



The CSRT Newsline

Volume 13 Issue 2 Fall, 2009

President's Message

Dear fellow CSRT members,

My name is Sharon Ritton-Holly and I am the newly elected President of the CSRT.

The past year was an extremely busy time for our society especially for the legislative committee and the lobbying firm working on our behalf. With little support from technologists in the state of Connecticut, we were lucky to reach the compromise outlined by Ms. Kosenko in this newsletter. All Connecticut radiographers, in addition to CSRT members, must be made aware of the changes that are occurring in our profession and take a more active role in protecting the profession. If any legislative activity that would compromise our law becomes apparent we will notify members to ask them to contact their legislators at that time. The small, active group of CSRT officers and committee members cannot do this alone. All CSRT technologists can monitor updates by logging onto the CSRT website: www.csrtinc.org. Please contact any board member with questions, we are here for you and for the profession, however we need to spread the word to non-CSRT members. Your \$25.00 a year membership fee will allow us to continue to monitor the legislative situation, offer no or low cost "mini lectures", and hold an annual conference providing the opportunity to earn 6 to 8 credits. We also encourage students to become more involved with the society; **THEY ARE THE FUTURE**. If every CSRT member recruits at least one person to join this year, our membership will double. This in itself would send a message of dedication to the Radiologic Sciences. We are looking forward to a productive and positive year.....a year of growth....a year of re-dedication. Help us to grow and bring...

"ONE MORE MEMBER"

Feel free to contact me with questions, concerns or solutions:

Sincerely,
Sharon Ritton-Holly
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203-881-0885

Legislative

This past year the CSRT was very active during the legislative session in the state capitol. We hired the lobbying firm of Hughes & Cronin to lobby for us and to represent us to the legislature on all issues affecting Radiographers. The legislature is a place where you need representation or else other industries can swoop in and take away what you have worked so hard for. The PAs attempted to do this in the past session and did not fully succeed. They originally did not want to go through further educational requirements to do fluoroscopy. As a result of our involvement at the legislature, and thanks to the lobbying efforts of our lobbyists and radiographer volunteers, new legislature on this has been issued. There is now an educational requirement for any PA wishing to perform fluoroscopy. This mandatory education requirement will serve as model legislation for other states facing a similar situation between radiographers and PAs.

The Physician Assistants and the CST came to a compromise that was finally passed by the legislators. It includes the following provisions:

- Verification of the successful certification and passing of an exam and 40 hrs of classes. The certificate will

need to be kept on file with the hospital or doctor's office, as is currently the common practice.

- Coursework requirements. The AAPA, SIR and ASRT have been speaking at the national level on working together on this issue and developing a curriculum. A PA must demonstrate successful completion of 40 hours of classes involving radiation physics, radiation biology, radiation safety and radiation management applicable to fluoroscopy with a minimum of 10 hours in radiation safety and a minimum of 15 hours in radiation physics and radiation biology combined.
- Any PA currently engaged in fluoroscopic procedures may continue to do so until successful completion of an exam, which should be set up by 10/1/2011. The 2011 date will allow time for SIR, ACR, ASRT and AAPA to work on development of necessary courses and the venues where these classes will be taken. If a PA fails to pass the exam, they will be required to not only take the required courses but to also pass the exam. PAs performing fluoroscopy as of 10/1/2011 will need to take 40 hours of classes and pass the exam.

The CSRT also had the following section included in the Radiographer law:

No person shall operate a medical x-ray system unless such person has obtained a license as a radiographer from the department pursuant to this section. Operation of a medical x-ray system shall include energizing the beam, positioning the patient, and positioning or moving any equipment in relation to the patient.

We feel this sentence will help define what we do, without question.

We have hired Hughes and Cronin for the next legislative session to keep us abreast of any further developments at the capitol. We feel this is necessary to protect the interests of our profession and the safety of the public. We are hopeful that it will be a quiet year with no other

practitioners attempting to undermine our radiographer law. In the event of any additional proposed changes, we need every radiographer to become a member so that we can have the means to continue to provide proper representation at the legislature and at the Department of Public Health. Your involvement and membership will ensure that we can be ready to fight.

2009 Annual Conference

The CSRT Annual Conference was successfully held at the Courtyard Marriott in Cromwell, Ct. on October 2nd and 3rd, 2009.

Friday evening's lecture offered attendees the opportunity to receive 2 ECU's and was followed by a reception with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar for refreshments. Those in attendance enjoyed the opportunity to reconnect with old friends, make new friends and network while discussing many issues that we all face in today's changing economy and work environment.

Saturday's session was well attended with technologists having the option of receiving 7 CEUs in a variety of imaging modalities or 5 mammography credits, 4 of which were sponsored by Americhoice. All of the speakers were very well received. A variety of items, donated by CSRT Board and Committee members, as well as from the ASRT and Beekley Corporation, were raffled on both Friday and Saturday. All attendees seemed to enjoy the raffle and came away not only with the needed CEUs but with a great bonus as well. Many thanks to all who donated.

As always the CSRT is striving to make our annual conference better. We welcome any comments or suggestions and especially any help from attendees and CSRT members. We would like to see new people become involved with the society. Should anyone need to contact a board member, contact information can be found on our website: www.csrtinc.org.

Remember to try to involve "one more new member."

2010 CSRT Board Members

Officers were elected and installed during the 2009 CSRT Annual Conference.

President - Sharon Ritton-Holly

President Elect - Jacqueline DeNardis

Vice-President - Marie Wilde

Membership - Donna Crum

Secretary - Paul Intagliata

Treasurer - Donna Crum

Chairperson - Christine Umlauf

Senior Board Member - Diane Kosenko

If you are a CSRT member and are interested in becoming involved with the society, you may contact any board member. This can be done by logging onto the CSRT website: www.csrtinc.org. There are several committees that you may become involved with and new ideas are always welcomed.

John Archer Award

The John Archer Award is presented to an exemplary CSRT member in recognition for outstanding service and commitment to the society. The candidate must have produced a significant impact on the profession of Radiologic Technology, exhibited positive goals, upheld the ideals of the Society and attained a level of respect and confidence from members of the profession. This years recipient truly exhibits those qualities and so it was our pleasure to present the 2009 John Archer Award to Marie Wilde, RT(R). Marie has served in many different capacities including President, Chairman of the Board, Senior Board Member and currently Vice President. In addition she has also worked on the Annual Conference and other special projects.

Membership

The new Membership Chairperson, Donna Crum, is in the process of updating membership records and will send out new membership cards ASAP. Please be patient during this time of transition.

2010 CSRT Annual Conference

Please reserve October 15 & 16, 2010 to attend the CSRT Annual Conference. You can look for updates on our website: www.csrtinc.org or in future editions of the Newslines.

Regional Lectures

The CSRT would like to provide educational opportunities throughout the state of Connecticut. Please contact any board member if your facility would like to host a 2-credit mini lecture. Lectures are either low cost or free for CSRT members.

Mammography

Set aside April 5, 2010 for a mini 2 credit Mammography seminar to be held at Middlesex Hospital. The event will take place in the Bengtson Wood Conference Room at 6 p.m. Continue to watch for further information in future issues of the Newslines.