

CONNECTICUT STATE ASSEMBLY
OF
SURGICAL TECHNOLOGISTS

NEWSLETTER
JULY 1, 2006

TO OUR MEMBERS,

Our State Assembly is already entering its 6th year and there is so much to share with you. On April 1, 2006, we held our 11th bi-annual educational seminar and business meeting at Ct. Children's Medical Center. It was a fascinating day with experts in pediatric surgery sharing their expertise with our members. We had 75 attendees, 12 of which were students from our MCC Surgical Technology Program and from Bridgeport Hospital's Surgical Technology Program. As always, we awarded 6 CEU's and we had a fabulous day!

Our fall meeting will take place **September 23, 2006 at Bridgeport Hospital**. The program's title is "Neurospine". Gail Tucci, CST, an instructor for Bridgeport Hospital's ST program, is the coordinator and contact person. She can be reached at 203-795-3443. Again, 6 CEU's will be awarded to our attendees. Flyers will be mailed out by the end of July, so mark your calendars.

REMINDER: The National **SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY WEEK** will be **September 18-22, 2006**. Our fall seminar will take place on the last day of ST week, so please, if you are able to attend our seminar, please bring posters, pictures and anything you have (or received from your hospital, supervisors and /or reps) to share with our members to show how your hospitals recognized National Surgical Technology Week. At Hartford Hospital, Betty Hall and Judy Barham, State Assembly coordinators, will be receiving official proclamations from Governor Jodi Rell and Mayor Eddie Perez, which HH will display in a showcase in our main lobby for all to see. Please do the same in your areas, contact your mayors, government officials, etc. to help educate the public about who we are! If you are planning on a display, we can provide copies of Governor Rell's proclamation for those who ask. Call Betty Hall @ 860-545-3957 and she will send them out to you. Be creative; ask your hospital if you can use the display cases in main areas, i.e. lobbies, cafeterias, waiting areas, and even your OR front desk as well as MD and employee lounges.

We have purchased extra posters and pens from AST to hand out. We also will have special activities at HH during our special week, including AST gifts, purchased by our OR managers, we will also be providing breakfast, lunch, a special cake for all during our special week. Please do the same in your towns and cities; the public will be better

educated in understanding who we are and who the professionals in their OR's are. Be proud of your profession; let everyone know who we are!

Be sure to visit our **new** website, CTASt, by logging on to www.ctast.org or, you can go to our national website, www.AST.org and link on to our state assembly's website CTASt. Click on "Directors" from our website and see who your CTASt leaders and officers are. There is also a list of all the Surgical Technology Programs (4) in CT listed with phone numbers for those interested in referring people to our programs. We will be posting portions of this letter on the website, under the "News" link for the CST's that are not members. Only our members are mailed letters, brochures, etc., so be sure to encourage your fellow CST's to **join our CT State Assembly by joining AST!**

There were over a dozen Connecticut CST's attending our National Conference in Las Vegas at Caesar's Palace, this past May 29-June 2. CTASt members Betty Hall, Lisa Kenderdine and Laurie Carroll were our delegates representing CT. at all business and voting sessions. AST announced a record high for attendance at this conference: 2, 300 members were in Las Vegas to celebrate our 37th Annual Conference! And we had a BALL!!! Many of us went to some of Las Vegas' best shows, some took in the sights of Hoover Dam and the Grand Canyon, while others enjoyed the hot weather, 105 degrees, in the many swimming pools and spas at our hotel, the beautiful Caesar's Palace! There will be more info regarding conference in your monthly AST magazine and our CTASt website.

AST announced that we would be going back to **New Orleans** for our next Conference, **May 23-26, 2007 at the Sheraton Hotel**. Our state assembly is always looking for volunteers to represent CT at national conference, as delegates. We will be looking for 6 members of CTASt to be delegates in New Orleans, so if you are interested, please contact Betty Hall. Our state assembly will pay for registration for all delegates, so please volunteer.

See you in September!

Respectively submitted by:

Laura Maffucci, CST/CFA
President
CT State Assembly of Surgical Technologists.