



BMETS Newsletter

November 2008

<http://www.BMETS.org>

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THE PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

I have been thinking and discussing the naming of the BMETS Scholarship with the leadership and several members and after careful consideration the leadership has decided that the best way to approach the name would be BMETS SCHOLARSHIP. We will dedicate the scholarship this year to Victor Dobbs, present his family with an award, (different from the service award) in his honor.

The decision was based on the following concerns: Usually scholarships or naming of grants are based on a donation from a benefactor thus the gift is permanently funded as an entity. If we name it for one person, we rule that out as you can't really un-name something, though Hopkins tried it with the Phipps building unsuccessfully. We allow ourselves to dedicate it to a cause (our troops, those killed during 9-11 or any member that passes).

The scholarship emphasizes the name BMETS and is not connected to any one individual but rather all of us regardless of the individual, thus the scholarship is bigger than any one person and represents all BMETS now and past as well as future. The dedication allows more flexibility to memorialize future events and is not a reaction to one specific event. As the leadership in the future can dedicate this to anyone or cause without causing hard feelings. It is with much careful consideration that I have thought and



Rob Bain

discussed this issue, I appreciate all the support and information from the leadership team and the members that I have talked to

Sincerely,
Rob Bain MS, CBET
President BMETS

List of Members that Donated to the BMETS Scholarship Fund This Month

None

THE VICE PRESIDENT'S QUILL

My Friends and Colleagues;

There are several opportunities for the BMETS next couple of months; this month's meeting with Pat Lynch discussion on "Starting an In-house Imaging Department". He is employed by GMI – our sponsor - at the Rose Restaurant in Baltimore, MD. – being in training until November 21, 2008, Vicki Chapman our Treasurer will be handling all of the RSVP's; January's Meeting and BMETS Scholarship Award Ceremony is still shaping up. Updates will be forthcoming in December. Also, we are working on hosting with AAMI; any and all that are interested in assisting with the AAMI convention, please see any Officer.



Chris Jones, Sr.

I recently came back from MD Expo and Conference in Orlando, FL at the Hilton Walt Disney World Resort and would like to report my observations of this event. The conferences started on Thursday October 23, 2008 with little fan fare, the basic registration process. There was a Gold Tournament and Cook out on Thursday Afternoon – if you weren't a golfer there was nothing available to do. Not a lot of starting, other than a Hospitality Suite open to all the Attendee's. As Friday's sunlight broke thru the window this conference took off with Classes from Troubleshooting an Ultrasound Machine to Advanced MS Excel – Biomed Data Analysis; DITEC was the educator and information for this event. I attended a lecture by Myron Hartman, Program Coordinator, Biomedical Engineering Technology, and Penn State University on Technology Management vs. Asset Management. Interesting approach to a problem we all face – How best to manage what we manage. That took up from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM; Troubleshooting AMX 4 +; by Mobile X-ray System – provided some insight for the biomed's interested in assisting or starting to understand the imaging specialties. With an actual AMX 4+ there as an educational prop. Troubleshooting an Ultrasound Machine, with an actual US machine in the room. Class size was small 5 to 6. One class had filled the room to capacity, it was a panel discussion with four individual from various parts of the industry. Karen Wessman, Director of Clinical Engineering, Indiana Hospital, President of the Indiana Biomed Assoc.; Bill From Mobile X-ray Systems; Pat Lynch of GMI; and Jenifer Brown, Nation Recruiter for Aramark. The topic of discussion was "The Future of the Biomed" rather interesting topic. A question that was brought up – How do we as a Biomed Community go out and get new and younger people? What are Manufacturers looking for in a candidate? Would "Licensure" for Biomed's be better as an individual or collectively as a complete department, organization, or other relative term? This topic spilled over into the hallway and even into the hospitality suite later that evening. The Expo floor opened at 11:00 AM on Thursday with over 110 vendors from Imaging Resources to Probe repairs, Philips, recruiters, and of all things I found rather interesting, but did not consider it till after the conferences, one vendor was a Lawyer. Thinking about it, I should have taken his card for future reference.

In Summary, MD Expo was and is geared for the Biomed and Clinical Engineer from the education to the exhibit hall. Although, it started out slow but picked up. For only 4 days of conference it was very well put together and managed very well. I recommend that at least one or two BMETS go to this conference – if their departments will allow. It was fun and plenty of networking with in our community.

We the officers are in discussion with MD Publishing to host an Expo around the Baltimore/Washington/Alexandria area in September 2010. What educational needs are important to you? What programs would you like to see? What would be nice for you to see in an Expo? Tell us what you want, this is for you! And we are doing our best to provide the most opportunities and education related to the Biomed's.

I look forward to completing this project for the organization. Special Thanks to Rob - our fine President and Sarah Volt of Northfield Instrument Service for completing a very successful monthly meeting.

One last item, the May Bash (Event, Roast, et al) and that having the dinner cruise again. The sit down dinner in May this year was not very well attended. I know that last year it seemed to be a success – at least I thought so – and next year I would like to have MORE members come to the event. I would like to know from the Membership – for those of you that did not come this year; why did you not come to the May Bash? Was it because of the cost?

The Date? Personal Choice? Or some other reason. I would really like to know this – it may help finding a venue that all would attend and enjoy. If you have suggestions, please feel free to send me a note to vice-president@bmets.org. I know that every suggestion will be looked at by all the officers and the best one selected. We will do our best to give the Membership the best time possible in May.

See you in January for the awards ceremony at Howard Community College.

Best regards;

Chris Jones, Sr.
Vice President

THE SECRETARY’S SPIEL

The meeting at Northfield Instrument Services went very well and all those that attended were given a very good show and tell demonstration on the repair of flexible and rigid endoscopes. The bus left the park and ride in Catonsville right on time and Northfield had box lunches for everyone. The ride was comfortable and some even took a nap. When we arrived at the Northfield facility in Aberdeen, MD we were ushered in to a conference room where we were given an overall presentation on scope repair. Then we were broken down into small groups that were given a one on one presentation at five different stations. The presentations at each station were hands on and very thorough. At the end of the evening there was a door prize. I had the winning ticket and received a Sony DSC-S73 digital camera. I now have a camera that I can use to take pictures for the newsletter and web page. Now if I can just remember to bring it. Everyone boarded the bus and headed back to the park and ride in Catonsville.



Roy Leake

The November 12 meeting will be the last monthly meeting for the year 2008. I am looking forward to 2009 and all the challenges and rewards that it will bring. If you have any suggestions about how the web page or newsletter can serve you better, then let me know.

Roy E. Leake, CBET, SASHE
Secretary, BMETS

Need Some Help and Feedback

BMETS would like to highlight BMETS that have passed. To do this in an article in one of the future newsletters, we will need some background information on the following BMETS: Craig Case, John McKinnon, and Victor Dobbs. We would like to have as much information as possible including hobbies, awards, recognitions, organizations that they belonged to, etc. One of the titles suggested for this article was “Tribute”, do you have any suggestions? Do you know of a BMET that has passed recently that we have not listed?

You can send any information to webmaster@bmets.org Make sure you include enough information about who the information is for. If we get no information, then it will be a short lived proposal for a newsletter article.

News Release, 10/20/2008

ECRI Institute Announces New Service to Benchmark Medical Equipment Operations
 BiomedicalBenchmark™: The Technology Support System

PLYMOUTH MEETING, PA—ECRI Institute, a nonprofit that researches the best approaches to improving patient care, announces a new membership service to help administrators, materials managers, and clinical engineering departments evaluate key medical equipment management activities.

The new online system, BiomedicalBenchmark™, provides a set of tools to assess, manage, and improve the efficiency of biomedical services. Comparative benchmarking data from ECRI Institute and healthcare facilities, along with guidance articles and inspection and preventive maintenance (IPM) procedures, are among the main components of the Web-based system.

Benchmarking, the practice of comparing activities and performance levels in order to identify areas needing improvement, can ultimately help clinical engineering groups weed out ineffective processes and focus efforts on the activities that most effectively support patient care and safety goals.

“An effective benchmarking program is all about continuous quality improvement. Getting it right can have a significant impact on cost, efficiency of operations, and overall patient safety,” says James P. Keller, Jr., vice president, health technology evaluation and safety, ECRI Institute. “Our new Web tool will provide hospitals with the data they need to identify areas for improvement and measure performance over time. We’ve also included an extensive set of clinical engineering best practices and procedures that can be used to help hospitals efficiently improve their operations without having to reinvent the wheel.”

Users of BiomedicalBenchmark can access and share data about equipment acquisition cost, service contract cost, expected life, failure rates, and clinical engineering department composition.

In addition to comparative data, BiomedicalBenchmark includes a library of inspection and preventive maintenance procedures for 82 medical devices. The system’s procedures can be used “as is” or be modified to fit specific facility needs. Members of the system also benefit by having access to “user-generated,” model-specific procedures. Sample procedures are being offered at www.ecri.org/biomedicalbenchmark.

For more information, please visit www.ecri.org/biomedicalbenchmark, or contact ECRI Institute by e-mail at clientservices@ecri.org; by telephone at +1 (610) 825-6000, ext. 5891; or by mail at 5200 Butler Pike, Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462.

About ECRI Institute

ECRI Institute, a nonprofit organization, dedicates itself to bringing the discipline of applied scientific research to healthcare to uncover the best approaches to improving patient care. As pioneers in this science for 40 years, ECRI Institute marries experience and independence with the objectivity of evidence-based research. ECRI Institute is designated a Collaborating Center of the World Health Organization and an Evidence-based Practice Center by the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
CHECK THE WEB PAGE FOR UPDATES

November 12 — Monthly Meeting—Pat Lynch, GMI, The Rose Restaurant

December— No Monthly Meeting

January 21, 2009—Monthly Meeting—Topic, Speaker, Place to be announced later

February 18, 2009—Monthly Meeting—Topic, Speaker, Place to be announced later

March 18, 2009—Monthly Meeting—Topic, Speaker, Place to be announced later

April 15, 2009—Monthly Meeting—Topic, Speaker, Place to be announced later

May 20, 2009—Monthly Meeting—Topic, Speaker, Place to be announced later

June 6-8, 2009—AAMI Conference & Expo, Baltimore Convention Center, Plan now to attend
AAMI 2009, the premier conference for healthcare



Plan to attend our next meeting sponsored by

Global Medical Imaging

November 12, 2008

At the Rose Restaurant, 6075 Belle Grove Road, Baltimore, MD 21225

Speaker: Pat Lynch, Global Medical Imaging, our mission is to lower the cost of high quality healthcare. We are committed to representing diagnostic imaging equipment of exceptional quality and value that is tailored to the individual needs of each client's unique application. We strive to set standards of excellence in all aspects of our industry, from craft and management to clear communication and representation of all of the sales and support cycle. Our goals are to responsibly serve our clients and community as well as build customer loyalty.

RSVP's Send "Monthly" RSVP request by November 10, 2008. ONLY Emails will be accepted - **Place RSVP in the Subject line**

What must be included in the RSVP's is:

1. Place RSVP in the Subject line
2. Name of ALL individuals coming to the Meeting.
3. Healthy appetite
4. Relative mind set for conversation and enjoyment.

That is it.

Please send your RSVP's to vickichapman78@gmail.com No later than November 10, 2008.

No late entries will be accepted,

TOOLS OF THE TRADE

FLUKE**Biomedical**

<http://us.fluke.com/user/products/Fluke+VR1710.htm>



The Fluke VR1710 Power Quality Recorder, is a single-phase, plug-in voltage quality recorder that offers an extremely easy-to-use solution for detecting and recording power quality problems, allowing for immediate action and less downtime. The VR1710 single phase recorder satisfies the needs of maintenance and facilities management personnel in industrial, utilities, and large service organizations where reliable power quality is essential to the operation of the business. Power quality parameters including RMS average, transients, flicker, and harmonics up to the 32nd are recorded using a user-selected average period from 1 seconds to 20 minutes.

BMETS Web Site Statistics

October 2008 = 22078 Total Hits

September 2008 = 16923 Total Hits

August 2008 = 29821 Total Hits

BMETS Monthly Meeting Sponsors for 2008



For ultrasound parts, probes, or service, call 1-800-248-4153.

EVERYTHING ULTRASOUND

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