



SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Call for Nominations
- 2014 MSRT Board of Directors Nominations
- CARE Bill Update
- ASRT Student Leadership



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President's Message

Happy New Year! The hectic holiday season is now over and as we begin 2014, the MSRT is continuing to move forward with several initiatives. We are continuing our work with the ASRT Affiliate Development Program to improve communication with our members, increase member benefits and plan for improvements to our website that will help us to achieve these goals. Be sure watch for updates on the MSRT website.

During the fall, the MSRT offered three ½ Day Seminars and two more are planned in 2014. The next seminar will be held at Brigham and Women's Faulkner Hospital on January 25th, if you have not already registered there is still time, but please do so as soon as possible. The next Board of Directors meeting will be held in conjunction with this seminar and we invite anyone interested in attending to join us. The Board is always looking for helpful ideas and new members. Another ½ Day Seminar will be offered on May 3rd in western MA.

The MSRT continues to advocate for all technologists on state and federal levels. MSRT Board members have been communicating regularly with the staff of the MA Radiation Control Program to ensure that the interests of all technologists are represented. MSRT Board members will be taking the state's voice to Capitol Hill for another year of R.T. in D.C. on March 17-18, 2014. Be sure to read the update on Advocacy in this edition of the Exposure.

Are you interested in being actively involved in the MSRT? Nominations for elected positions are now open and we are always seeking volunteers to serve on committees or help with a specific event. Some members are hesitant to run for a board position because they are feel they are not qualified, or they cannot commit to a huge obligation. Although there is some time commitment for the positions in most cases just a few hours a month is all that it takes. The MSRT encourages all those interested to run for one of the elected positions. We are a volunteer organization and this just one way for you to become more involved and help to influence the future of our society. If you are interested in running for office, or if you know someone you think would be an ideal candidate, serving on a committee or simply attending a board meeting please contact any of our current board members or Operations Administrator, Mary-Anne O'Donovan. info@msrt-ma.org

Last but not least, the Annual Conference is rapidly approaching. The Conference Committee has been working to ensure this year's event is again a huge success. With talk of the Annual Conference, that means that the MSRT Executive Board term is winding down and it will be time for a new Board to assume oversight. It is hard to believe the term is nearly over. I look forward to seeing you at the Half-Day Seminar in January and the Annual Conference, just around the corner, in April.

Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Willett, BS, RT(R)(CT)

My Experience At The 2013 ASRT Student Leadership Development Program

By : Hadley Cheverie, RT (R)

When my program director first mentioned the student Leadership Development Program, I thought it sounded interesting. However, like most second year students my mind quickly went back to stressing about my upcoming physics test, or which competency I was going to get tomorrow at clinical. It wasn't until winter break that I really had the time to consider the program.

After doing some research it seemed like a way to learn about the profession in a different way. In school we are exposed to the field during our clinical experience. This was different, this would be exposure to the field on a national level. It was a chance to see what the profession was like in all different parts of the country. I also have to admit part of the appeal of attending the conference was selfish. As a second year facing graduation and the less than desirable job market in a few short months I knew finding a job was not going to be easy. I figured the more information I had about the profession and trends the better off I would be. I also knew the more things I could put on my resume to stand apart the better off I would be.

I was fortunate enough to travel with Pat Willet, Dave LeClair, and Nancy Sutcliffe. All three were wonderful throughout the whole conference. They were extremely knowledgeable and I was able to bounce question off them the entire time. I found this was a luxury that students from other states did not have, so I was very grateful for them.

Upon check in I received my itinerary, which was quite extensive. We were in meeting most days from 7 am to 6 or even 8 pm, it was a very packed schedule. The ASRT wanted us to be exposed to as much as possible during our stay. We attended lectures geared towards students. One of which had an ARRT representative speaking about the registry exam. He spoke about the question selection process, the cost of producing an exam, and the repercussions of sub-verting the exam. He also explained the CEU vs CQR system.

We had the chance to attend several chapter meetings. This was a great opportunity to learn about issues affecting specific modalities and chapters. I

sat in on meetings with Radiology, Cardiovascular, and Radiologist Assistants. During these meetings things such as scope of practice, education requirements, differences between RA's and PA's were discussed. It allowed the students to understand which career paths are having what difficulties.

All the lectures and chapter meetings culminated in the House of Delegates meetings. To say these are overwhelming is an understatement. Two ballrooms were at capacity, Roberts rule of Parliament are followed, and the list of items being discussed was lengthy. It is an experience I wish everyone in the profession would get to have. Events are happening in this room that affect your career and I think that is an impressive thing.

Throughout the conference there were events that reminded you how much people care about this profession. We had the pleasure of attending the Honors ceremony, where a select group of members are awarded the status of Fellow. One woman, Barbara Hente, was elevated to fellow and spoke about her time with the ASRT. Her husband had been elevated to fellow the year before, and they spent their honeymoon at an ASRT conference many, many, years ago. We had a session one day with some members of the council, and they explained what is involved in their duties. One woman mentioned that she had to approve her position with her employer, as she was going to have to miss some 30 days of work.

I am very grateful for my experience in Albuquerque. I now have an idea of how hard ASRT works for us, even though most people have no idea. I now know how many people are actively involved with the House of Delegates and shaping the future of our profession. And I now understand how important involvement with your local and national chapters are.





A Student's Perspective

By : Darcie Williams

Northern Essex Community College

The start into a Radiology program as a freshman student can spark numerous feelings ranging from amazement and wonder to panic and angst. None of these feelings are wrong, but instead paint a picture of the impact that one individual can have on a patient's experience. In the medical community it is well known that one bad experience can turn an individual to shy away from coming back.

As a freshman student, this program can be quite overwhelming at times, but the love of helping others and learning about the incredible human body keeps me coming back. Knowing that in a few minutes time I can take care of a patient and give them the best experience possibly gives a kind of gratitude I didn't know existed. Also knowing I have the support of an incredible group of professors, and radiologic technologists to support the freshman students, including myself, quiets any fears regarding to the program. They all do whatever they can to help us succeed and having them in our corner is a great feeling.

Being able to learn the material in the classroom, then come into the clinical setting to put our knowledge to use really helps to solidify our efforts, and put all the pieces of the puzzle together. I can say that after starting this program I am thankful and impressed by all those who have done this before us and the knowledge they bring to the table.

A patient walking in to get an x-ray, whom is not in the field, does not begin to understand all the information that goes into taking an image, or x-ray, with the best quality possible.

My family has asked me "What would you tell students who are considering going into this program if you could?" My answer is to expect the unexpected! There really aren't any dull moments and it is most always challenging.

The excitement of learning new techniques and being able to practice in a real life setting is a huge draw for me as I seem to learn better in a hands on setting. I am really happy with my choice to go into the field of radiologic science; there are so many modalities to choose from when looking to break into the medical field.

Choosing radiology opposed to other modalities leaves a lot of room for movement once you graduate because with a few other courses under your belt, you can move to CT, Mammography, Ultrasound, etc. Yes, this does entail more schooling, but it also gives you the choices to move to these modalities with a great education base. I would highly encourage anyone who has a passion for health care and excitement to look into a Radiology program. Getting your education in Radiology is challenging, exciting, and rewarding-so for those of you who are exploring the medical fields, I encourage you to do your research, because it is quite easy to fall in love with you job if you choose this a career path!

Post Collimation (Shuttering) Legal Issues, Part 1

By: Dennis Bowman

Public Speaker and Consultant Digital Radiography Solutions



In the “legal section” of my presentation I always discussed that at some

point I was convinced that someone, somewhere was going to be sued for making a mistake by post collimating pathology off without ever knowing that they had done this. A couple of years ago a very credible radiographer who works in a good size city in the U.S. (with over a million residents and 5+ large hospitals) came up to me and told me the following story. Because of the legal implications I had to promise to keep their name and city a secret, but in a 2-3 year period he/she was privy to 2 “lawsuits” that occurred in their city because of post collimation (shuttering).

Both of the “lawsuits” were for different exams but let me give you a perfect example of what happened. Let’s say one of your staff took this lateral C-spine image and then post collimated the anterior mandible off but left the marker (this is how we know it was post collimated and usually this style of shuttering is done with CR, not DR). Months later there is a bone tumor located in the mandible and the patient needs to have major reconstructive surgery. Afterwards the patient’s attorney requests all of the radiographs the patient has had and they discover that if the mandible had not been post collimated, the tumor would have been discovered half a year earlier and the mandible surgery would very well have been unnecessary.



Both cases were similar to this story. The reason I wrote “lawsuits” is that neither case went to court, as the imaging department was completely at fault. Both hospitals gave millions of dollars to the plaintiff, but were able to have everyone involved sign a gag order so that they were unable to tell anyone about the hospitals negligence or how and from where they got the money.

Handing over that money was well worth not having the public find out that the imaging department/hospital made this kind of mistake.

Who knows how many times this has now happened all over the country, but it’s hard to believe it’s only occurred twice and both were in that city. I firmly believe it’s happened countless times, but every hospital has been able to shut down the bad publicity with lots of money and signed gag orders. I believe we won’t actually read about this happening until a patient finally decides that they not only believe they can win the case in court and get the money, but want to totally nail the hospital with the horrible publicity at the same time. Don’t let that hospital be yours!!

Legally your radiologist is responsible to read every bit of anatomy that is radiated and ends up on the Image Receptor (IR). This means if a chest x-ray is not collimated well and gall stones can be seen and the radiologist misses the stones, they can be liable even though gall stones should not normally show up on a chest image. This law (like most laws) has not changed one bit from film/screen to digital.

In closing, to use post collimation properly, you must show some pure black or white inside of your post collimated field to prove that you have not cut off any anatomy, whether you believe it’s pertinent or not.

<http://digitalradiographsolutions.com/>

"The CARE Bill" and MARCA Bill in the 113th Congress

By: David LeClair, BS RT(R)(ARRT)
MSRT President-Elect/Governance Chair
ASRT Advocacy Committee Member



"The CARE Bill" (Consistency, Accuracy, Responsibility & Excellence) in Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapy will require federal minimum education for anyone using ionizing radiation for medical imaging and radiation therapy procedures resulting in a safer imaging environment for all patients while potentially saving millions in Medicare reimbursements.

On March 13, "The CARE Bill" was introduced in the House as (H.R. 1146) by Reps. Ed Whitfield, R-Ky., John Barrow, D-Ga., and Allyson Schwartz, D-Pa. and in the Senate on March 21 as (S.642) by Senator Michael Enzi. To date the House has 62 co-sponsors including Congressman Capuano (MA-7th District) and Congressman Tierney (MA-6 District) and Congresswoman Tsongas (MA-3rd District). The Senate has 6 co-sponsors but none yet from Massachusetts.

Our message this year when we visited Washington on March 4th was a little different than past visits. After pursuing "The CARE Bill" for 12 years as a stand-alone piece of legislation, we are also pursuing the possibility of adding amendatory language that will incorporate "The CARE Bill's" principles into any federal bill that would include Medicare provisions, including but not limited to bills addressing sequestration, the debt ceiling or entitlement reform. On Friday December 6th Lisa Fanning, Chris Mercurio and I visited Senator Warren and Senator Markey's offices in Boston to ask for their support of (S.642) by becoming a co-sponsor.

In November The House Ways & Means Committee and The Senate Finance Committee released a discussion draft outline to permanently fix the broken Medicare Sustainable Growth Rate formula with a fiscally responsible system that incentivizes quality care.

In order to achieve these challenging outcomes, we urge the committee to include provisions of "The CARE Bill" (H.R. 1146/S.642) that strongly addresses quality care and Medicare cost savings in the final version of any SGR replacement proposal to be considered by Congress.

Supporting the strategic goal of securing federal education and certification standards for individuals performing medical imaging and radiation therapy procedures coincides with the intent of the SGR proposal by offering quality care with the potential of saving Medicare costs. Such standards have a long history of bipartisan support.

The MARCA Bill (H.R. 1148) Medical Access to Radiology Care Act was introduced in the House on March 14th and currently has 39 co-sponsors. It will permit Radiology Assistants (RA), an advanced practice radiographer who has completed graduate-level education, to perform medical imaging and interventional procedures under less prescriptive Medicare supervision levels than what radiographers and other allied health care personnel must follow. It will also allow payment to the radiology practice for Medicare services performed by the RA at 85% of the physician rate. Medicare is spending more than it should by not allowing less expensive non-physician radiologist-extenders to work within their state recognized scope of practice.

Passage of both bills is very important for the benefit of America's patients, physicians, radiology assistants and the medical imaging and radiation therapy health care teams. Technical personnel should be required to demonstrate competency as a condition of Medicare reimbursement.

As always we urge you to contact your District Representative and State Senators today and explain to them the importance these bills are to our patients and the health care community. Contact your District Representative through the MSRT or ASRT websites and ask them to co-sponsor H.R. 1146 and H.R. 1148 and ask Senator Warren and Senator Markey to co-sponsor S.642. Thank you



Professor James V. Lampka, MS RT(R)(ARRT)



It is with deep sadness that we share with you the passing of *James V. Lampka* on Saturday September 14, 2013.

As most of you know, Jim was a dedicated Radiology Professional who had a remarkable impact on our profession and on many of us personally as well. He was a teacher to all of us. He taught in several radiology programs in Massachusetts and was a frequent lecturer at MSRT educational events. A generous man, Jim most often donated the offered honorarium to the MSRT charity or scholarship fund. Since moving to Massachusetts early in his career, Jim was active in the MSRT, serving many years on the Board of Directors including three terms as President. He was a strong advocate for licensure locally and nationally. He was instrumental in the establishment of licensing for Radiologic Technologists in Massachusetts and subsequently served on the Advisory Commission for Radio-

logic Technologist Licensing for many years.

Jim will be deeply missed by all who had the privilege to know him. We will be sure to share more of our memories of him with you at our Annual Conference in April.

Contributions may be made in Jim's memory to Homes For Our Troops, 6 Main Street, Taunton, MA 02780 or at www.hfotusa.org or to Huntington House, 150 S. Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02130 or at www.boston.va.gov/giving

Congratulations to Said Belkouch & Brenna Lapsley studying at Bunker Hill Community College who were selected by the Board of Directors to represent Massachusetts at the 2014 ASRT Student Leadership Development Program.

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866-7-TROOPS



We are Homes for Our Troops, a national non-profit, non-partisan 501(c)(3) organization founded in 2004. We are strongly committed to helping those who have selflessly given to our country and have returned home with serious disabilities and injuries since September 11, 2001. It is our duty and our honor to assist severely injured veterans and their immediate families by raising donations of money, building materials and professional labor and to coordinate the process of building a specially adapted home that provides maximum freedom of movement and the ability to live more independently. The homes provided by Homes for Our Troops are given at NO COST to the veterans we serve.

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Please Support Those Who Honor Us!

Call for Nominations!

As Spring begins to slowly inch closer, it once again becomes time for us to search for new leaders already within our ranks! The MSRT is once again looking for intrepid individuals to help out, organize, and lead our organization into the future. There are levels of commitment available for everyone, if you're interested in simply helping out with a seminar, or if you're looking for a deeper, and more rewarding experience. Please note there is NO prior experience necessary for any position except for the position of President-Elect; we are looking for new blood, and are more than willing to work with anyone who is willing to donate their time. We are currently looking for applicants for the following positions:

President-Elect

- Requirements: 3 years of consecutive MSRT membership, and experience as an officer or Chairman of an MSRT Committee
- Commitment: 3 years; moderate to high. 1 as President-Elect, 1 as Acting President, 1 as Chairman of the Board
- Function: learns the duties of the President in preparation to become Acting President

Vice President

- Requirements: Experience as an officer or Chairman of an MSRT Committee; or experience as an elected MSRT
- Board Member; or experience as an Officer of an ASRT affiliate society.
- Commitment: 1 year; moderate. Acts as Chairman of the Nomination Committee
- Learns the duties of President to fill in should the President be absent

Member-at-Large

- Requirements: none
- Commitment: 1 year; low to moderate.
- Functions as a liaison between the membership and the board

Secretary

- Requirements: none
- Commitment: 1 year; low to moderate.
- Responsible for recording the minutes of each Board meeting and conducting necessary correspondence

State Delegates

- Responsible for setting up educational seminars with the help of the Board, works to set up and facilitate CEU seminars by securing locations and speakers

If you have any questions regarding any of the posted positions, please email me at c.e.mercurio@gmail.com. I will happily answer your questions to the best of my ability. We're really looking forward to seeing some new faces for this years nominations!



Job Openings



**Harvard Vanguard
Medical Associates**

Atrius Health

REGISTERED DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHER

HVMA is seeking a part time, 8 hours, Registered Diagnostic Medical Sonographer (RDMS) for our Quincy practice to perform diagnostic and special procedure ultrasonography. If interested, please apply on line at www.harvardvanguard.org/careers, position # 2645.



2014

**MSRT ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
WILL BE HELD!
APRIL 2-3, 2014**

**WESTFORD REGENCY INN &
CONFERENCE CENTER
219 LITTLETON ROAD, WESTFORD
WWW.WESTFORDREGENCY.COM**

**BUZZ BOWL 2014
WILL BEGIN ON 4/1/2013**

*Full details are available on our website & in
the February Edition of The Exposure*

HOLD THE DATE!

The MSRT will host a 1/2 Day Seminar on Saturday, January 25th, 2014 at Brigham & Women's Faulkner Hospital. The cost for members is \$40/Non-Members \$90/Students \$5. The following lectures will be held:

- 8:00 AM "Universal Protocol: An IR Auditors Perspective" with Amanda Lynn Popovitch
- 9:00 AM "Lecture TBA" with Shara Oken, MD
- 10:00 AM "Spine Views for Interventional Pain Procedures" with Robert Jason Yong, MD
- 11:00 AM "How to make your Scanner Sing: Using the Equipment You Have for High Quality at Low Radiation Dose" with Aaron Sodickson MD PhD

If you are interested in attending, please download a registration form from the Calendar Section of our website (www.msrt-ma.org/calendar) and mail to the MSRT office or Pay Online using PayPal.

*Special Thanks to Brigham & Women's Faulkner Hospital
for sponsoring the Continental Breakfast*



**BRIGHAM AND WOMEN'S
Faulkner Hospital**

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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.

