

CTAST
CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY of
SURGICAL TECHNOLOGISTS

NEWSLETTER

June 21, 2007

TO OUR MEMBERS,

Our State Assembly is already finishing its 7th year and there is so much to share with you. On Saturday, April 21, 2007, we held our **13th educational seminar** and business meeting at **Yale-New Haven Hospital**. It was a fascinating day with experts in the field of Thyroid/Parathyroid Surgery sharing their expertise with our members. We had 65 attendees, CST's, CST/CFA's, RN's and LabTechs. As always, we awarded 6 CEU's and we had a fabulous day!

We also held elections for officers. Our new **President of CTAST is Gail Tucci, CST**, an Instructor of the Surgical Technology Program at Bridgeport Hospital. Vice-President for another year is Conni Levesque, CST at Hartford Hospital, Secretary is Mollie Holloway from Lawrence and Memorial Hospital in New London, and Laura Maffucci, former President and CST/CFA from CCMC is now our Treasurer for the next 2 years. We appreciate and thank all of our members that step up to leadership roles in our organization. It is key to our success.

Also, a very **special thank-you to Gertrude Davis** and her planning committee on a job well done!!

Our fall meeting will take place on Saturday, **September 29, 2007 at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital**. The program's title is "**Life After Amputation**". AnnMarie Sweet, CST, is the coordinator and contact person. Again, 6 CEU's will be awarded to our attendees. Something new from AST, regarding students that attend our workshops. Because we value our students and the importance of their involvement in our organization, **students** will be able to attend all workshops, **free of charge**, as long as they are members of AST. Students are the future of AST and our profession, we must always respect and embrace their efforts, so please bring them with you and support your local **CTAST!**

Flyers for the fall workshop at L&M will be mailed out in July, so mark your calendars. We also have our **spring, 2008 conference** in place. **Danbury Hospital** will present "**Bariatric Surgery**". Watch our web-site, www.ctast.org for more information. We have been very fortunate to have such enthusiastic members who are so willing and generous to help all our members get their CEU's by sponsoring our educational needs. Remember, we need 60 credits per 4-year cycle in order to maintain your certification so please bring a fellow CST to our workshops. We always have a great day networking with fellow CST's!

REMINDER: Our National **SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY WEEK** will take place the week of **September 17-22, 2007**. We have over 12 CT hospitals represented at our CTAST conference/business meetings and when asked how their hospitals recognized ST Week, most of them shared with our members that their surgeons and OR nurses generated funds and bought the CST's breakfast, lunch and celebratory cakes throughout the entire week. The CST's were also given gift certificates, AST logo items, such as lunch bags, umbrellas, pens, water bottles and special AST cups. Hartford Hospital was able to obtain proclamations from Governor Rell and our Hartford Mayor, Eddie Perez. We had some CT hospitals call for copies of Governor Rell's proclamation for display and we sent them out to those who asked. At Hartford Hospital, we displayed our proclamations in a huge display case in our main lobby and in our OR for all to see, including our patients, their families and all our visitors. We took plenty of pictures of our celebrations so that we can send them to AST for next month's magazine. 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, please forward to AST in Colorado for our magazine.

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 to our state assembly's website **CTAST**. Click on "Directors" from our website and see who your **CTAST** leaders and officers are. Elections for our CT State Assembly are always held during our spring workshop. Also on our website there is a list of all the Surgical Technology Programs (there are 5, the newest being AI Prince Tech, in Hartford, with a 10-month certificate program) in CT listed with phone numbers for those interested in referring people to our programs. We will be posting 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!**

Mark your calendars; we will be going back to Orlando, Florida for our next Conference, **May 20-24, 2008**. Our state assembly is always looking for volunteers to represent CT at national conference, as delegates. The role of the delegate includes mandatory attendance at our two business sessions. They must also attend the election and voting sessions. We will be looking for **6** members of **CTAST** to be **delegates**, so if you are interested, please contact Betty Hall. Our state assembly will reimburse each delegate \$250.00 for serving as a delegate. Remember, delegates must be **active members** of the CT State Assembly.

See you in September!

Respectively submitted by:

Betty Hall, CST

CTAST Coordinator

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