



# Bulletin of the Association of Laboratory Managers

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## Editor's Notes

Geraldine Miles

We are doing it again - the ALMA Laboratory Conference and this year marks the 29<sup>th</sup> conference. Our Conference theme this year is "Tools of the Trade". Join us October 16 -17 at the Conference Center at Waltham Woods in Waltham, MA, in the Boston Area.

We keep doing it because it helps; the conference allows us, laboratory managers, to share unique specific ideas on how we can improve our skills as a manager and ultimately how we can improve our laboratory performance. This conference promises to offer laboratory managers various types of management tools that can be useful in their efforts to address current laboratory management problems.

Program Chair Lynne Garone has thoughtfully recruited new and interesting speakers that offer solutions to our laboratory problems. One of the problems facing today's laboratory is paper, its everywhere. Offering a solution to this growing problem at the conference is AirPrint Networks in their presentation topic "Going Paperless: Converting from Paper Forms to an Electronic Laboratory Notebook for Routine Analysis". Air Products and Chemicals, Inc. will further expand the discussion on the paperless option with presentation titled "Results of Pilot Trial with Electronic Laboratory Notebooks". These are just two of the exciting topics being presented at the conference that has been planned for lab managers. Additionally scheduled are activities that allow networking and interactive team building.

Special thanks to our conference sponsors Millipore Corporation, Thermo Fisher Scientific and the many exhibiting companies for supporting the cause.

## Calendar of Related Events

### October 9, 2008

HPLC Preventive Maintenance  
Online Webinar, PQ  
BenAstrum Pharma Broad  
Tel: 5143371616 Fax: 51433718803  
[info@benastrum.com](mailto:info@benastrum.com)

### 14-17 October 2008

ALMA 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference & Workshop  
Waltham, MA (Boston Area)  
[www.labmanagers.org](http://www.labmanagers.org)

### 22 -24 October 2008

Northeast Laboratory Conference  
Portland, ME  
<http://www.northeastlaboratoryconference.org>

### 30-31 October 2008

Introduction to Statistical Analysis of Laboratory Data

Malvern, PA  
Center for Professional Innovation  
Tel: 610-688-1708 Fax: 610-688-7817  
[info@cfpie.com](mailto:info@cfpie.com)

### 16-20 Nov 2008

American Association of Pharmaceutical Scientist  
(AAPS) Annual Meeting & Exposition  
<http://www.aapspharmaceutica.com>

### 17-20 November 2008

Eastern Analytical Symposium Exposition  
Somerset, New Jersey  
<http://www.eas.org/>

### 8-13 March 2009

60<sup>th</sup> PITTCON  
Chicago, IL  
[www.pittcon.org](http://www.pittcon.org)

### March 2009

ALMA 2009 SYMPOSIUM at PITTCON  
Chicago, IL  
[www.labmanagers.org](http://www.labmanagers.org)

### March 22-26, 2009

237<sup>th</sup> Spring American Chemical Society National  
Meeting & Exposition  
Salt Lake City, UT

### 16-20 August 2009

238<sup>th</sup> Fall ACS National Meeting & Exposition  
Washington, DC, USA  
[www.acs.org](http://www.acs.org)

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## ALMA CORPORATE SPONSORS 2008-2009

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**Air Products and Chemicals, Inc.**  
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**USA CHPPM**



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**Visit the ALMA web site:**  
**[www.labmanagers.org](http://www.labmanagers.org)**

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The image shows the Air Products logo. It consists of the words 'AIR PRODUCTS' in white, uppercase, sans-serif font. To the right of the text is a stylized graphic element consisting of a white triangle pointing upwards and to the right, with a horizontal line extending from its base to the right. The entire logo is set against a dark blue rectangular background.

## MML Call for Papers

**Managing the Modern Laboratory** (MML), the quarterly, peer-reviewed journal of the Association of Laboratory Managers, is seeking submissions. MML is published quarterly.

Articles selected for publication provide information that helps managers of modern laboratories and other laboratory professionals meet demand for more productive, responsive, and cost effective operations.

Examples of topics covered are:

- Specifying laboratory mission & defining functions
- Accreditation
- Approaches to reorganization and restructuring to meet changing demands
- Client Interactions
- Financial Planning
- Laboratory design
- Management of technical people
- Selecting and servicing instrumentation
- Data management
- Training and motivation
- Quality issues & Performance evaluation
- Regulatory matters
- Employee recognition

Also welcome are articles covering historical perspectives, future trends, and tutorial presentations dealing with management and measurement science.

**Send to: Wayne Collins, Editor. E-Mail: [wayne.collins@agilent.com](mailto:wayne.collins@agilent.com).**

Thanks to Dr. Brian Howard (ISC Publications) and Claude Lucchesi (founding editor), *Managing the Modern Laboratory*, is now being archived at the Chemical Heritage Foundation in Philadelphia.

### ***BREAKING NEWS!***

*Managing the Modern Laboratory* is going electronic!  
More details on this exciting new change is coming soon!

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### **ALMA Workshop at Pittcon 2009**

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ALMA will once again be hosting a workshop at Pittcon. Pittcon 2009 will be held March 8-13, 2009 in Chicago, Illinois. ALMA gratefully acknowledges the efforts of Dennis Swijter and Kelly Mason for organizing this workshop.

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

**"Managing a Laboratory in Quality, Training and Technology While Leading the People" is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10, 2009 at 8:30 AM in the McCormick Place Convention Center.**

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## Candidates for Election to the ALMA Board of Directors

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### **Geraldine Miles**

Bulletin Editor  
2-yr term

Geraldine (Gerri) Miles is a native of Cincinnati, Ohio. She has worked in the field of chemistry as a Chemist for twenty three years. Nineteen of her twenty three years as a Chemist have been as civilian with the US Army in several progressive positions. She is currently the Program Manager, of the Laboratory Operations Division at the USACHPPM. She attended Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia where she earned a B.S. Degree in Chemistry in 1983. She is a 2002 graduate of the U.S. Army Management College. She has completed numerous graduate courses in environmental science and business management.

Gerri has served on numerous committees at USACHPPM. She served as a member of the Steering Committee on the Commander's Open Project Management (OPM) initiative from 2005 to 2008. She was appointed the OPM Working Group Team Leader for the first phase of the initiative 2005-2007. She was appointed in 2006 and currently serves as a member of a USACHPPM Pay Pool Panel for the National Security Personnel System (NSPS). Gerri has served since 2006 as the Bulletin Editor for the Association of Laboratory Managers (ALMA) newsletter and she is member of their Board of Directors.

Gerri has received numerous awards and decorations. She was nominated in 2008 by the US Army Medical Command for the DOD Women's History Month Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Role Model Award. She received the following awards: 2006 - the Bronze Outstanding Supervisory Award, Baltimore Federal Executive Board; 1998 - The Army Achievement Medal for Civilian Service; 1997 - Army Achievement Award for Training, 1996 - Silver Outstanding Supervisory Award, Baltimore Federal Executive Board; 1996 - Women to Watch Achievement Award, Baltimore Philamathians; 1990 - 1999(6) Army Commendations Awards for Special Acts; 1992 - 2000 (9) Army Commendations Awards for Exemplary Performance.

### **Greg Pace**

Program Chair/President Elect  
3-yr term



Gregory Pace is responsible for Leading the Critical to Quality Testing for the major Ink and Coating Product Lines. He has been in Sun Chemical Corporation's Global Technology Management Team at the R&D Technical Center since 1998. As Technical Manager of Analytical and Characterization he is responsible for Product Stewardship from Raw materials through finished product testing, and fitness for use (i.e. Food and Pharmaceutical Packaging Compliance). His leadership experience is complemented with laboratory work in Analytical as a Chemist, Senior Chemist and Analytical Specialist, and also Flexographic and Gravure Ink Product Development.

Greg has an M.S. in Food Science from Rutgers University, and his current Ph.D. research focus is in the area of migratory compounds in food contact packaging. His experience has also been in Pharmaceutical Quality Control for Biocraft Laboratories, Forensic Chemistry for the NJ State Police, and Clinical Analytical Research at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons.

Greg is a member of the American Chemical Society, on the Board of Directors of the Analytical Laboratory Managers Association, and the President of the Board of Directors for Hard as Nails Ministries (both are non-profit organizations).

Since 1992, his community service has included the Board of Education (President), Planning Board, Religious Education Teacher, Eucharistic Minister, and Youth Sports Coach.

## What is ALMA?

Managing an analytical chemistry laboratory requires a unique blend of technical and managerial skills. Most laboratory managers, by virtue of their education and experience, are thoroughly capable of handling the technical aspects of their jobs, but often the managerial skills are obtained on the job in a haphazard manner. The literature on management and educational opportunities is geared primarily to manufacturing and typical service operations, neither of which matches the operation of an analytical laboratory.

**The Analytical Laboratory Managers Association** fosters the interchange of ideas among managers from a variety of institutions and companies. The unique strength of ALMA lies in providing a forum for you to interact with managers who have similar problems and who are willing to share solutions and ideas that have worked in their laboratories.

**Pass along this information to colleagues who may be interested in ALMA membership.**

### ALMA's Strengths/Benefits

1. **One on One.** ALMA facilitates the interaction among fellow managers, equipment representatives, regulatory agency personnel, university staff, and industrial scientists.
2. **The Bulletin.** An informal publication that summarizes conference presentations and workshops, as well as ALMA news.
3. **Managing the Modern Laboratory.** This quarterly publication presents a wide range of peer reviewed articles on management topics.
4. **Unified Voice.** ALMA offers effective leverage for influencing positive change.
  - Enhancing the position of the laboratory manager
  - Speaking as a single voice on issues of importance to analytical chemistry
  - Stimulating a dialogue with instrument manufacturers on real world needs
  - Communicating the role of analytical chemists as science resources to their organizations
5. **Networking.** ALMA is an ideal forum to network and make new connections.

### Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Name/Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip/Country \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone/Fax/E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Check Membership Category

- Member** - \$80. Active membership in ALMA is open to any laboratory supervisor or manager without regard to academic degree, affiliation or position. Upon payment of dues, the member will receive a subscription to *Managing the Modern Laboratory* and *The Bulletin*. Members are entitled to vote on all matters before the Association at the Annual Conference; may hold elective office in the ALMA; and may receive a membership listing on an annual basis. The membership list is printed in an issue of the Bulletin.
- Lifetime Member** – Dues = 65% x \$80 x (65 – member's age). For example, if a member is 45 years of age with annual dues of \$80, his/her lifetime membership dues would be \$1,040. Lifetime membership includes full membership in ALMA for life, as outlined above, and a free subscription to *Managing the Modern Laboratory* until age 65.
- Corporate Sponsorship** - \$500. Corporate Sponsor is for any laboratory supplier, instrument manufacturer, or organization interested in supporting and participating in activities of ALMA. The Corporate Sponsor receives a small advertisement in each Bulletin and may have one voting representative on matters before the Annual Conference. The voting representative must be registered for the Annual Conference to vote but cannot hold office. The Corporate Sponsor will receive an annual membership list (approximately 300 names), one set of mailing labels approximately 1,500 names, and a link from the ALMA website to their company website.
- Organizational Sponsorship** - \$1,000. Organizational Sponsorship includes an ALMA Directory of Members, a link from the ALMA website to your website, recognition in the Bulletin and the conference program, one advertisement in each of the three ALMA Bulletins, and up to 10 individual ALMA memberships.

Enter Annual or Lifetime Membership Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Voluntary Donation to ALMA Education Endowment Fund: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ENTER TOTAL AMOUNT: \_\_\_\_\_

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- Check payable to ALMA is enclosed
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