On Monday, September 12th, the PDA Missouri Valley Chapter hosted its Fall meeting at the award winning Embassy Suites in St Charles, Missouri (St. Louis metro). The meeting topic was *Supply Chain Trends*.
Following a networking / vendor reception and buffet dinner, the meeting included talks from two great speakers representing industry and the U.S. FDA.

Cindy Buhse, Director of Pharmaceutical Analysis for FDA – CDER (the only facility outside of the metro D.C. area) reviewed each of the laboratory's primary areas of responsibility:

- Method Evaluation
- Rapid Response (Adverse Events, counterfeits)
- Research, including emerging technologies
- Surveillance (post-marketing safety)

She discussed examples for each area – including items such as their involvement in development of rapid screening methods that are then published and made available to the public. This presentation provided useful insights into the variety and depth of expertise in this laboratory / office and the many different ways they serve our industry and society.

Martin VanTrieste, VP Amgen Quality and founder of Rx360, shared insights about what we, our companies and our industry can do to protect our customers and stakeholders form the realities of diversion and substandard manufacturing controls associated with pharmaceutical ingredients, including a challenge to:

- Apply common sense
- Embrace best practices
- Evaluate new technologies
- Expand collaboration between our companies

RX-360 continues to make progress with their collaborative initiatives, such as shared audit database efforts and other initiatives to strengthen and increase safety in our supply chains. We were reminded that *"patient safety should never be a competitive advantage – share your information".*

The event attracted a wide range of industry professionals, including many prospective PDA members and was supported by the following sponsors:

- cGMP Validation (annual sponsor)
- ACH Foam Technologies (annual sponsor)
- Accugenix
- Commissioning Agents
- BioVigilant
- ProPharma Group