, dog chews and other toys, and cat toys to the Local Host Team PR Table near registration.

This year’s S/C VIR Committee meeting will be held Monday, August 25th at 6:00 pm after the close of exhibits. Topics of discussion will include the 2015 One Day VIR Forum, how VIR members can participate in the committee, and what the committee can do for them. Please participate in the meeting by bringing your questions and suggestions for a lively discussion.

Please forward any pre-meeting questions, suggestions or meeting topics to me at urban127@msn.com. I look forward to seeing ya’ll in Austin.

Help the Annual NSH Stuff Your Suitcase

The NSH Convention Committee has teamed up with the Texas Local Host Committee to help the Austin Animal Center continue their mission of finding homes for rescued animals in the Austin area. The Austin Animal Center is the largest no-kill municipal animal center in Central Texas. Their goal is to place all adoptable animals in forever homes through adoptions, foster care or rescue partner groups.

The Center is in need of the following items:

- dog and cat treats
- fleece for bedding, used or gently worn animal bedding
- wet food for cats - seafood variety
- newspaper
- dog chews, kongs and other toys
- cat toys of all kinds

Items collected by the Local Host Team at the Austin PR Table will be delivered the week of the Convention.
Download the NSH Event Mobile App!

The 40th Annual NSH Symposium/Convention event mobile app is now ready for download! If you are joining us in Austin, TX don’t forget to have this application on your phone to help make your experience the best yet. View the instructions below to download today.

Two ways to download

1. Using your mobile device, download the 40th Annual NSH Symposium/Convention mobile event app by clicking here: http://nsh2014.quickmobile.mobi/
   - Download iOS App - For users of iPhones & iPads
   - Download Android App - For Android devices including smartphones & tablets
   - Access Mobile Website - If you do not have an Apple or Android mobile device, this allows all other users including Kindle Fire, Windows phones, and other operating systems to view the mobile app via the internet. You can also view this on your laptop or computer.

2. Or simply visit the Apple App Store on your iPhone or the Google Play. Store on your Android device and search “NSH Symposium/Convention” to download the app directly to your phone!

After you have successfully downloaded the mobile app, your login information is the email you used to register for the event and the password is nsh. Please don’t hesitate to contact the NSH office with any questions or concerns at 443-535-4060 or histo@nsh.org.

Features of the App

Attendees - Search and scroll through an attendee list to locate attendee details and contact them via messaging.

Schedule - See the full event schedule right on your phone, or sort it by a specific category.

Messaging - Contact other event participants and receive messages using In-App Messaging

Handouts - Have access to all available documents in one place and download them directly to your device.

Evaluations - Provide your opinion of a workshop or event using multiple choice or open text responses.

Info Booth - Find out everything you need to know about the event in one convenient location.

Live Polling - Share your opinions and see your results with others in real time.

Find Exhibitors - Locate the vendors you know you need to visit and add them to your My Exhibitors feature.

Photo Gallery - Share your personal event experiences by uploading photos to the event photo gallery.
Can’t Join Us in Austin?  
Get Connected from Home!  
2014 Convention Live Webinar Series

The National Society for Histotechnology announces its new Get Connected: Symposium/Convention Live Webinar Series. This series gives histology professionals who cannot attend the live event a chance to experience some of the education offered.

The following sessions are available via webinar during the 40th Annual Symposium/Convention. Each webinar is $40.00 for NSH members and $50.00 for non-members. The registration fee includes the materials for each session and a recording of the webinar sent via email one week after. If you attend the live webinar, you will receive 1.5 contact hours; the archived version does not qualify for contact hours.

Saturday, August 23, 2014
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
WS#17 - How to Bring New Antibodies into Your Clinical IHC Laboratory
3:00 PM - 4:30 PM
WS#27 - Validations: What IHC Means to Me

Monday, August 25, 2014
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
WS#75 - Surgical Pathology Dissection: A Histotech’s Guide to Grossing

Tuesday, August 26, 2014
8:00 AM - 9:30 AM
WS#91 - Breast Cancer: Gross and Microscopic Pathology, Biology, Immunohistochemistry and Molecular Diagnosis

Click here to view dates, times, full abstracts and presenter information, or copy and paste https://s3.goeshow.com/nsh/2014SCLIVE/ereg184631.cfm?pg=agenda into your browser.

Meeting Schedule

Friday, August 22, 2014
5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
Region Director/President’s Council
7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
First Time Attendee Reception

Saturday, August 23, 2014
12:00 PM
Health & Safety Committee  
Membership Committee  
Public Relations Committee  
IHC Resource Group Committee

Sunday, August 24, 2014
4:35 PM - 5:30 PM
NSH Region Meetings (1-9)
4:35 PM - 5:30 PM
International Attendee Meeting
5:30 PM
Budget & Finance Committee Meeting

Journal of Histotechnology Editorial Board Meeting

Monday, August 25, 2014
7:15 AM
Continuing Education Committee
Hard Tissue Committee
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Board of Directors Meeting
6:00 PM
Awards Committee
Legislation Committee
Veterinary/Research/Industry Committee

Tuesday, August 26, 2014
4:45 PM - 6:00 PM
NSH Membership Meeting
6:00 PM
Bylaws Committee
Nominations & Elections Committee

Wednesday, August 27, 2014
7:00 PM
House of Delegates Convenes