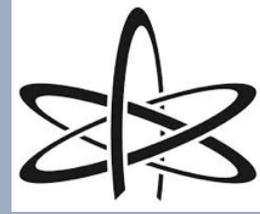




CSRT

Newsline



Winter 2015

Connecticut Society of Radiologic Technologists

President's Message

The future is...now!

- Daniel N. DeMaio, M.Ed., RT(R)(CT)

It is my honor to write to you as the President of the CSRT for the 2014-15 year. I'd like to ask for just a few minutes of your time to outline my goals for the coming months.

This is a precarious time for state societies and for volunteer societies in general. During the ASRT Annual Conference last summer, CEO Sal Martino remarked to the House of Delegates, that we shouldn't "take personally" the disinterest in participation with state affiliates. Almost all professions are struggling to maintain ranks in their volunteer organizations. Consider service-based volunteer organizations like the Elks, Masons, Kiwanis, Lions, Rotary – they're all struggling. This is not a medical imaging problem. It's a problem everywhere, with all different types of organizations. Although we shouldn't take it personally, we should most definitely take it seriously. Without a significant and consistent effort from all of us, this state society cannot, and will not continue to function. It's going to take the combined efforts of the CSRT Board and its members – all of you – to continue the modest growth we've seen recently and to bring the CSRT to a level of service that the technologists in our state deserve.

I believe that the CSRT's success and continued viability in both the short- and long-term is based on three related areas: **membership**, **financial stability** and **advocacy**. These initiatives are certainly not new. But I believe that we must continue to concentrate our efforts towards increasing



membership, improving our financial stability and expanding our advocacy efforts to remain a healthy and effective state society.

When you look at the image below, I think you'll see that it is impossible really to have complete success in any of these areas if we do not adequately address all of them. Without a healthy membership roll we cannot have financial stability. However, if we fail to help state technologists appreciate the value in CSRT membership, they simply will not maintain it.

A working & effective CSRT...

Membership

- Strength in numbers
- New leadership
- Students are the future...

Advocacy

- Workplace equity
- Threats to practice
- Licensure issues

Financial Stability

- Membership
- CE activities
- ASRT Support

CSRT INC.
THE CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS

President’s Message (continued)

One of the best ways we can serve our members in a meaningful way is through our continued advocacy efforts. By spreading the word about our success in the areas of legislative oversight and advocacy, each of us can help technologists in our state see how the CSRT works on their behalf. Like cogs in a machine, as membership grows, so does our financial stability, which in turn allows us to engage in additional advocacy efforts. When combined, these individual efforts lead to a vibrant state society that positively impacts the professional well being of all imaging professionals in the state.

The million-dollar question remains – “How do we grow CSRT membership?” I believe that any successful membership campaign has to begin with each of us – especially **you!** If you like what you’ve been seeing lately from the CSRT – spread the word. Let your co-workers know about our advocacy successes and our high-quality CE offerings. Even more importantly, if you don’t like what you’re seeing or if you think there are things we could be doing better – let us know! The CSRT Board is very interested in hearing your opinions and your ideas. On that note, we are especially interested in recruiting new leaders into the CSRT. And that’s not just to the Board, but to our many committees as well – where the real work of the CSRT must be accomplished. Come join us in a committee or leadership role. The time commitment is not really that intense – perhaps a meeting per month – and I know that you will find the experience rewarding. Students are also a key component for continued membership growth. Please take a look at our new “Student Commons” section of this *Newsline*, on page 3 for more information about some recent student-focused events. I plan to continue working with our Board to identify ways in which we can increase our student engagement. If we can help our students realize the benefit to participation in the CSRT early in their careers, this can perhaps carry over into a longer-term commitment to service at the state and even the national level.

As is typical of a small, volunteer-based society such as the CSRT, financial stability is always a concern. Obviously, as our membership grows, so will our budget. Therefore, new and sustained membership is certainly vital to our long-term fiscal health. Thanks to smart planning and prudent budgeting by the CSRT Board in recent years, I’m happy to report that our financial status is currently stable. Based on our current membership, anticipated financial support from the ASRT, and the success of this year’s annual conference, we should be well prepared to meet our expenses for 2015. Hopefully we’ll be able to schedule additional CE lectures throughout the year – both as a benefit to existing members and a means to enlisting

new ones. If you have ideas about speakers for CE lectures or venues where those lectures should be held, please pass them along to myself or another Board member.

For our continued financial stability, I’m excited to announce a new program offered for the first time this year by the ASRT. Under the direction of current President Bill Brennan, the ASRT has recently started the Affiliate Financial Assistance Program. The ASRT recognizes the struggle that state societies endure in times of decreasing membership and skyrocketing costs. Each year, the CSRT will receive a payment of \$1 per ASRT member in the state. After our Board completed the application process this fall, the CSRT received a check for more than \$2,000 from the ASRT! The Financial Assistance Program will help the CSRT to engage in new and improved initiatives aimed at providing valued services to our membership.



Learn more about the ASRT Affiliate Financial Assistance Program on page 5.

I believe that advocacy for medical imaging professionals in our state continues to be the primary value of the CSRT. In 2014, we achieved a great success in the passing of state House Bill 5269, providing paid sick time to Connecticut radiographers. (For details, see the column on State Legislative Happenings on page 3). Spread the word about this legislative success and the obvious value of the CSRT!

Thank you again for the honor of serving as your president this year. I am very much looking forward to working with our Board to protect the rights, interests, and future of the medical imaging profession in Connecticut. On behalf of the Board of the Directors of the CSRT, I thank you all for your continued support.

-Dan DeMaio
info@CSRT.us

The CSRT needs you...



Volunteer...today!

Board of Directors: 2014-15	
Senior Board Member – Bill Hennessy	Chairman – Bob Grossman
President – Dan DeMaio	President-Elect – Donna Crum
Vice-President – Jay Derksen	Treasurer – Diane Kosenko
Secretary – Allyson Forster	

State Legislative Happenings

This past year, the CSRT continued its longstanding tradition of working tirelessly to safeguard the professional interests of all medical imaging technologists in the state of Connecticut. In 2011, state Senate Bill 913 legislated paid sick leave to employees in various service and healthcare fields.

Closer to Home



A Paid Sick Leave Law Forgets R.T.s

BY DANIEL DEMAIO, M.ED., R.T.(R)(CT), PRESIDENT OF THE CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS

"The achievements of an organization are the results of the combined effort of each individual."
—Vince Lombardi

THE CONNECTICUT SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS WAS FOUNDED IN 1938. Since its inception, the CSRT has steadfastly represented imaging professionals in Connecticut throughout the many changes in our profession over the past seven decades. Recently, CSRT members discovered a state legislative oversight that reminded us of the vital role state affiliate societies can play in ensuring equity for imaging professionals. In 2011, the Connecticut state government passed Senate Bill 913. The legislation requires employers to grant paid sick time to employees in a variety of general service and health care fields. Under the terms of the statute, even employees who work part-time could qualify for prorated paid sick time. For reasons government officials never fully explained, radiologic technologists were left out of the labor code designations in this mandate. In 2013, CSRT member Kathy Womelsdorf, R.T.(R)(CT), wisely brought the legislative omission to the CSRT's attention. Under the

amended version, SB 242, was scheduled to be presented to the Connecticut House of Representatives on March 11, 2014. Through social media, e-mails, phone calls and affiliate website updates, the CSRT urged its members to contact their state legislators to voice concern regarding the unacceptable omission of our profession from the law. The ASRT also sent an e-mail to technologists in our state, asking them to contact their legislators to request support of SB 242. On March 11, Kathy, Diane and Bill spent a long, exhausting day at the state capital building, waiting to testify before the House. Their time and efforts were rewarded: SB 242 came to the House for a vote. Although the proposal was initially defeated as SB 242, the language eventually was attached to other legislation — House Bill 5269 — that passed in May. On June 6, Gov. Dan Malloy signed HB 5269 into law. The law takes effect Jan. 1, 2015, and ensures that Connecticut's technologists will enjoy the same paid sick time benefits that



For reasons never fully provided, radiographers were inexplicably left out of this new law! Thanks to the efforts

of CSRT member Kathy Womelsdorf and the CSRT legislative committee, a new law - House Bill 5269 - went into effect on January 1, 2015. Radiographers are now eligible for the same paid sick leave as provided by the original state legislation. This very successful initiative was highlighted in the October/November 2014 issue of the ASRT scanner.

Of course, the paid sick-leave bill has not been the CSRT's only advocacy success story. In just recent history, this organization has successfully worked to protect technologists who inject medications, helped prevent PA's from performing fluoroscopy without appropriate education and credentialing, and demanded similar state regulations for individuals performing bone densitometry. Keep in mind that there are always new threats, whether from PA's or advance-practice nurses; even possible threats to state licensure, which have been occurring in other states. While it is impossible to predict what new legislative issues will arise in the coming years, we can be confident that thanks to the tireless efforts of Diane Kosenko, Bill Hennessy and our Legislative Committee, we will remain informed and poised to act quickly and effectively.

As wonderful as they are, Diane and Bill cannot do this work alone. If you are interested in joining our Legislative Committee, please let us know. (info@CSRT.us)

The CSRT is on:

 **& LinkedIn**

Join us....today!!

Did you know??



What do you think about the new **NEWSLINE**?

- Please tell us what you think about this new web-friendly format.
- What would you like to see in future issues?
- We want to hear from **YOU!**

Send comments/suggestions to:

info@CSRT.us

The Student Commons

The CSRT Board believes that the medical imaging students of Connecticut are the future not only of our profession, but of the CSRT itself! It is imperative that we engage students in our society, both as a means to their own professional development and as a way to maintain membership and the future viability of the CSRT. In April of 2014, the CSRT was proud to present our annual college bowl at the University of Hartford. During the annual conference last Fall, we offered a student track that included several registry-review presentations and a discussion panel with local program faculty and an ASRT representative. Be on the lookout for future editions of *Newsline* that will include updates on our many planned student-focused initiatives.

CSRT Awards

The CSRT Awards Committee is composed of 5 dedicated individuals who are either life members or past presidents, each having more than 10 years of active membership to the CSRT. Each year, the Committee considers nominees for the John Archer and Life Member Awards. The Committee wishes to remind all members of the CSRT that nominations for these special awards are always welcomed. Please review the criteria below and contact the Chair of the Awards Committee, Ms. Jo Picone at jmpicone@msn.com if you know of someone deserving and eligible for this important recognition.

John Archer Award

This award was established in 1990 in honor of John Archer who died suddenly. He was an outstanding member of the CSRT who served as president and was very instrumental in the pursuit of licensure legislation in the state.

This award is presented to an exemplary CSRT member in recognition of outstanding service and commitment to the Society. This worthy individual must be a CSRT member for at least ten years, having actively participated as a standing committee chairperson, and having served on the Executive Board. In addition, the candidate must have also 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.

Criteria for John Archer Award:

1. CSRT member who has contributed outstanding service to the Society for at least 10 years.
2. Recipient must demonstrate active participation as a member of a standing committee, served as a committee chairman, and held office in the Society, with such efforts producing a positive impact on the Society.
3. Recipient must present himself/herself as a professional by carrying forth the goals and ideals of the Society throughout their actions and their work environment.
4. Nominations must be submitted to the Awards Committee five (5) months prior to the Annual Conference for consideration in that year.
5. The Awards Committee will review nominated candidates and submit a recommendation to the Executive Board for approval.
6. Only one John Archer Award will be given annually.
7. At the discretion of the Executive Board, this award may not be given annually.

Life Member Award

Over the years, the Connecticut Society of Radiologic Technologist has had some exemplary members who have laid down a solid foundation for the Society to build upon. For many years of their professional lives, these members were hard-working, never-tiring leaders who moved the Society forward. They have lifted our Society, giving it strength and dignity. This award honors these individuals. Life members shall not pay dues and will have all privileges and obligations of society members.

Criteria for Life Member Achievement Award:

1. This award is given to an active member of the society who has performed outstanding continuous service to the society for at least twenty (20) years.
2. This individual has demonstrated active participation having served as a chairman of a standing committee, held office, and produced a positive impact on the society.
3. Candidate's name will be submitted to the Awards Committee. Confidentially, the Awards Committee will evaluate the individual's record of service using a point system.
4. The nominated candidate may be asked to submit a society resume.
5. If necessary, letters from four (4) Executive Board or past presidents from the candidate's era may be used to verify and document the candidate's activities, benefits and accomplishments related to the continuing improvement of the CSRT.
6. Life member candidate will be voted upon by the Executive Board, following the recommendation of the Awards Committee.
7. Life member candidate must have a 3/4 vote of the Executive Board to be approved.
8. Only one Life Member Award will be given annually.
9. At the discretion of the Executive Board, this award may or may not be given annually.

**The CSRT 75th Diamond Anniversary
& Annual Conference on September 26 & 27,
2014 was a huge success!!**

The two-day featured special guest speaker Dr. Phillip Ballinger and an anniversary reception attended by many familiar faces. Check out the pics on *Facebook* and save the date (Oct. 3, 2015) to join us at this year's event!



[facebook.com/Connecticut-Society-of-Radiologic-Technologists-CSRT](https://www.facebook.com/Connecticut-Society-of-Radiologic-Technologists-CSRT)



Join the ASRT & help the CSRT!

- Thanks to its Affiliate Financial Assistance Program, the ASRT will provide an annual direct payment to the CSRT of \$1 per ASRT member in the state of CT.
- By joining the ASRT and encouraging your friends & colleagues to do the same, you'll not only benefit from national society membership and help support the ASRT, but you'll be supporting the CSRT also!
- Visit **ASRT.org** to learn more about the value of ASRT membership.
- Remember that your ASRT membership not only provides you with real benefits, but it also helps support the ASRT's governance efforts on behalf of our profession, various scholarships and many important charitable works.
- Join the ASRT - **TODAY!**

In memoriam...

Vera Ingenito Casso

It is with deep regret that the CSRT has heard of the passing of Vera Ingenito Casso, an early pioneer of our state Society. She was President of the CSXT in 1956. She passed away unexpectedly on May 5, 2012 at the age of 80 while visiting her daughter in MA. She was the wife of Thomas M. Casso Jr. for 47 years. She was a life-long resident of Hamden, CT. She graduated from Southern Connecticut State University and began working as an x-ray technologist for the Hospital of Saint Raphael and then later in the private sector.

Our deep condolences to her family and friends.

Upcoming Events



CE & Brews! – Two Roads Brewery, Sunday, February 22, 2015

Lecture by Dr. McAllister, Hip & Knee Revisions at 1:00 pm
Brewery tours and tastings to follow....



Spring Conference - Saturday, March 28, 2015

7:30 am, University of Hartford – 4 CE credits
Co-Sponsored by the CSRT and UHART



College Bowl – University of Hartford, Tuesday, April 7, 2015

8:00 am - Come watch our radiography students battle for program bragging rights!



**Annual CSRT Conference – Quinnipiac University
Saturday, Oct. 3, 2015**



Visit our website, CSRT.US for more info on these and other upcoming events!