

The Exposure



Fall
Edition
2017

MASSACHUSETTS SOCIETY OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGISTS NEWSLETTER

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- President's Message
- ASRT HOD/SLDP Meeting
- Governance
- RT's on Beacon Hill



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*The Organization That
Supports Your Profession*

President's Message

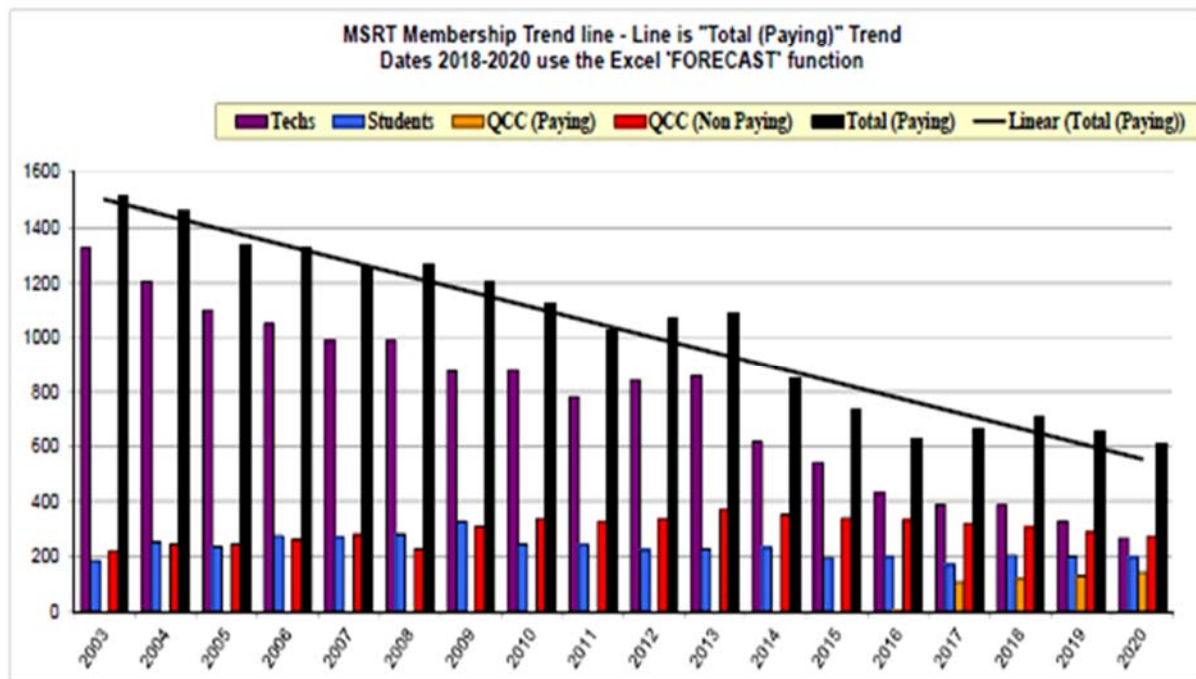
Well here we are the end of another summer and for some of you the start another school year (college). As usual the summer flew by and now back to reality. I want to give you an update on where we stand with membership and budget.

Membership:

We currently are at an all-time low with membership unfortunately putting the 2nd oldest Society in the country in jeopardy. Currently in Massachusetts there are 7000+ registered technologists; 5100 belong to the ASRT. Below is a picture of where the MSRT stands; the prediction through 2020 is for less and less membership.

MSRT Membership Forecast as of May-2017

Membership Fee	\$40/10	\$40/10	\$40/10	\$40/10	\$40/10	\$40/10	\$40/10	\$40/10	\$40/10	\$40/10	\$50/20	\$50/20	\$50/20	\$50/20	\$50/21	Fcast	Fcast	Fcast
Year	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Techs	1326	1204	1100	1049	987	988	875	877	780	842	857	617	540	428	387	385	328	267
Students	185	253	236	275	269	281	325	246	243	224	227	232	195	198	170	205	201	197
QCC (Paying)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	107	118	129
QCC (Non Paying)	220	246	245	261	277	227	308	336	323	336	367	350	337	329	319	303	288	274
Total (Paying)	1511	1457	1336	1324	1256	1269	1200	1123	1023	1067	1084	849	735	627	664	707	656	606



With this in mind at the ASRT House of Delegates (HOD) meeting in June we presented a motion to the ASRT to investigate a proposed combined membership. It does not make sense to me or other affiliate boards that we are in competition with the national organization for members. The motion was accepted almost unanimously by the delegates. The ASRT at next year's HOD will come back with its recommendation.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Continued from Page 1

What would this combined membership do for you?

It would give all affiliates more resources to continue to offer educational seminars free of charge, and monies to fund our Advocacy committee who spend their own time and, in some instances, money to travel to the state house to be sure your voice is heard.

I want to be clear this is not a new concept; currently the Society of Nuclear Medicine, Respiratory Therapy, and Physical Therapy to name a few all have combined memberships.

Budget:

It has been an interesting time for me working with our new board trying to balance an impossible budget, brainstorming on how we increase membership and have the 7000+ technologists in this state understand our profession is not automatically protected because we have licensing in the Commonwealth and that it requires resources to go to the state house.

We have cut every possible expense to the bare bone and just recently the board received the resignation of our long term operations manager Mary-Anne O'Donovan, after 15 years of exceptional service to our society. I will expound on the value Mary-Anne has been to this organization in a separate message.

Our plan is to take on as many duties as possible ourselves as well as asking for assistance on certain tasks from the ASRT. There will more to follow after we have discussed and divvied up the duties.

ASRT Student Leadership Development Program:

The ASRT Student Leadership Development Program (SLDP) materials have gone out to the schools for students to apply to be accepted into the ASRT SLDP. This program was brought about to encourage students to take an active role in their profession and professional societies.

I was very impressed with Tasha Blondiet & Drew Sutherland who represented the Commonwealth at the ASRT House of Delegates (HOD) meeting in June 2017. Their professionalism and enthusiasm was very apparent along with the other 100+ students.

This year we will be planning two more 1/2 day seminars along with the annual conference in April. The state delegates have been very busy coordinating these conferences which will be free to members. Please look on the MSRT website for details of these events.

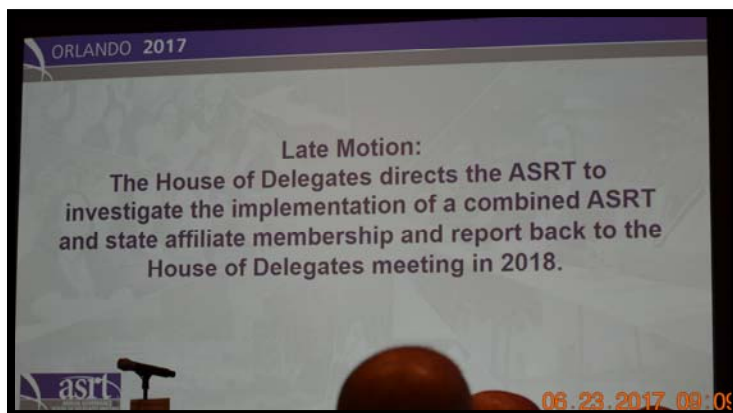
Finally, in these challenging times we need to stop once in a while and think about why we went into this profession. We are the voice, the eyes and ears for our profession. As licensed, registered Technologists, only we can speak to the education needed to produce quality, diagnostic images effectively, efficiently and, most importantly, safely for our patients and indirectly for our colleagues.

When you are asked to call your state representatives on a bill please do so; if we do not speak as one voice we will forever be threatened by outside groups trying to weaken our profession. In this edition the Co-chairs of the Advocacy Committee Pat Willett and Dave LeClair will be discussing upcoming legislation regarding this very issue. Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Jane

Jane Erikson BS, RT(R)
MSRT President





"The Future is Us, The Future is Now!"

Submitted by: Tasha Blondiet, MCPHS University
SLDP Representative for Massachusetts



As students, we seldom think about what goes on within our profession behind the scenes. The majority of us just think about getting through class or passing our boards. However, we need to start thinking beyond that and becoming more involved as students. It may not seem like we have an impact but we do because we are the future of our profession.

In class, we learned about the professional societies and their functions. To be honest, I didn't put much more thought or effort into it other than to pass my exam. Until one day, my professor presents this opportunity to us. The opportunity was to go to the Student Leadership Development Program (SLDP) that the American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) runs every year. At first, I wasn't going to apply for it because I felt like I already had enough on my plate between school and work. However, the more I thought about the more I became curious. Therefore, I decided to apply. Although I didn't think I would win, I couldn't be more grateful and appreciative of the fact that I did.

The Student Leadership Development Program was not what I expected it to be. At first, I thought the students would have been separated more from the rest of the registered radiologic technologists. This was not the case at all. I loved how included we were from beginning to end.

During the opening speech for the first house of delegate business meeting, the ASRT president, Michael Latimer, even stated; "welcome students to radiology congress". Within his speech, he acknowledges that we are the future and that it is their job to groom us to take over. He even mentioned how a lot of them started out just like us as participants in the SLDP. At these meetings, we were able to sit with our delegates on the floor. I even got to witness our own state delegate's motion to combine memberships between the ASRT and the state affiliates.

One of the aspects of the program that I liked the most was how we were able to choose some of the lectures and meetings to attend. Of course, there were some that were mandatory for us to attend as students. However, we were encouraged to attend something that we were interested in and would consider branching off into next. For example: I am in school for Radiography. However, I am also interested in MRI, the Radiologist Assistance Program, and Mammography. When the chapter meetings were being held, I was able to sit in the meetings and ask questions.

In all of the meetings and lectures I went to, I noticed that the technologists, members, presidents, and everyone else was enjoying the fact that we were asking questions and that we were genuinely interested into what was going on. Out of all of them, I have to say that my favorite lecture was on Forensic Imaging.

During our lunch time, there was an exposition. At the exposition we were able to explore, ask questions, try new training technology and look into education programs. There was a vendor there from New Zealand and he had Virtual Medical Coaching technology. He said that this is how students in New Zealand train in the classroom. Drew Sutherland (the other SLDP select) and I tried it. It was interesting and a bit more realistic than using a dummy.

My favorite event was the Pin Exchange. This event really motivates you to meet everyone because it is all about networking. The goal of it is to try and collect all 50 states pins. In order to receive the pins, you have to meet other people. This year was the first year that the SLDP had a student from Puerto Rico. Also, I received an Aruba pin from an International Society of Radiographers and Radiological Technologists (ISRRT) member. I am extremely interested in attending one of those conferences. I am curious to know and learn how other countries set their laws and regulations for radiography.

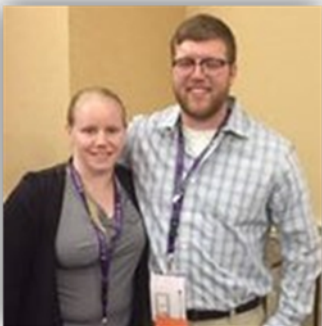
The Honors reception was another great event. We witnessed the induction of life members and fellows. At the reception, I met Philip W. Ballinger who is one of the co-authors for the Merrill's Atlas of Radiographic Positioning 5th Edition. Along with the books, he helped develop the apps iRadTechLite and X-Ray Wow.

Throughout the course of the SLDP, I made some amazing, lifelong friends who share the same passion for their profession as I do. One of the other SLDP students created our own Facebook page: The Future of ASRT so that we can stay in contact with each other. We hope to continue to see each other at future ASRT conferences.



"My Experiences at the SLDP!"

Submitted by: **Drew Sutherland, BHCC
SLDP Representative for Massachusetts**



This past summer I was fortunate enough to be selected for the Student Leadership Development Program (SDLP) and attend the annual American Society of Radiologic Technologists meeting in Orlando.

While there we were expected to attend talks and

chapter meetings for most of the day and make strong connections with mentors and our fellow peers. I was pleasantly surprised with the list of talks that were offered on the first couple of days, all very interesting and captivating. My favorite talk that I attended was on mobile stroke C.T. Scans, which I had no idea was even possible.

Another part of our schedule was blocked out for us to attend chapter meetings of various modalities to get an idea of what every chapter has to deal with every year. I chose to attend the Radiologist Assistant, X-ray and C.T. scan chapter meetings.

I was very interested in attending the R.A. chapter meeting to hear about the status of the MARCA bill and the progress that we are making to have R.A.s be more prevalent in hospital settings. During the X-ray chapter meeting many things were discussed including the progression of our field and the education requirements that might be changed in the future. Also, the topic of people other than technologists being able to administer radiation was discussed and how we can protect our field.

Although our schedule was packed with meetings and speakers we still found time to have a good time. On the second night, we had a pin exchange ceremony where I met people from 48 states I believe. I made connections with people who I still am in touch with today, every night we would relax by the pool in the hotel and share differences between state laws or rules within our programs.

All in all, this was an amazing experience who I would recommend to any student technologist from Massachusetts. Admittedly I had my reservations before I arrived, not knowing anybody and just becoming an entry level technologist myself. I was blown away with how kind everyone was it was a great atmosphere for people to make connections with possible employers and colleagues across the country.

ASRT HOD Meeting Orlando, Florida



From left: Nancy Julin, Drew Sutherland, Jane Erikson, Patricia Willett, David LeClair & Tasha Blondiet



We are proud to announce that Patricia Willett was awarded the Outstanding Grass-roots Advocacy award at the ASRT HOD Meeting. Pat works tirelessly on behalf of imaging professionals in Massachusetts & we are very happy to see her recognized. Pat (left) is pictured above with Brandy Cusson of the NHSRT.



2017 ASRT House of Delegated Meeting Report

June 23-25, 2017 Orlando, FL

Submitted by: **David LeClair, BS RT(R)(CT)(ARRT)**

MSRT Governance Co-Chairman ASRT Alternate Delegate to the 2017 HOD

ASRT CRTA Sub-Committee Member

The ASRT's Annual Governance and House of Delegates meeting was held this year on June 23-25 in Orlando, FL. The parade of flags opened the First Business meeting of the House of Delegates on Friday June 23rd with students from the Student Leadership Development Program carrying the state flags. Tasha Blondiet represented Massachusetts proudly carrying our State flag into the hall. In addition to Tasha, Drew Sutherland also attended as part of the SLDP, MSRT President Jane Erikson, BS RT(R) and MSRT Past President/Chairman of the Board Nancy Julin M.Ed, RT (R) were the two Affiliate Delegates while Pat Willett, BS RT(R)(CT) and David LeClair, BS RT(R) were present as Alternate Delegates. Also attending from Massachusetts was Michael DeVecchio BS RT(R) serving as the Chief Sergeant at Arms.

The agenda for the opening session of the House was dominated by introductions, reports, resolutions, speaker nominations and other announcements. There were 158 seated Technologists consisting of Chapter and Affiliate Delegates who voted in favor of pulling the following motions from the consent calendar of the Practice Standards C 17.06, C 17.07, C 17.12, C 17.13, C 17.14, C 17.19 for amendments with substitute language. The remaining resolutions on the consent calendar will be voted on together during the second meeting of the House on Sunday.

The highlight of the first meeting of the House focused on Massachusetts in two ways. MSRT Past President Pat Willett, BS RT(R)(CT) currently serving as Governance Co-Chairman was awarded the annual "National Advocacy Award" by the ASRT for her outstanding dedicated work defending our radiology profession from encroachment issues on Beacon Hill. Pat also represents the ASRT as the Chairman of the Region 9 Committee on RT Advocacy sub-committee, assisting all New England states and New York with Legislative issues affecting our profession. A well-deserved congratulation to Pat.

The second highlight occurred when a "late resolution" was introduced to the House authored by the Delegates from Massachusetts. If passed, this resolution would require the ASRT to study the benefits of a combined membership. This resolution required two thirds vote to be debated in the second meeting of the House on Sunday and it receive a favorable vote to do so.

The Second Business meeting of the House of Delegates was held on June 25, 2017 in Orlando, FL.

The By-Laws Committee proposed one amendment to Article III, Membership, Section 2, Categories of membership by inserting "or Certified" after Registered. It passed with a unanimous vote.

The Practice Standards Committee presented the consent calendar (minus the previously pulled motions as mentioned above) for a vote and it passed unanimously. The pulled motions were debated separately as follows:

C 17.06 was replaced by C 17.19 which was amended and passed as amended with substitute language.

C 17.07 was amended by substitute language and passed as amended.

C 17.12 pertained to the BS entry level of education for the medical imaging and radiation therapy profession. This motion was defeated as written and was referred to the Practice Standards Council for further review.

C 17.13 was voted to be withdrawn for the same rationale as C 17.12.

C 17.14 was adopted.

The late resolution submitted by Massachusetts pertaining to combining ASRT and Affiliate Society memberships was discussed briefly in the House and passed with more than the necessary two thirds vote. The vote of yes means the ASRT will investigate this possibility and report their findings during the 2018 House of Delegates.

After Delegates cast their votes, the newly elected Speaker of the House is Beth Weber and the elected Vice-Speaker of the House is Joseph Whitton for 2018.





Governance Report ★ September 2017

Submitted by: Patricia Willett, BS RT(R)(CT)(ARRT)
Governance Co-Chair

The MSRT is continually monitoring and taking action on legislative and regulatory issues on behalf of all radiologic technologists and our patients and there has been a lot happening in Massachusetts this summer. On July 18th the MSRT joined the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonographers (SDMS) at a state house hearing to present testimony in support of [H.3545](#), a bill to establish requirements for credentialing of all ultrasonographers in Massachusetts.

- **On July 19th** we met with the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) staff to address the MSRT's concern of repeated delays by the Department of Public Health (DPH) in reestablishing the Advisory Commission on Radiologic Technologist Licensing (ACRT). We scored a victory on this one. The governor has agreed to re-establish the ACRT. It will NOT be the victim of sun setting and could be reality within weeks.
- **Also on July 25th** there was a hearing on a surprise bill, [H.3829](#), that was introduced and fast tracked by the governor under the guise of budget items. The bill proposes to expand the scope of practice for advanced practice nurses (including NPs, CRNAs and psychiatric nurse mental health clinical specialists), optometrists and podiatrists. We got lucky on that one, and it was defeated by the legislature, for now, but the legislature has agreed to continue debate on health care and come up with an alternative plan.
- **On August 16th**, the Radiation Control Program extended the deadline for completing [CT/ARRT certification](#) to January 1, 2018.

What is Coming Next?

The Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN's) are actively lobbying and gearing up for the expected legislative hearings coming in September October & November. There are several related bills of concern, detailed on our [website](#). They are coming at us from multiple directions and success for the APRNs on any one of the bills could have a cascade effect. We have a big challenge ahead of us and are going to need everyone's participation. We will need everyone's help in contacting legislators and creating a physical presence at the hearings. We expect the most significant hearing to be on H.2451/S.1257 on November 7, please plan to join us.

RT's on Beacon Hill

On Tuesday November 7th we would like to gather as many radiology professionals as possible at the state house to send a clear message to legislators that medical imaging procedures utilizing ionizing radiation should be performed by those individuals who are educationally prepared and clinically competent in the safe administration of ionizing radiation.

Mass License Renewals

When sending your license renewals, please be sure to include:

1. A completed [Renewal Form](#)
2. A copy of your ARRT or NMTCB card
3. Proof of CEU's – e.g. ASRT printout
4. A check or money order payable to: The Commonwealth of Mass

Mail all documentation to the address on the renewal form.

NEWS & UPDATES



Please join us at the State House on **November 7, 2017** as we gather together during National Radiologic Technology Week to take a united stand in opposition to the Advance Practice Registered Nurses attempt to expand their scope of practice and encroach on radiology practice.

MSRT representatives will be presenting testimony at a public hearing of the Joint Committee on Public Health regarding [H.2451](#) and [S.1257](#). **We need your presence** to help send a strong message to our legislators that only educationally prepared and clinically competent licensed radiologic technologists are qualified to perform medical imaging procedures and only board certified physicians are qualified to interpret those procedures.

We ask that anyone who can, take the day off and join us in Boston. The hearing is scheduled to begin at 1:00 pm in [hearing room A2](#), but we need to gather earlier to spread our message. Please let us know you are attending by registering at [RT's on Beacon Hill](#).

We will meet near the Fallen Firefighters Memorial at 11:00 am in Ashburton Plaza adjacent to the [Ashburton entrance](#) on Bowdoin Street. If we fail to unite together to oppose encroachment on the radiology professions we fail to protect the safety of our patients.



Once again, the MSRT has been chosen to select two students to represent Massachusetts at the 2018 Student Leadership Development Program. Click here for more information....

2017 Scholarships

Applications for both technologist & student scholarships are available on our website.

Please click here for more information.



MSRT CT 1/2 Day Seminar

When: November 4, 2017 from 8:00 AM-12:00 PM
Where: Steward Holy Family Hospital, Methuen
Fee: Members—Free
Non-Members \$50 (includes membership)

For more information & registration, please click [here](#)

MSRT Sponsors

Thank you to Steward Good Samaritan Medical Center for sponsoring the venue & continental breakfast at our September 23, 2017 seminar. Their continued support is greatly appreciated.



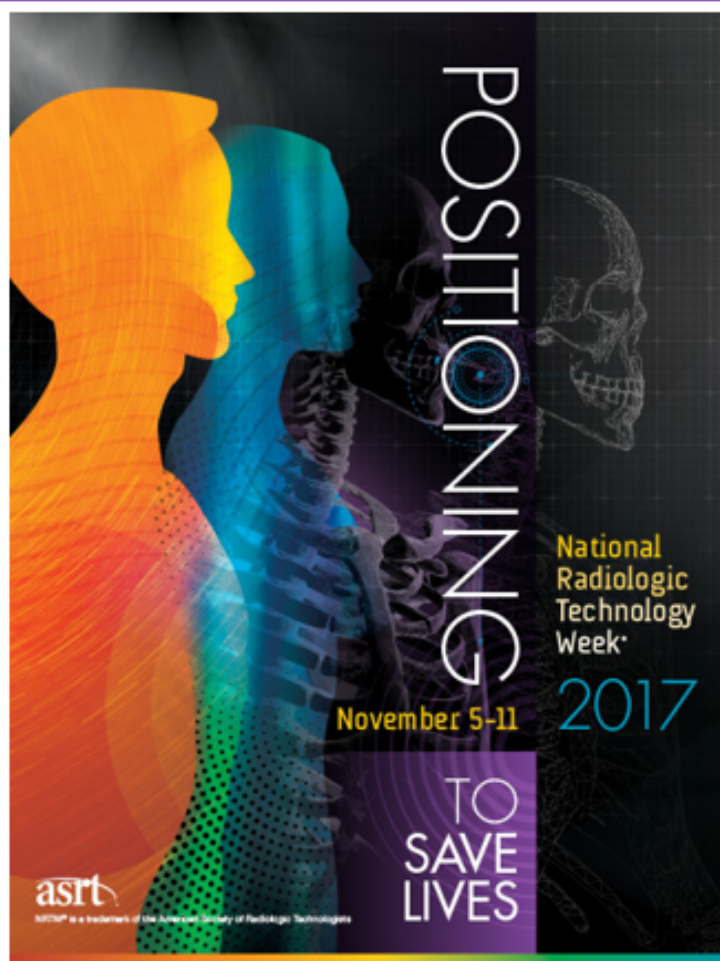


A little piece of history

In 1931 twenty two x-ray technicians, because of the socio-economic problems of the time, banded together to protect themselves by forming the *Boston Society of Radiographers*. Their purpose was to help each other with technical problems, keep abreast of new methods and to promote the study and application of x-ray techniques. In doing so they united technicians all across the state.

A charter was approved by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts on June 8, 1931 and the constitution and by-laws were drawn up to conform to those of the *American Association of Radiological Technicians*. The constitution and by-laws were reviewed and approved and American College of Radiology establishing a well-defined purpose. The undertaking of a specific course of training a specific level of achievement in x-ray techniques, adherence to a well-defined code of conduct and the passing of a supervised examination. Prior to this time technicians were taken in off the street or recruited from other jobs in the hospital and trained by the radiologists in techniques and positioning. Many of these early trainees were nurses.

*Authored by Florence Wakefield circa 1980
edited by Patricia Willett*



National Radiologic Technology Week® is celebrated annually to recognize the vital work of R.T.s across the nation. The celebration takes place each year during the week that includes Nov. 8 to commemorate the discovery of the x-ray by Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen on Nov. 8, 1895.

The week-long celebration calls attention to the important role medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals play in patient care and health care safety.

This year's theme is **"Positioning To Save Lives"**

2017-2018 Board of Directors

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OUR MISSION

The Massachusetts Society of Radiologic Technologists (MSRT) is a not for profit organization dedicated to the professional growth and development in the Radiologic Sciences. The Society is committed to the advancement of radiologic technology by promoting high ethical standards, improving the quality of patient care, maintaining the standards of education, and providing quality continuing professional development opportunities for all medical imaging and therapy professionals.

The MSRT is committed to equal opportunity and nondiscrimination in all programs and activities and complies with all State and Federal Non-Discriminatory Guidelines.. This includes but is not limited to opportunities or benefits on the basis of age, sex, color, race, creed, national origin, religious persuasion, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, military status, political belief or disability.



HOLD THE DATE!

**2018 MSRT
87TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE**
April 12-13

Buzz Bowl 2018
April 11-13
Doubletree Leominster
99 Erdman Way, Leominster

Share your ideas, network, meet old friends & make the MSRT stronger than ever so we can ensure the future success of technologists in Massachusetts!