

CTAST
CONNECTICUT ASSEMBLY of
SURGICAL TECHNOLOGISTS

NEWSLETTER
September 29, 2007

TO OUR MEMBERS,

Our State Assembly is already finishing its 7th year and there is so much to share with you. On Saturday, September 29, 2007, we held our **14th Educational Seminar and Business Meeting** at **Lawrence and Memorial Hospital**. It was a fascinating day with experts in the field of Amputation Surgery sharing their expertise with our members. We had 62 attendees, CST's, CST/CFA's, RN's and students. As always, we awarded 6 CEU's and we had a fabulous day! Most of our CTAST officers were able to attend, President of **CTAST**, Gail Tucci, CST, Instructor in the Surgical Technology Program at Bridgeport Hospital, Vice-President Conni Levesque, CST at Hartford Hospital, Secretary Mollie Holloway, CST from Lawrence and Memorial Hospital in New London, and Treasurer Laura Maffucci, CST/CFA from St. Francis Medical Center. 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 AnnMarie Sweet, CST** for her outstanding and passionate planning and coordinating of this seminar. Our members thank-you!!!!

Our spring meeting will take place on Saturday, **April 19, 2008**, at Danbury Hospital. The program's title is "**Bariatric Surgery**". Jen Florio CST, is the coordinator and contact person. She can be reached by email Jenflorio1@netscape.net 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** that are **members of CTAST** will be able to attend all workshops, **free of charge**. Non-member students will be charged \$12.00. Students are the future of AST and of our profession. We must always respect and embrace their efforts, so please bring them with you and support your local **CTAST**!

Flyers for the Spring Seminar will be mailed out in February, 2008, so mark your calendars. We also have our **Fall, 2008 Seminar** in place. **Hartford Hospital** will present "**Robotic Gyn 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 seminars. We always have a great time networking with fellow CST's!

Our National **SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY WEEK** took place the week of **September 17-22, 2007**. We had over 20 CT hospitals represented at our recent **CTAST**

Fall Seminar/Business meeting 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" on our website and see who your **CTAST** 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 all CST's including non- members to see. **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 looking for -6- members to represent CT at our AST National Conference, as delegates. The role of the delegate includes mandatory attendance at both business sessions. They must also attend the election and voting sessions. Again, we are looking for **6** members of **CTAST** to be **delegates**, so if you are interested, please contact our President, Gail Tucci @ 203-384-3220. Our state assembly will reimburse each delegate \$300.00 of your registration fee for serving as a delegate. Remember, delegates must be **active members** of the CT State Assembly.

See you in September!
Respectively submitted by:

Gail Tucci CST, President
Mollie Holloway CST, Secretary