President’s Message

Of course, the joint meeting sessions also offer cutting edge topics from “Fingerprint Donor Identification” to “Blood Pharming” and a wealth of subjects in between! The welcome reception and exhibit hall opening (wear a 60’s outfit to this event!), continental breakfasts, lunches in the exhibit hall and the SCABB awards reception will offer wonderful opportunities at the joint meeting for networking and visiting with old friends and vendors or for making new contacts. All in all, the joint meeting promises to be exciting and informative. All You Need is Blood, the catch phrase for the meeting was intended to be a play on the Beatles song, All you need is love, because the Mirage is host to The Beatles Love, Cirque du Soleil show, but I think you can also say, “all you need is SCABB” as membership, involvement and meeting attendance can help you connect, learn and grow; as the Beatles tune goes: “There’s nowhere you can be that isn’t where you’re meant to be. It’s easy.”

Join us in Las Vegas and be where you’re meant to be!

XMRV-An Emerging Infection Case Study

that policy is still the most active form of CFS screening in the U.S. at this writing. Donors are not asked a specific question about having CFS on the standard donor questionnaire at this time. Many in the lay press and several patient advocate and blood safety groups have sharply criticized the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the blood industry for not acting specifically and definitively to permanently defer all donors with CFS from blood donation.

So where do we stand with XMVR? The answer is really quite simple, but unsatisfying: We just don’t know for sure yet! The data, as outlined above, is conflicting, but the pressure on the blood industry to “do something” (partially external and partially self-imposed) seems to be mounting. In December 2010, the Blood Products Advisory Committee (BPAC) of AABB recommended to defer donors who screen positive for XMRV, but not to definitively permanently defer all donors with CFS from blood donation.

For the Creat...