

**INSIDE:****Cell Phone  
Study**

*Charles Verzi*  
*ETBA President*

**President's Corner**

*Charles Verzi*

**W**elcome to a start of another year for the ETBA. I would like to encourage everyone to attend our March 21<sup>st</sup> meeting at Children's Hospital in Knoxville. There has not been a lot of activity with the ETBA in the last year. It seems like we are in survival mode. I have noticed after visiting several biomedical associations websites not much is going on right now. So we are maintaining the status quo. But if there is anything that the membership would like to see let us know. We are here to serve our community needs.

Here at MSHA we are winding down our JCAOH inspections. It started about six weeks ago and they have surveyed 4 out of 6 of our facilities. They seem to show up at a different facility every two weeks. So if you are a system (like MSHA) you get to go through the madness for about 2 months. Besides the scheduling we have noticed no difference in the survey process for biomedical departments. Standard review of records and interviews has been the norm. If your job calls for you to be certified make sure you have a current copy of your certification in your HR file.

For all of those who have not been at the last several meetings I wanted to give an update on our telemetry project. Several years ago we committed to adding our telemetry on a shared antenna with our IS infrastructure. Testing went real good but our vendor was not completely happy with the coverage. The cable was installed in the central corridors of the building. Their results indicated more loss in the signal than they would allow. So we have scrapped our portion of that project. If we would have had this information up front we would have installed the cable over the patient rooms and not the hall ways. The passive system out performed their traditional amplified system until the signal passed through several walls. It was a great experience for everyone involved. We got to see first hand what was required for the FDA approval process. Both vendors took away a better understanding of the design concepts to make this system work together. Too bad we were on the bleeding edge of this process.

I would like to thank several people that have helped us the last several meetings. A big thank you goes out to Tom Joo at Baptist for hosting our last meeting of 2005 and the sponsor TJ Bryant with GE. I would also like to thank James Gregg at Laughlin for hosting our first meeting of this year. Even if you can't serve as an officer there are ways to help. So I hope to see everyone at the next membership meeting.

# Cell Phone Study

Randy Bueckman

This one really got my goat...

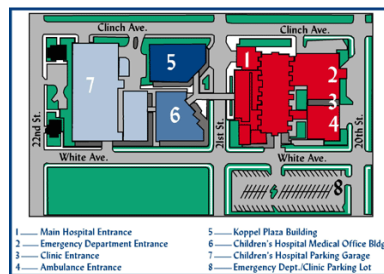
There is an article that spouts a lot of percentages and what looks to be an in depth study of Cell Phone issues being passed around. The title of the article gives it credibility of a study. Reading the article however, you find it is nothing more than a survey of Anesthesiologists. The article title starts something like "Study Finds..." or "New Study Finds..." You are well into the article before you read that 4018 Anesthesiologists were surveyed by researchers to produce this study.

The rest of the article spouts statistics. For example 45% experienced delays in communication because they could not use their cell phone. Then 22% felt that cell phones would reduce medical errors. For me, if I am under I don't want the anaesthesiologist taking a call to discuss other future procedures.

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**March 21, 2006**  
**ETBA Membership Meeting at**  
**East Tennessee Children's Hospital**  
[www.etch.com](http://www.etch.com)

Gary Hoffman of Fluke will be our guest speaker! Fluke will also be providing food and soft drinks for the meeting. Come about 6:30 PM for the food and fellowship. The meeting will begin around 7:00 PM with Gary starting his presentation about 7:30 PM. The meeting will be in Koppel Plaza (Building 5) on the second floor.



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## Inside:

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