

**INSIDE:****e-Paper**

Charles Verzi
ETBA President

President's Corner

Charles Verzi

A very hot and dry summer is almost over. When I sat down this morning to write this article I was trying to think of any news or events that are going on in the Biomedical community. I really couldn't think of any. So I got out on the internet and searched other BMET organizations to see what was going on outside our region. I found the same thing. Nothing.

In the past we had several challenges like Y2K, cell phones, HDTV transmission and the like to keep us busy. So I just see a lull in the industry. This is good because we do not need to be running a full speed all the time. It is nice to just set back and really concentrate on the tasks at hand.

One thing that I have noticed is that healthcare in general is doing very well. The indication is that hospitals are expanding and increasing services. This in itself brings on enough work for us everyday not to have to deal with nationwide issues. I know myself that we are involved in the design and construction of two new hospitals. It is very important when these opportunities arise that we take advantage of them. This is from a biomedical department aspect. Take advantage of attending meetings to try to learn the new directions of healthcare.

It is amazing the number of construction code changes that have occurred in the last 20 years. Not only in the area of patient safety areas but also in the minimal square footage requirements and other design criteria. It also is a great time to offer your knowledge and display your abilities to work as a team to shape a new healthcare delivery system. I know that I have learned a tremendous amount about patient flow and the way nursing and physicians view buildings. This only helps us formulate plans of equipment implementation and selection specifications. It is this type of knowledge that will only strengthen the positions of biomedical departments to grow and increase their value to the organizations.

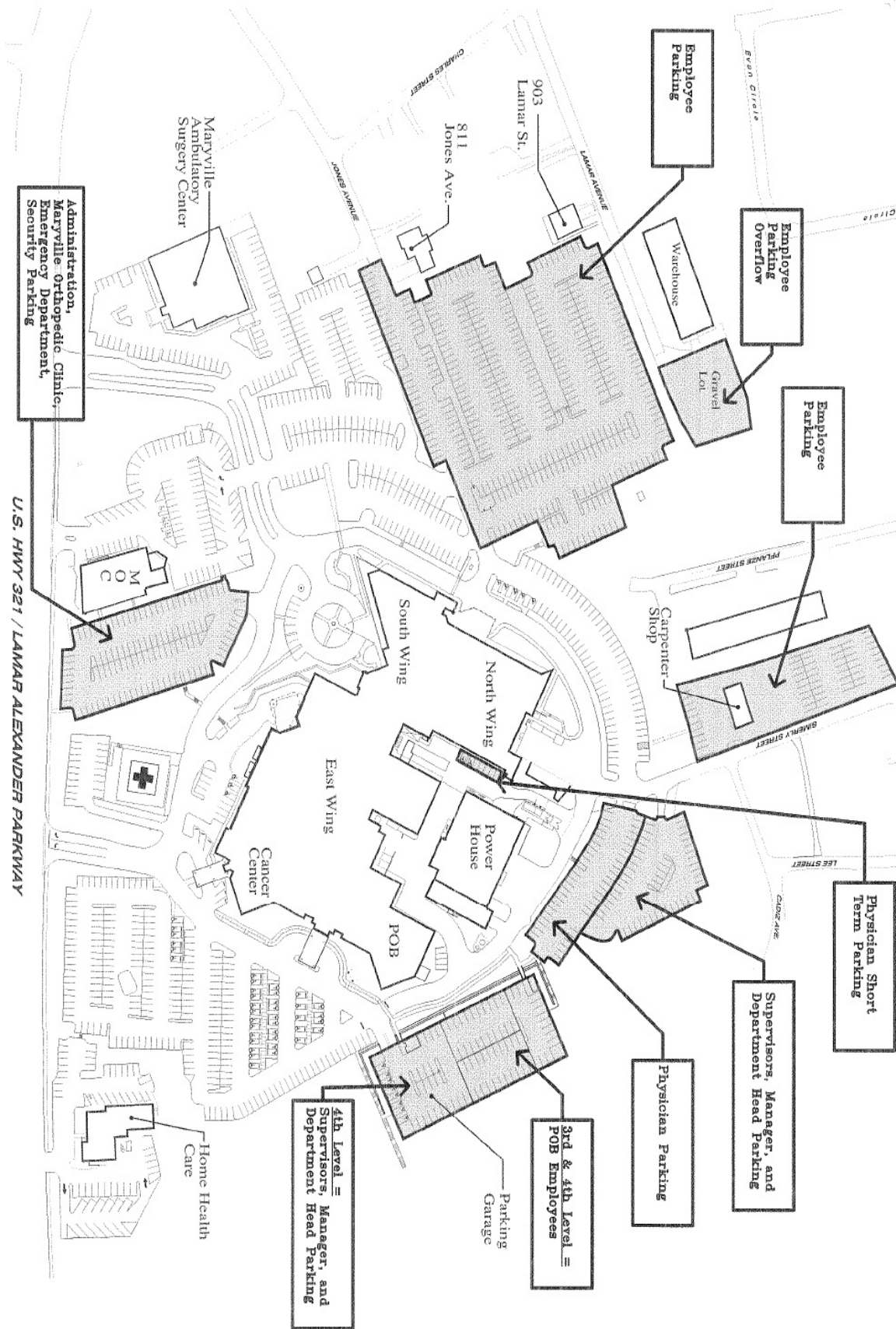
If you can I hope to see you at the next scheduled meeting at Blount. We will also be having two more scheduled meetings this year. On October 9th the meeting will be held in Johnson City. We will head back to Knoxville for a November meeting. We are also asking for officer nominations and hold our annual elections in November. So if you know of anyone that could benefit the ETBA please contact us via the website.

Blount Memorial Hospital Campus:

The meeting will be held in the Cancer Center classroom # 1. Park at the outpatient entrance on any level of the parking garage or the parking lot outside the Physician Office Building (POB) or the Cancer Center entrance.

If entering the atrium of the POB, turn right after the pharmacy and take the elevators to the second floor. Turn left off of the elevators and then a right. Continue to follow the hallway and they will see classroom # 1 to the left and classroom #2 to the right next to the bathrooms.

If entering through the Cancer Center entrance,



take the elevators to the second floor and exit left off of the elevators. Classroom #1 will be the second door on the left. I will have signs posted for ETBA meeting

E-Paper

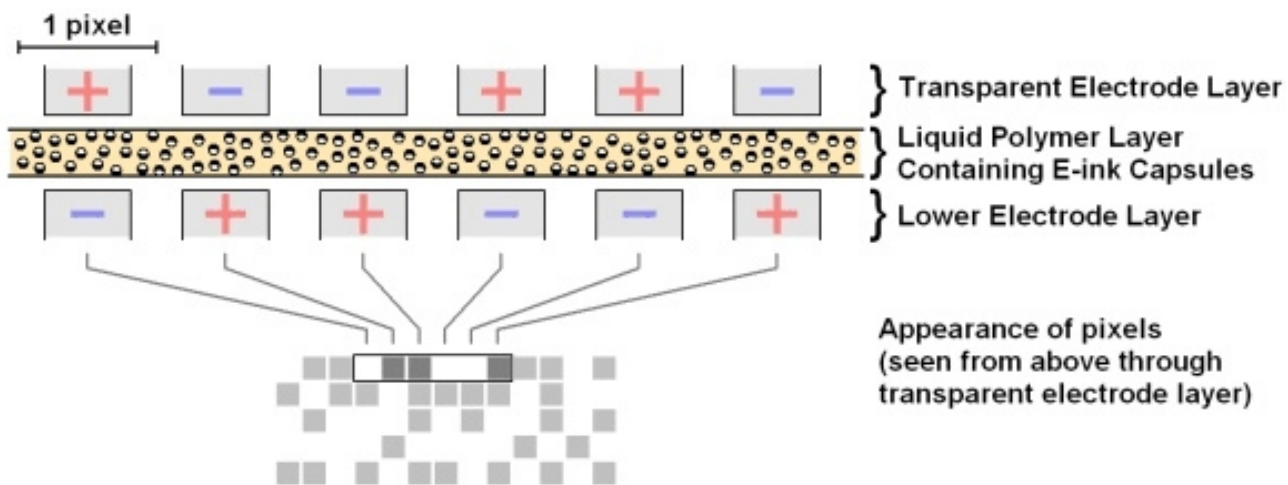
Randy Bueckman

There has been talk about paperless charting or electronic charting. Very few hospitals have been successful in adopting an electronic chart. In fact, many hospitals found that electronic charting has actually generated more paper. Here is a possible solution to "going paperless."



Electronic paper or e-paper is a sheet of very small transparent 40 micrometer capsules. Inside each capsule is a white particle and a black oily substance (Remember the magic 8 ball?). The white particles are slightly negatively charged. Because the white particles naturally reflect light, no backlighting is needed.

"The microcapsules are held in a layer of liquid polymer, sandwiched between two arrays of electrodes, the upper of which is made from indium tin oxide, a transparent conducting material. The two arrays are aligned so that the sheet is divided into pixels, which each pixel corresponding to a pair of electrodes situated either side of the sheet. The sheet is laminated with transparent plastic for protection, resulting in an overall thickness of 80 micrometres, or twice that of ordinary paper." - Wikipedia



2417 Ridgecrest Dr.
Knoxville, TN 37918
<http://www.etbiomed.org>

Inside:

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