



Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists

September/October 2013

Albrecht's Account

Volume 40 Issue 3

Hello OSRT members! I want to thank you for being a part of the OSRT and the imaging and radiation oncology family. This is the time of the year to start thinking about a very important week coming up in November. Of course, I'm talking about National Radiologic Technology Week. This year we will be celebrating the essential work of R.T.'s during the week of **November 3rd through the 9th**. Some of you may not have realized this, but the first NRTW celebration was actually in July of 1979. I'm not sure why they chose July, but they soon realized that it was much more appropriate to celebrate the actual discovery of the x-ray by Wilhelm Conrad Roentgen on November 8, 1895.

As medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals, we play a significant role as caregivers for our patients and their families. This year's NRTW theme is **"R.T.s: Positioning Ourselves for Excellence."** Aristotle is quoted as saying **"We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."** As caregivers we need to continuously strive to deliver a culture of excellence for every patient, their families and friends by making excellence a habit. We can accomplish this by always providing outstanding service and demonstrating pride in our profession. Have you given any thought to how you would like to celebrate Na-

tional Radiologic Technology Week this year? You can make others aware of NRTW by putting up posters or displays in your workplace. The ASRT has some wonderful suggestions on their website at www.asrt.org. Some departments have contests or special group activities to recognize the staff. Others hold open houses to invite people into the imaging department and organize food and activities. Some develop posters to let others know what is new and exciting in the imaging field.

Whatever you decide to do, the most important thing is to make sure that you celebrate your profession. This is the time to let everyone know who you are, what you do, and how proud you are to be an R.T.!

Sincerely,

Gloria A. Albrecht, MS, RT(R)



Gary Greathouse to Help
Improve Imaging In Kenya

Two thirds of the world's population has little or no access to radiology services, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). American Society of Radiologic Technologists (ASRT) Education and Research Foundation and RAD-AID International created a Fellowship Program for Developing Countries that offers funding opportunities to support technologists and therapists interested in serving in the developing world. Award recipients join RADAID's project teams in international initiatives designed to improve access to quality medical imaging for populations in need.

Gary Greathouse, MSRT, (R), Program Director of Mercy School of Radiologic Technology in Canton, Ohio, was recently awarded an ASRT/RAD-AID fellowship grant to travel to Nairobi, Kenya, as part of a multidisciplinary health care team. Members will assess needs and plan a radiology-training program, which will begin next year. Greathouse was chosen because of his educational background in radiology science and desire to serve. Gary is pictured in the middle of the back row.

**(Reprinted with permission from Mercy Medical Center).*

www.osrt.org

Tech Talk by Lizzy Hemme, BRST, RT(R)(CT)

What is your name, job title and educational background? My name is *Tom Giglio*. My title is Radiology Manager, and I am responsible for the Radiography and Computed Tomography sections of the University of Cincinnati Medical Center. I graduated from the University of Cincinnati's rad tech program in 1989 and completed my business classes.

How would you describe the institution in which you work to someone who is visiting for the first time? We are the areas only Level I Trauma center for adults. We are the safety net hospital for the community, and we provide quality care to everyone.

Could you describe one of your typical workdays for me? No! That's what I love about my job; there is no "typical day". It may be spent running from meeting to meeting; it could be spent counseling an employee that is having personal issues; it could be talking to vendors about new equipment, dealing with an upset patient, or it could be an entire day at the desk analyzing QA reports and sending emails. You never know what the day will bring.

How did you obtain your present job and what kind of experience and preparation helped you the most? I was lucky to work in an organization that allowed me to train in different areas. If my area wasn't busy, I was able to go to CT, Ultrasound, or Interventional to help out; this gave me a good understanding of each modality.

Why did this type of work interest you? I enjoy taking care of people and I take pride in knowing that I am providing them with a very special service that not everyone can provide. I also enjoy working with complex, highly technical equipment and the satisfaction of producing a quality product; being a rad tech allows me to do all of these things. I became interested in management because I enjoy solving problems and making things work.

What do you think the most important skills and abilities are for this position? Versatility and the ability to view issues from all sides. I also think it's important to be able to communicate with people on their level. We interact with people from all different age groups, ethnicities and socioeconomic backgrounds and they all deserve to be treated with genuine respect.

What parts of your job do you find most challenging? Trying to make people do what you want them to do. The old phrase "you can lead a horse to water but you can't make them drink" nags me every day. The other cliché that comes to mind is "Drinking from a fire hose" because there is always so much going on that you can't possibly digest it all.

What do find most enjoyable or rewarding? I became interested in this field because I enjoyed helping people. I don't get to take many x-rays anymore, but I do get out and talk to our patients while they are in the department. They appreciate me stopping to ask if they are warm enough, and if they are doing okay. It's great to hear a genuine "Thank you" or "You have a great staff" from the patients.

Describe a satisfying or meaningful experience that you have had during your career. People may think I'm crazy, but I love the thrill and excitement of implementing something new. We implemented Epic as our hospital information system about 9 months ago. We had been preparing for a long time, but it completely changed our workflow and the first week was chaos! We knew there would be issues as everyone learned how to use the system and we worked out the bugs but the entire department came together and rose to the occasion. Now, it's just second nature.

What changes do you see occurring in this field during the next few years? I see a lot more focus on quality documentation. We continue to refine the art and science of radiology, and I think we will be doing more to assure the services we provide are appropriate and done as efficiently as possible by limiting radiation exposure, contrast dosages etc... Electronic medical records (EMRs) are catching and measuring every step (data point) of our processes. By centralizing all essential data into one place they have resolved many of the problems we saw when we were charting on paper and now EMRs are bringing new issues to light. It's amazing to see how far we've come in the last decade.

Have you been or are you a part of any professional clubs, associations or organizations? Not really. Being a father of three makes it hard to get too involved in much outside of home.

What suggestions do you have for an individual wishing to enter this field? Don't do it just because some article you read said it's a good field to get into. If you're not willing to treat your patients just like you would treat your own family, you need to find another career. Then I would suggest they try to gain a good understanding of each modality there is always something to learn!



The OSRTER Foundation 2012/2013 Honor Roll

Advocate

Philip Ballinger

Denise Moore (editor's stipend)

Ohio State Radiological Society

The Central Ohio Society of Mammographers

UC Blue Ash College Radiation Science Capstone

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Elizabeth Ballard

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On behalf of the Foundation a big thank you to all of our donors!

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Ohio Society of Radiologic Technologists

75th Anniversary 1938 - 2013



Ohio Society of
Radiologic Technologists

OSRT Toll-free Phone Number
1-866-405-OSRT (6778)
OSRT Website
www.osrt.org



OSRT VISION

OSRT will promote the excellence of professionals in medical imaging and radiologic science.

OSRT MISSION

Advocate for medical imaging and radiologic science professionals by advancing professional practice and educational standards, and providing leadership in health policy.

UPDATES



Foundation Corner

Who was recently appointed to the Foundation?

The Ohio Society of Education and Research Foundation appointed two new directors. We would like to welcome Richard States and Nikki Lyons to our board!

Both directors have been actively involved with the OSRT and the ASRT. We are more than proud to have them involved with the Foundation where we will be providing grant opportunities for technologists.

Again welcome aboard! Nikki and Rick will be joining Linda Rizzo, Jackie Turk, and Leisa Arnold on

the Foundation Board.

The Foundation would also like to remind everyone the deadline for grant, poster, essay submissions is **February 1st, 2014**.

We would also like to thank all of our Foundation Donors listed in this edition, without your contributions the Foundation could not help support others in their pursuit of education.



A Note from the Editor

Submissions for the newsletter may be sent to me directly at llarnold@seormc.org

Please keep in mind that articles presented are the solely the thoughts of the author and not necessarily the OSRT.

Leisa Arnold, Cardinal Ray's Editor



Committee Update

This past summer the Strategic Planning Committee has been busy meeting, brainstorming, and wordsmithing the OSRT's strategic plan for the organization. The plan will still need presented and voted on by the directors. At this time we would like to thank the committee members for their dedication and time devoted to the organization.

